

PAC General Meeting minutes

Herbert Spencer Parent Advisory Council

May 3rd, 2023 6:30PM | *Meeting called to order by* Marti Longstaff

In Attendance

Erin Shaw | Courtney Daws | Marti Longstaff | Caroline Marklund | Nina Priddle | Amandeep Duhra | Mandu Gill | Karyn Audet | Lara Jansen | Christine Service | Jennifer Rhyne

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:33PM

Land Acknowledgment

The Herbert Spencer PAC recognizes and acknowledges the Qayqayt First Nation, as well as all Coast Salish peoples, on who's traditional and unceded territories we live, we learn, we play and we do our work.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Approval of Agenda: Nina & Courtney

Approval of April 2023 Minutes: Nina & Karen

Principal's Report | Ms. Catherwood

- Class photos will be held next Friday
- May 19th there will be a Pro D Day
- May 22nd school closed for Victoria Day
- Ms. Jeschke will be retiring. On May 24th there will be an assembly between 1:30-2:30. Her last day will be May 25th
- Ms. Jeschke will be holding music class performances for the parents and caregivers of each class. This will be on going through the month
- "Welcome to School" will be held May 26th
- Sports Week will be the week of June 5-9th. Each class will participate in one or two activities throughout the day
- 23 divisions are confirmed for next year. No additional portable will be needed after all.
- Staffing update is planned for next month, stay tuned.
- September 21st, 2023 will be the school's open house event. PAC treats suggestions of popcorn, icecream, or something simple.
- Continued research into Green Thumb Theatre performances for next year
- The school is also looking into bringing in Saleema Noon, who is a sexual health educator. The presentations would include a parents education night as well as through the children's individual

classes. The PAC and DPAC have \$750 in the budget to cover educator presentation costs. The school is looking into a spring booking.

- Reading Link Challenge update: One of our school teams has made it to the lower mainland finals - how exciting!

Chair's Report | Marti Longstaff

- Nominations for the PAC are out. The election will be held at next month's PAC meeting
- The calendar is being set for next year. Were there any events that we didn't have this year that were missed? We will need to book the gym right away. Please share your ideas with Marti in the next 2 weeks.
- The PAC budget meeting will be held next Tuesday, May 9th.
- Parent Education will be held next Wednesday in the library.
- The Carnival event for next year is tentatively booked for May 31, 2024

Vice Chair's Report | Courtney Daws

- The proposed bylaw adjustments will be sent out for all to review following the meeting. There will be a review at the June meeting.
- The adjustments include some of the following; more inclusive language and less gender bias terms, changes to the meeting structure, as we no longer run two separate executive and general meetings, increasing the number of members at large.
- Thank you, Courtney, for all your hard work on this!

Treasurer's Report | Christina Service

- The Gaming Grant application is underway.
- The PAC budget meeting will be held on Tuesday. We will have a full review of next year's budget at the June PAC meeting.
- Neufeld orders are open now and e-transfers are being sent in

CPF Report | Allison Mounsey

- Reminder that the Programs of Choice review is now at the Focus Group stage, there is a virtual group being held on May 9th at 6:30pm and an in-person group being held May 11th at 4pm at Glenbrook. If you'd like to participate, contact Anne Marie Martin (ammartin@sd40.bc.ca)
- A successful trip to Quebec with the Grade 7 and 8s happened over Spring Break and we are now looking at processes for selecting the committee to start working on the trip for March 2025 alongside a survey for our chaperones to provide some feedback about the chaperone experience.
- BC Family French camp is open for registration for a weeklong family camping experience with programming in French at 3 locations in BC.

DPAC Report | Courtney Daws

- PAC Gaming Grant is open April 1st with cut-off date of June 30th.
- Proxy form for BCCPAC AGM will be due on April 28th and will require 2 signatures.
- Karim Hachlaf - the board is looking to pass the annual budget for 2023/2024 school year.
- DPAC Identified Priorities are:
 - Staffing to support growth.
 - Education Assistance
 - Custodians
 - Equitable access to music programs
 - Increased and ongoing access for health and wellness support
 - Student safety, especially at NWSS
 - Safe and reliable transportation
- Peer Assisted Care Team (PACT) is a program run out of the Lower Mainland Purpose Society (on Begbie Street) This is one of three pilot programs running in BC (other locations are North Vancouver and Victoria) and will be developed across the province in the next three years.
- It is comprised of crisis responders, mental health workers and peer support workers (someone with lived experience)
- The program is operational 12-8pm, 7 days per week and will be expanding in the coming months.
- The program has been developed to assist a person who is experiencing a crisis, or a community member worried about someone.
- A team will conduct an assessment and triage over the phone and will then either provide phone support or a team will be dispatched to a person to provide 1:1 support.
- What they can do to help:
 - Crisis counseling
 - Facilitate connections to resources.
 - Advocate for folks (i.e. accompany adults to make a police report)
 - Accompaniment (i.e. can go with someone to the hospital and wait with them until needs are met)
- What they cannot do:
 - Immediate risk of self-harm or suicide or homicide (would call 911); if escalation and beyond team's skills and training
 - Try not to call police, but if safety is at risk would have to call for extra support.
- Anyone 13 and up can access their services.

Committee Reports

- Events Committee:
 - Games Night was a success! It was a smooth and easy event to run. It seemed the families had so much fun. It was a great new event for the PAC.
 - Parents Night Out! This will be our last event of the year. Let's sell some more tickets!
 - Please reach out to Amber with any final silent auction items. Let's send a social media blast out that lists some of the items up for auction.
- Fundraising Committee:
 - Neufeld orders are open. Ordering closes on May 18th, with delivery on May 29
 - Freezie Friday to return in the coming weeks. It was suggested to have two line ups, one at the front and another at the back of school
 - Ms Catherwood suggested there be one on June 9th following the sports day.

- Grade 5 students can help to fundraise for their events.
- Members Communication/Yearbook:
 - Social media blast to go out listing the silent auction prizes at the Parents Night Out
 - Yearbooks have been submitted and will be coming in a little later this year. Delivery date to come.

New Business

- A schoolwide family reading day was suggested. This could occur once a week or once per month. A parent or caregiver can come into their child's class to read with them throughout the school. It was also suggested that maybe it could be held once a year, during Literacy week/Readathon as there are many parents and caregivers that can't make it weekly/monthly. Further discussion of the possibilities to come.

Questions and Comments

- Should the day or time we hold PAC meetings change next year? Courtney will be sending out a survey to gauge everyone's preference between Tuesday or Wednesday meetings, at 6:00, 6:30 or 7:00. Survey to come.

Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:01PM: Caroline & Am

Next Meeting June 7, 2023 @ 6:30