

PAC General Meeting minutes

Herbert Spencer Parent Advisory Council

February 7, 2024 6:30PM | *Meeting called to order by* Marti Longstaff

In Attendance

| Renee Nixdorf | Erin Shaw | Allison Mounsey | Jen Rhyne | Caroline Marklund | Amber Orchard | Madhu Gill | Miyuki Davidson | Rachel Abercrombie | Marc Andres | Patrick Service | Amandeep Duhra | Natalie Taha | Marti Longstaff |

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 whose traditional and unceded territories we live, we learn, we play and we do our work.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Approval of Agenda: Renee Nixdorf moved, Jen Rhyne seconded, approved.

Approval of November 2023 & January 2024 Minutes: Allison Mounsey moved, Renee Nixdorf seconded, approved

Principal's Report | Karen Catherwood & Simran Hare

- There will be a line dance performance on Friday
- Family Teams will be meeting in the library for a coding work presentation by students
- Valentine's Day is coming up, we will have a spirit day, students can wear red, white or pink
- The Vancouver Aquarium will be coming to the school to present their Sea Dome for all grades
- Reminder: No school February 19th and 21st for Family Day weekend
- Pink shirt day will be on the 23rd of February
- We will have an assembly and Ms Randford has been working on a song that all kids will perform - they will be led by Gr 5 students
- In March the Salmonbellies will be here to play lacrosse with each class during their gym time. There will be two sessions for each class
- Saleema Noon Sex Education presentations will be held in each class March 7,8 and 11.
- Family teams will meet again in March. Each family is working on a cheer.
- On March 12th we ask that the kids come dressed in their family team colours
- Report cards will be ready on the 14th of March

- Reminder: No school on 15th of March, return to school on April 2nd after Easter/spring break
- The Grade 2's will be attending the VSO on May 2nd. Cost will be \$11 per student. The PAC has covered a portion of the ticket fee as there was left over from what was budgeted for transportation.
- Created by Kids art projects have begun. More information to come.

School Trustee | Marc Andres

- The By-election occurred on Saturday and we are happy to welcome Kathleen Carlsen as our new School Board Trustee
- Kathleen has been involved with New Westminster PAC's for many years and was DPAC chair for four years
- The theater program funds were returned after a great amount of public feedback
- The procedure/process for these funds are under review
- Current topic being discussed is school goals - what are the focuses around the community and within the different schools across our community.
- At the School Board meeting this month there was a lot of discussion around AP 520, many local community members were in attendance..
- There was discussion of Pro D Days falling in the middle of the week or tacked on to long weekends and how this is a struggle for working parents. This concern will be brought up at next DPAC meeting

Chair's Report | Marti Longstaff

- The district will be hosting an elementary and middle school AP 520 meeting on Thursday February 29th from 7-8 on zoom.
- Grade 5 graduation planning committee email went out
- This committee will be organizing the leaving ceremony lunch, and the water fight acidity
- The PAC will provide the water gun blasters.
- The parent information night with Saleema Noon will be held on March 6th at 6:30 on zoom
- Official notice to put together a nomination committee for the PAC 2024/2025 school year.
- Amber Orchard will join Marti on this committee as two member who will not be returning to the PAC next year
- Everyone to try and get word out to the school community to join the PAC
- Mike's Critters will be coming in April to the kindergarten and Grade 1 classrooms.
- Motion to pass \$1,449 for this presentation, Amber Orchard moved, Patrick Service seconded, approved.
- This cost will become a line item in future school year budgets

Treasurer's Report | Christina & Patrick Service

- We are currently showing unbalanced funds for the Carnival and Yearbook as we have put down some deposits for items but we have not yet collected funds for tickets, yearbooks, etc.
- Our bursaries have gone out to the high school

- A track and field event for Grade 5's for the local elementary schools is in the works. There is a line item in our budget to fund if this goes ahead.
- Budget committee call out. We are looking for a few members to join in creating the budget for next school year, 2024/2025
- Can the events committee come forward with some dates that would work for next year's events, we need to create them now in order to secure gym space, etc.

CPF Report | Allison Mounsey

- BC Family French Camp registration will be open at the end of February
- More information is available at <https://bcffc.com/> or contact Allison
- CPF Family Skate will be held on Saturday March 30th from 10-11 at Moody Arena. There will be a small cost to participate.

DPAC Report | Natalie Taha

- AP 520 was discussed
- A Sogi representative gave a wonderful presentation. They are open to present in schools if there is interest
- There was an Introduction Into PAC presentation. Everyone's roles were discussed and how we are all connected through the different communication channels. School community through to the School Board. Natalie to send out an email with the presentation slides.
- Provincial cell phone restrictions are coming into schools. This is mainly geared toward the middle schools and high schools. The goal is to reduce sexual exploitation
- The DPAC put on a great anxiety presentation at the high school. Natalie will send out the slides for this as well.

Committee Reports

- Events Committee:
 - This years school carnival will be held on Friday May 31st from 5-8pm
 - The inflatables are rented, we will have an obstacle course, bouncy castle, food trucks, an imagination and crafting zone, carnival games, and petting zoo
 - The grade 5's will host some of the games
 - There will also be a concession with cotton candy and treats
 - The budget is being finalized, the ticketing price will be \$10 a head
 - A volunteer coordinator is needed
 - This will be an all hands on deck event, everyone will need to volunteer for a portion of the carnival.
 - There will be no 50/50 or raffle
 - There will be a cakewalk. We are looking for a cupcake donation
 - NW Ball hockey, NWSS, and the fire department will be coming
 - Is there another DJ dad or student DJ willing to share their music for the event?

- Fundraising Committee:
 - Neufeld Farms order for Spring will be April 15th -29th. Delivery will be on May 8th at 7pm
 - Purdys Fundraiser ends on February 21st. Pick up is March 13th
 - Created by Kids dates are TBD. Renee will be looking into where the boxes are. The classes have started their artwork.

- Members Communication/Yearbook
 - The yearbook submission deadline is coming shortly and we need more photos! Photo deadline is now!
 - Erin will be posting a social blast to get word out
 - Last year we sold out so get yours soon! Orders will be open until the end of May
 - Jen has drafted a RFP for the PAC website design. If you come across any websites that are inspiring that we can show what we are looking for please send them to Jen
 - There was discussion about the yearbook photo release. Should we add a separate release at the beginning of the year along with the school's request?

New Business

- No new business to report

Questions and Comments

- No questions or comments to report

Next Meeting

April, 2024, at 6:30PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM, Caroline Marklund moved, Renee Nixdorf seconded, approved.