

**Minutes of the
Kitsilano Secondary Parent Advisory Council**

Kitsilano Theatre

Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 6:30 pm

PRESENT:

PAC EXECUTIVE (2019/2020 school year)

Chair: Daniela Girard
Vice-Chair: Wayde Hayley
Treasurer: Kim Wilson-McCreath
Secretary: Jennifer Brandon; **Assistant Secretary** Charlotte French
DPAC Representatives: Alan Patola Moosmann
Past Chair: Norma Biln
Fundraising Chair Norma Biln
Art and Drama Liaison Corrina Hammond

Members at Large:

Catering & Refreshments	Christina Morgan & Martina Mitterer
Fundraising Events	Brian Rohl & Aniko Kovacs
Educational/Speaker Events	Lisa Pindera & Cynthia Morin
Athletic Liaison	Lettie Oommen McLean & Tari Charuhan
Grad Liaison	Martina Mitterer

Guests: Principal Ms. Ranjit Bains; Teacher Representative Carol-Anne McMillan, Grad Council President, Anzara E., Student Council President Sydney Mardon

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM.

1. Approval of the Agenda

- a. **MOTION:** Approval of Agenda
Moved: Wayde Hayley
Seconded: Martina Mitterer
CARRIED by majority

2. Approval of the October 29, 2019 PAC minutes – send minutes to everyone

- a. **MOTION:** Approval of minutes
Moved: Alan Patola Moosman
Seconded: Wayde Hayley
CARRIED by majority

3. PAC Mission and Welcome Note – Daniela Girard

4. School Updates

- a. **Student Council:** Sydney Mardon
Questions were sent to the Student Council ahead of the meeting.

- i. Question 1: In the month of October and November, many universities and colleges held presentation at school. Was the scheduled time between 11:40 and 12:30 welcome by students? How many students participated in the presentation?
 1. Timing was well received
 2. UBC filled up the auditorium, dependent on institution
 3. PARENT QUESTION: How did you find out about the sessions? The app, announcements in school, website
 - ii. Question 2: Are you participating or any of the members of Student Council to reinvent the process of PA Announcements. How often would you like to have the PA announcements in a week.
 1. Currently they are now happening once at beginning of week, once at end of week to avoid class disruptions. Student parliament discussed announcements and is going to meet with Ms. Bains to work through.
 - iii. Question 3: CSMC & CIMC Math Content – Are these promoted at school to students?
 1. They are on the website and if students are interested they should talk to their Math teachers for more information. There are also clubs available for students
 - iv. Course Planning Preparations – What are the student resources that you know of?
 1. Haven't started these yet. Course planning prep – counsellors go around to classes to discuss options, send students home with details and information and student comes back with decision. Students can get additional assistance from the counsellor. Students can email the counsellor to set up a specific time or if an emergency, any counsellor can assist them. She will take suggestions to school parliament to discuss accessibility of counsellors.
 - v. Additional Updates:
 1. Athletics is doing well.
 2. Canley Cup is currently running now. Competition with other schools to raise the most cans and money. PARENT QUESTION: Is there something official we can share with neighbours
 3. Meet Your Student Council Week is happening now, new initiative this year so newer students feel more comfortable talking to reps
 4. Clubs – all information is posted outside the office, students can join clubs even after the club fair for the beginning.
 5. PARENT QUESTION: Vancouver District Student Rep is voted in to student council like all other members.
- b. Communication Update:**
- i. Students and teachers would form a committee to compile information to create a newsletter to be sent to parents. It would be best if the students could create the newsletter themselves.
 1. CHAIR QUESTION: A project of this magnitude should have a leader. Is it possible for one of the volunteers to lead this project? Yes.
 2. Schedule? Weekly or Bi-Weekly
 3. PARENT QUESTION: What input would teachers and administrative staff have on this very important communications tool? This is a trial run and we'll see how this process goes to ensuring parents are more informed.

- ii. Discussion was had about the state of communications from the school and concerns about the functionality of the website.
- c. **Teacher Update:** Ms. Carol McMillan
- i. Ms. McMillan provided an union update “How does education in BC compare to the rest of Canada?” and shared an article with details on shortages in the school system and underfunding of all schools including Kits Secondary. There is also a challenge with failure to fill positions in BC.
 - 1. CHAIR QUESTIONS: Curriculum/Career Education courses: Students are spending considerable time on projects. Are the objectives keeping students engaged enough on the subject of career? Does the outline and schedule allow room for mentorship? Career Life Connections – not an in classroom class; 2 main objectives are as long as a student is working towards life after high school in a meaningful way. Building confidence and a trajectory for life after high school.
 - 2. PARENT QUESTION: Professor at UBC, her and colleagues agree that a gap year on average is more beneficial. Is that discussed in CLC? It’s not part of curriculum but teacher agrees it’s a great discussion point and would be considered for project subject.
 - 3. CHAIR QUESTION: Inquiries about MyBluePrint Education Planner - Student council mentions that it has a ton of resources outside of what is needed for CLC courses. She found resources that were invaluable when it was necessary.
- d. **Principal’s Report:** Ms. Ranjit Bains
- i. **Counsellor Availability:** Likes the appointment schedule idea and will bring it forward to determine if it’s possible. Counsellors work through lunch, prep, and break times to ensure students are seen.
 - ii. **CLC:** Mentorship - Community conversations was held trade show style where grade 12 members talked to community members to encourage community mentorships with students. First year of course, will evolve over time.
 - iii. **Teacher/Parent Evening:** December 10, information will be sent out soon (how to sign up for appointments etc.). That’s not the only time you can talk to your child’s teacher; reach out at any time
 - iv. **Numeracy Assessment:** January 20-24, Grade 10’s will be writing assessments, other students will be using it for additional work time. A newsletter will go out with additional information with report cards (week of Dec 06). There are no Grade 12 assessments this year but there will be next year.
 - v. **Communications:** Indicated she understands the concerns from parents on lack of communication; they were hopeful the website would solve communication issues but that has not been the case. They were also hoping it would streamline communications/emails from the school to parents. The newsletter project is a great initiative, with teacher and administrative oversight, that will help bridge the gap for communicating with parents.
 - vi. PARENT QUESTION: MyEd is a challenge because it is a shared login between parents and children. Ms. Bains suggested contacting the district to let them know it’s not an ideal set up. Students can go to the office to reset passwords.

- vii. PARENT QUESTION: French Immersion – in the music module, they were taught in English instead of French. Is there something we as parents can do to ensure the instruction is in French? Ms. Bains explained that the school exceeds the French requirement in all other classes so added it to the rotation for French Immersion students even though it was taught in English. They do try to include French culture (songs etc.).
- viii. PARENT QUESTION: Grade 11 math student, numeracy assessment was missed, is there another opportunity? Yes, they will try to fit them in in January or will run an additional session in April.
- ix. Pre-Activities from BC Government for Numeracy: page is blank, Ms Bains will update with new resources

5. Treasurer's Report: Kim Wilson-McCreath

- a. Allocated most funds we've received so far; no submissions for reimbursements so far
- b. \$64K, set aside \$7600 for a capital projects fund
- c. All information on how funds are allocated including full teacher's requests are available on the website

6. DPAC Update: Alan Patola Moosman

- a. School district received recommendations from staff for changes to food programs (provision of food to students, and food programs, declining equipment etc.). District will step back and have discussions to determine the big picture for these programs.
- b. Ratification to fill an empty seat on the executive
- c. Process to rename schools; where opportunities might exist to rename schools what are the triggers that would start that process
- d. Student mental health issues were brought up regarding specific incidents; looking towards having an anti-racism, anti-harassment person on staff. Trustees put a call out for a youth suicide prevention task force
- e. Budget – public consultation will take place through a multitude of ways. In person public forum will occur on April 6th
- f. Upcoming events: Sustainability (Nov 28), Exec Meeting (Dec 14)
- g. PACs connecting through social media – if you can assist, please reach out
- h. Interested to know feedback on the current newsletters format/content?
 - i. We could share how parents can sign up for the DPAC newsletter themselves. Daniela will add to our website.

7. Pub Night: Wayde Hayley

- a. Next event happening on Dec 03, invitation will be resent out to everyone with additional information that is all ages and will add silent auction items available

8. Chair Update: Daniela Girard

- a.

9. Adjourn

- a. **MOTION:** Adjourn the meeting.

Moved:

Seconded:
CARRIED by majority

Meeting adjourned at 8:57pm

**Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:
Jennifer Brandon - Secretary**