

**Minutes of the
Kitsilano Secondary Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting
Online with Zoom
Tuesday, May 31, 2022**

Meeting held on Zoom. Zoom room opened at 7:00pm
Meeting opened at 7:05pm with 28 participants (23 parents; 5 guests).

PRESENT:

PAC Executive

Chair: Charlotte French
Secretary: Sheila Kirkby
Treasurer: Catherine Hicks
DPAC Rep: Ishi Dinim

Members at Large: Erin Arnold (Vice-Chair), Corrina Hammond (Arts Liaison/What's Next), Alan Patola Moosmann (Zoom Host/What's Next), Maureen Prentice (Member at Large/Newsletter Editor)

Guests: Benita Kwon (Principal), Danniell Lin (Teacher Rep/Counsellor), Carol Anne McMillan (Teacher Rep), Brendan Sangster (Teacher Rep), Marie-Jeanne Desage (Student Council)

PAC Executive Regrets: Daniela Girard (Past-Chair), Ray Miya (Member at Large/Website Coordinator), Patricia Thiel (Grad Parent Liaison),

We acknowledge that we live, work, play and learn on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the x^wməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples.

1. Welcome from the Chair and overview of procedures for online meeting

This is the last meeting of the 2021-2022 school year. The PAC Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in September to include the new Grade 8 families.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: To approve the Agenda as presented with two additions: DPAC Choral Update and discussion of April 28 classroom incident.

Moved: Jacqueline Crumney

Seconded: Erin Arnold

Approved

3. Approval of the Minutes from Kits PAC Meeting Tuesday, April 26th, 2022

Motion: To approve the Minutes as presented.

Moved: Corinna Hammond

Seconded: Catherine Hicks

Approved

4. Chair's Update - Charlotte French

A bus stop near our school, on Macdonald (east side) and 10th Avenue was closed recently. The next closest bus stop is now Macdonald and Broadway. If there are any concerns about this change please let us know so we can give feedback to the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) for Translink. Some of the closed bus stops have been in locations that are especially concerning for elementary school access.

An Open House is planned on June 13th or 15th for current Grade 8 & 9 parents who have not had the opportunity to visit inside the school for the past two years during COVID restrictions. We look forward to giving them more connection to our school community.

The Pub Night on May 9th sold out in-person and take-out! The focus for this event was community building and some fundraising. Thank you to everyone who participated.

We are recruiting for 2022-2023 PAC executive positions to be ready for the AGM in September. Please see volunteer job descriptions and "expression of interest" form on our website at <http://kitsilanopac.ca/volunteering/executive-committee-volunteers/>

5. Theatre & Film Program Update - Sangster for Mr. Parker

Kitsilano Drama teacher Sangster updated everyone on the theatre and film program at Kits. He invites everyone to attend the upcoming student Film Festival. Festival passes are \$30. Each night is different and includes film projects from the last school year that we were not able to gather to watch. Also featured, "Roses in May," the Western movie project which filmed in Barkerville with the support of PAC funding. Sangster let us know the students are very excited.

For more information see <https://www.kitsilanotheatrecompany.com/>

6. School Updates

6.a. Student Council - Marie-Jeanne Desage for Zach Severyn

Student Council activities include Spring-ilano celebrations and elections for next year, as well as a summer event on June 22nd.

For more about student council activities please see @kitsilanostudentcouncil on Instagram

Marie-Jeanne also sits on the Grad Council and was able to report the grade 12's were allowed to hold the traditional Indoor Track Meet that was cancelled for the past two years. It is more of a sports day with fun games than a formal track meet. There was a Spring Dance held at the school, and hopefully one more event on June 21st.

Thank you to all the Teachers and Chaperones.

6.b. Teacher Updates - Ms. MacMillan and Mr. Lin

A highlight this year was having all Grade 8's go on the same field trip to the Britannia Mine Museum at Britannia Beach, one hour away. Mr. Lin helped chaperone two groups because male chaperones were required.

Mr. Mehl thanked PAC for having an information table at the Art Night on May 24th.

On Star Wars Day - May the Fourth - the school band performed at lunch.

Two academic points of note:

Grade 10 Literacy Exams will be held June 13-17. All Grade 10 students need to check the schedule outside the office to see when they will take the exam. For more information please see <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-literacy-assessment>

This year's Grade 10's will be the first to require the new Indigenous Focused Graduation Requirement. At our school the courses will include English First Peoples 12 and BC First Peoples 12 (Social Studies). More courses will be developed in the future. For more information please see

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/support/graduation/indigenous_focused_grad_requirement_summary.pdf

School Joke from Ms. MacMillan:

Student: What can I do to boost my marks?

Teacher: It's May!

Student: What may I do to boost my marks?

Q - Re: Grade 10 Literacy Exam, will there be any preparation for Grade 10's not taking English this semester?

A - Maybe. There is actually no teaching time provided to prepare for these exams. There is a sample test online and video orientations to the online format (see link above).

Q - What is on the reading list for English First Peoples 12?

A - Reading/watching list includes: Book There There by Tommy Orange. Documentary "Virunga" set in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Book Indian Horse by Richard Wagamese, and the film based on it.

6c. PAC-Sponsored Joke Contest

Thanks to all who participated and to our three teacher judge representatives Carol-Anne Mcmillan, Brendan Sangster and Katarzyna Przystupa! We are pleased to announce that 1st Place went to Don Kirkby, 2nd Place to Alan Patola Moosmann and 3rd Place to Laia Bertran.

1st Place:

A man went hiking and found a mountain lion cub near the trail. He couldn't see the mother, so he foolishly picked up the cub and carried it home. His roommates grew more and more uneasy as the cub grew larger and larger. Since he refused to give up the cub, they finally kicked him out and he had to live in his van with it.

One day while he was out buying groceries, someone tried to break into the van and got eaten! When the man got back and saw the police, he thought he was going to be in a lot of trouble, but they said this was just another victim of the van cougar housing shortage.

2nd Place:

Once, before you were born, your mom got really mad at me for having no sense of direction. So I packed up and right.

3rd Place:

I would tell you a joke about skunks....but it stinks.

6.b Teacher update continued

The Counselling Department is working on schedules for next year including an “Erase Bullying” virtual presentation for the Grade 8’s.

On June 9th there will be tours for area Grade 7 students including “a day in the life” with representatives from every grade.

Summer School Registration is open until June 10th. The closest location to our school for summer classes is Point Grey Secondary at West 37th Avenue and East Boulevard.

The Counsellors are happy to hear about the planned Open House for Grade 8 and 9 parents.

Mr. Lin will not be returning as a counsellor next year. He extends thanks to Charlotte, Alan and Corinna for the “What’s Next” post secondary options series. Charlotte thanked Mr. Lin for attending our meetings and extended an invitation to Student Services to continue to send a representative.

Patricia expressed thanks for the Scholarship information page in the Week at a Glance (WAAG) newsletter. It has been very helpful for prompting students.

6.c Principal’s Report

Our athletic teams have done very well this year. Congratulations. 15 individuals qualified for the provincial track and field meet. PAC funds help pay the entry fees when teams and individuals advance.

On May 17th, 16 years after receiving the Betty Wellburn grant to complete the work, Kitsilano Secondary held an unveiling ceremony for Musqueam artist Debra Sparrow’s weavings. They can be seen in the main atrium of the school. Read more:
https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/kitsilano/About-Us/news/_layouts/15/ci/post.aspx?oaid=05d59590-3f15-4ff2-8445-1ce77350f2e7&oact=20001

1. School Calendar 2022-23

Kitsilano’s school calendar for 2022-23 has been published on the [school website](#) as well as in the May 30 – June 3 *Kitsilano WAAG*.

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/kitsilano/About-Us/Publications/Documents/sbfile/220528/Kitsilano%20Secondary%20Calendar%202022-23.pdf>

2. School Schedule 2022-23

- semester system continues
- 8 collaborative days (see details following table)
- 100 minutes of Flexible Instructional Time (FIT) per week
- each week, morning blocks will rotate and afternoon blocks will rotate. The benefit of this system is that if students have to leave early for sports or other extracurricular activities they won’t always miss the same class, or if they are late in the morning, they won’t always be late for the same class.
- school will dismiss 5 minutes later, at 3:10, because lunch period is 5 minutes longer

	M/W/F Schedule		Tuesday FIT		Thursday FIT	
Period 1	8:40 - 10:01	81 mins	8:40 - 9:36	56 mins	8:40 - 10:01	81 mins
Break	10:01 - 10:09	8 mins	9:36 - 9:40	4 mins	10:01 - 10:09	8 mins
FIT			9:40 - 1:30	50 mins		
Break			10:30 - 10:34	4 mins		
Period 2	10:09 - 11:30	81 mins	10:34 - 11:30	56 mins	10:09 - 11:30	81 mins
Lunch	11:30 - 12:20	50 mins	11:30 - 12:20	50 mins	11:30 - 12:20	50 mins
Period 3	12:20 - 1:41	81 mins	12:20 - 1:41	81 mins	12:20 - 1:16	56 mins
Break	1:41 - 1:49	8 mins	1:41 - 1:49	8 mins	1:16 - 1:20	4 mins

FIT					1:20 - 2:10	50 mins
Break					2:10 - 2:14	4 mins
Period 4	1:49 - 3:10	81 mins	1:49 - 3:10	81 mins	2:14 - 3:10	56 mins

3. Collaborative Day Schedule 2022-23

- 4 sessions each semester when students will start late or finish early to give time for teachers to do planning
- alternates between the start of the day and the end of the day
- 81 minute collaborative session plus 2 shortened blocks either in am or pm

	AM Collaborative Schedule		PM Collaborative Schedule	
Collaborative Time	8:40 - 10:01	81 mins		
Break	10:01 - 10:05	4 mins		
Period 1	10:05 - 10:46	41 mins	8:40 - 10:01	81 mins
Break	10:46 - 10:50	4 mins	10:01 - 10:09	8 mins
Period 2	10:50 - 11:30	40 mins	10:09 - 11:30	81 mins
Lunch	11:30 - 12:20	50 mins	11:30 - 12:20	50 mins
Period 3	12:20 - 1:41	81 mins	12:20 - 1:01	41 mins
Break	1:41 - 1:49	8 mins	1:01 - 1:05	4 mins
Period 4	1:49 - 3:10	81 mins	1:05 - 1:45	40 mins
Break			1:45 - 1:49	4 mins
Collaborative Time			1:49 - 3:10	81 mins

4. School Fees 2022-23

Kitsilano's school fee schedule for 2022-23 has been published on the [school website](#) as well as in the May 30 – June 3 *Kitsilano WAAG*.

https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/kitsilano/Families/Fees/Documents/sbfile/220528/Kitsilano%20School%20Fees%20Schedule%202022-23_1.pdf

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/kitsilano/Families/Fees/Documents/sbfile/220528/Kitsilano%20School%20Supplemental%20Fee%20Schedule%202022-23.pdf>

5. VSB Summer School 2022

Information about the VSB 2022 Summer School Program course offerings are available on the [Summer School website](#). Online student registration for Summer School closes June 10. https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Learning/Summer_Sessions/Pages/default.aspx

Q - Any update on Bathroom Vandalism?

A - Actions to address vandalism in the bathrooms this year include allowing only one student at a time from class and regular staff check-in to discourage gathering and vaping. There have been some improvements. The focus is on how to change the student culture to understand that reporting damage and vandalism is positive and helpful, not snitching.

Q - Students have commented at home on sexist and racist incidents at school? How are these addressed?

Yes, there have been isolated incidents but no patterns to report. A parent pointed out that any incident is one too many.

Q - Have students been told there have thefts from the bike cage between the school and the community centre and it is not secure?

Please let the admin know when thefts occur.

The Agenda was adjusted to finish PAC business items before proceeding with discussion of student conduct and incidents.

7. **Treasurer's Report - Catherine Hicks**

Most of PAC's financial activity takes place in the first half of the year with the parent fundraising drive and subsequent distribution.

Catherine has submitted the Gaming Grant application. (Provincial government Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Grants provide funding to PACs and DPACs, to benefit K-12 students through enhanced extracurricular opportunities and increased parent and community engagement through the Community Gaming Grants Program.)

Donations to PAC through schoolcashonline.com are managed by the school accountant in consultation with the Treasurer. This year there were more donations in the March/April than is typical.

Work is being done now to streamline next September's funding request process for school teams, clubs, field trips, etc.

More information about PAC finances are available on the website at <http://kitsilanopac.ca/>

8. **Committee and Liaison Reports**

8.a **District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC)** - Ishi Dinim

Two items of note: the closure of Queen Elizabeth Elementary School Annex, and the fact that 30 PACs said they would like more music by supporting the Choral Program proposal. Doug Ford hopes to beta-test a high school Choral options at Kits.

Motion: To endorse Alan Patola Moosmann's continuation on the DPAC executive

Moved: Corinna Hammond

Seconded: Ishi Dinim

Approved

8.d **Grad Parents** - Patricia Theil

The June 22nd rehearsal is mandatory for all grads. The graduation ceremony will be held June 24th. Thank you to the Administration and Teachers, and to the Parents coordinating the reception to follow.

Thank you also to the Grade 12 teachers who prepared students to write the Literacy 12 exam.

8.c **Arts Liaison/What's Next** - Corrina Hammond

In the interest of time the following Arts Liaison and What's Next Reports were submitted in writing and not presented during the meeting.

- Art Night was last Tuesday, May 24th as well as the fabulous senior production ran Tuesday through Thursday

-Arts Night was festive and well attended, and PAC hosted a greeting table. We took a poll and received positive response regarding the school hosting a parent/guardian open house at Kits for grade 8 and 9, which is now in the works

-Congratulations to students, Selina Ertemz, Omar Henderson and Kieren O'Flaherty of Mr. Ramsey's class. They won Top Junior Experimental and Alternative Film at this year's BC Student Film Festival.

-Last Friday 21st the Kits High School band "Reverend Ape" performed in the big theatre to a good crowd. They are a four piece rock band (grade 12s) performing classic rock covers.

-Kitsilano Showboat Monday, June 20th at 7pm Kits High School Band will perform. Free, next to Kits Pool.

-Sharon Fritz French Immersion art and art elective instructor posts art work weekly on Instagram @sfritzkits

- What's Next: We launch the season in September with Education Planner BC (EPBC) a one-stop web-based public resource for researching and making applications to the majority of post-secondary institutions in BC. EPBC and the presentation team provides an introduction to the diversity of post-secondary programs in the province and will walk us through how to use the EPBC website to explore options.

8.b BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC) - Alan Patola Moosmann

In the interest of time the following BCCPAC Report was submitted in writing and not presented during the meeting.

The BCCPAC conference and AGM were held virtually again this year on April 29 and 30, 2022, after initial registrations for a planned in-person gathering were low. On the order of 160 delegates from PACs and DPACs across the province attended.

Highlights of the conference:

The initial presentation from the Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institute, "Transforming Education Systems through Family-School Collaboration". This group of researchers has developed a "playbook" to assist parent groups with practical advice about how to open and sustain dialogue with teachers, school administrators and district staff. This presentation was received with great interest and touched on some live issues, as during the small group discussions many of the PACs and DPACs present expressed frustration at the challenges experienced in their relationships with school staff and administrations in the small group discussion. The document is well worth a look at:
https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Family_School_Engagement_Playbook_FINAL.pdf

There were several breakout sessions in the afternoon. I attended a presentation by Foundry BC on their virtual resources available throughout the province (counselling, peer support) for youth aged 12 – 24 and their caregivers (this group has been featured from time to time in the resources section of the Kits PAC newsletter). Other topics covered included building relationships with Indigenous families, healthy school food programs, and tools for distinguishing information from mis- and dis-information online.

The conference presentations are now all posted on the BCCPAC website at
<https://bccpac.bc.ca/index.php/resources/16-dpac-pac/1110-2022-conf-presentations>

Highlights of the AGM:

Board Elections:

Andrea Sinclair finished her term as president and Chris Shultz-Lorentzen, from the Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows SD was elected as president for the next two years. Natasha Radbourne

from the Langley SD was elected to a one year term as treasurer, and two at large directors were elected to two year terms. All were acclaimed. Two directors, including Amanda Hillis from Vancouver, are continuing their current terms. No candidates came forward for first and second vice-presidents, secretary and one additional director, triggering a by-election which will take place electronically between June 01 and 08. Our PAC can expect to receive the Nominations booklet tomorrow. (Post-meeting update June 01 – no formal byelection was held as the first and second vice-presidential positions were filled by acclamation, by Amanda Nichol from the North Vancouver SD and Sandy Thon from the North Okanagan-Shuswap SD respectively. The secretary and one director position remain open, and the BCCPAC bylaws allow the appointment of an interim secretary.)

Resolutions:

All resolutions brought forward by member PACs and DPACs, and BCCPAC's Constitution and Bylaws Committee (on which I served this past year) were passed (bccpac.bc.ca/images/AGM/2022_AGM_Results.pdf), with the exception of one resolution proposed by the committee to amend the bylaws to remove directors facing charges, which did not receive the required 2/3 majority vote required for a bylaw amendment, some PACs considering that an alternative such as suspension while the charges are being processed would be more appropriate, and hoping that some distinction could be made between various levels of offences that could result in charges. The bylaws do provide for the removal of directors with criminal convictions. This may go back to the BCCPAC committee for further work.

A package of four related resolutions asking BCCPAC to advocate for the province to develop and support resources to address peer-to-peer sexual misconduct, harassment and assault, including response protocols and data collection, passed with overwhelming support. Vancouver DPAC's two resolutions, which were originally brought to last year's AGM but not considered as the clock ran out, also passed with high levels of support. These were asking BCCPAC to advocate for provincial level collection of disaggregated, race-based data regarding student achievement and for expansion of the hospital homebound program to include medically vulnerable students, and students with medically vulnerable families, which would allow such students the option of learning from home without giving up their space in their regular school.

A third resolution was submitted by Vancouver DPAC proposing that the provincial Area Standards document, currently under review, be amended to allow for outdoor covered play areas in all elementary schools, and to provide for larger circulation space per student so that social distancing, when necessary, is actually possible. This was not accepted for inclusion in the resolution booklet this year for technical reasons related to there being an already existing resolution from 2018 re Area Standards on BCCPAC's advocacy agenda. In the discussion at the AGM about this process, we learned that the New Westminster DPAC had also put an Area Standards resolution forward which was not accepted, and the two DPACs were invited to work together to bring their specific concerns to the BCCPAC executive as their work on the review continues. Vancouver DPAC has reached out to the New Westminster DPAC and anticipates a joint effort with them over the coming months.

It was a pleasure to serve as the delegate for Kits PAC. Please feel free to contact me at apatola@telus.net if you have any questions!

9. School Incidents

Charlotte as Chairperson reminded everyone that identifying details in specific incidents must be kept anonymous in our discussions.

On April 28th there was an incident in a career class when a visiting (online) UBC Medical Student used the Slido app as part of their presentation. Slido is used at UBC for student engagement during presentations for polls and asking questions anonymously. (See [slido.com](https://www.slido.com)) A racist and sexist statement was made anonymously during the presentation but it was not seen by the teacher who was not using the platform while they were managing the online presentation. A parent brought the incident to the attention of the teacher and the principal, and contacted the Vancouver School Board (VSB). The app is not approved for use by Vancouver public schools.

On May 30th graffiti of a swastika was found in the school woodshop. There have also been incidents of grade 8 students making jokes about the Holocaust. In 2022, this is completely unacceptable, and makes school an unsafe place.

Ms. Kwon said the graffiti in the woodshop was not reported to her and she will follow up with the teacher. This year school started a day late for all teachers to have anti-racism training. When staff see incidents they will call out the behaviour and follow up with support from our counsellors.

A parent commented that past responses in the school system have been disappointing. Parents would like to know when this happens and what we can do to help prevent it.

Teachers are talking about school culture and COVID-related factors from the younger students in particular - impacts of missing out on regular socialization during the last two years.

Wide-ranging discussion included a proposal for Restorative Justice to atone and repair damage, knowing that this requires a very strong sense of community. How do we as parents and as a PAC support efforts in our school community to take realistic action? Should we create an Action Group or a Working Group? Are there education programs we can access? How do we reach those who are not engaged? Can we hire a Cultural Consultant? What can we teach at home? Can we take action over the summer to be ready to start in September?

There is an appetite to be proactive, to be allies. Continuity between school and home is important. As a starting point, parents Erin Arnold, Alan Patola Moosmann, Ishi Dinim, Florian Ehrensperger and Kara Ko offered to meet further. Teacher representatives also expressed interest in participating.

10. Closing Remarks

A reminder that all parents are members of PAC and everyone is welcome. Participants do not have to be on the executive nor attend the meetings regularly to be part of a working group.

Thank you to all the parents and guests who stayed to the end of the meeting for this important hour-long discussion.

A final thanks from teacher Brendan Sangster for PAC's support of the Pronoun buttons that were given to all the students during Pride Week.

Motion to Adjourn at 9:30 pm

Moved: Ishi Dimin

Seconded: Kara Ko

Carried

Next Meeting: September 2022

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by S. Kirkby, Kits PAC Secretary