

**Minutes of the
Kitsilano Secondary Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
On Zoom
Tuesday, October 25, 2022**

Waiting room opened at 7:00pm. Meeting called to order at 7:03pm with 50 participants (44 parents; 6 guests).

PRESENT:

PAC Executive

Chair: Charlotte French
Secretary: Sheila Kirkby
DPAC Rep: Ishi Dinim

Members at Large: Norma Blin (Fundraising), Philip Coldrey (Athletics Liaison), Corrina Hammond (Arts Liaison/What's Next), Catherine Hicks (Member at Large), Kristen McDougal (Athletics Liaison), Alan Patola Moosmann (Zoom Host/What's Next), Maureen Prentice (Member at Large/Newsletter Editor)

Guests: Patrick Gregg (Student Council President), Carmen Kaufman (VSB Parent & Family Engagement worker), Benita Kwon (Principal), Carol Anne McMillan (Teacher Rep), Melissa O'Donnel (Teacher Rep), Sandie Rai (Kits SACY worker)

PAC Executive Regrets: Ray Miya (Member at Large/Website Coordinator),

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

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: To approve the Agenda as posted on the PAC website.

Moved: Maureen Prentice

Seconded: Norma Blin

Approved

4. Spotlight Speakers: Supporting and Connecting Youth (SACY) Engagement & Prevention Worker

Sandie Rai (skrai@vsb.bc.ca), Kitsilano Secondary's SACY worker
Carmen Kaufman, VSB Parent & Family Engagement worker

Our speakers presented a brief outline of their work and will provide resources for the PAC website.

What is SACY?

Supporting And Connecting Youth (SACY) - Substance Use Health Promotion Initiative engages Vancouver parents, teachers, students, administrators and the greater community to strengthen school-based alcohol and drug prevention and early-intervention programs and policies.

The goal of SACY is to: *Enhance the prevention and brief intervention infrastructure in VSB schools and surrounding community to prevent substance use, delay substance use and reduce substance use related problems.*

At SACY we believe that young people that feel connected to their schools, who have supportive family, and have adult allies and mentors are stronger, healthier and better able to live up to their full potential.

SACY staff and allies are committed to listening to their experiences and supporting them in the prevention, delay and reduction of substance use.

How do we work?

The SACY team uses a comprehensive approach to deliver coordinated prevention and early intervention strategies that emphasize relationships, connectedness, positive youth development, and social and emotional learning.

SACY utilizes a number of unique activities including “Capacity Cafes” (where youth voices educate adults), community service learning opportunities, parent engagement and specific activities that involve Aboriginal and multi-cultural communities.

SACY has four interrelated activity streams:

Youth Prevention and Engagement,

Parent Engagement,

Curriculum and Teacher Training, and

STEP - a three day off site program

What does SACY work focus on?

- Strengthen youth’s connection to school, family and community.
- Build resiliency in youth, parents and within the community by focusing on strengths versus deficits.
- Encourage open and honest dialogue on issues related to drugs and alcohol.
- Promote positive youth development - emotional, physical, intellectual and spiritual.
- Create opportunities for youth voices to be heard.

SACY acknowledges that adolescence may be a time of experimentation with substances, including tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, and therefore works to:

- Ensure that prevention efforts are relevant and realistic, helping young people navigate a society where substance use is prevalent.
- Generate opportunities for youth to give back to their communities.
- Address risk factors that exist around substance use and which are related to individuals, families, schools and community.

SACY recognizes the important role of parents, teachers and other adults and therefore seeks to:

- Support parents/caregivers in maintaining strong relationships with their youth.
- Teach parents effective ways of communicating with their children.
- Promote adult listening and adult ally building - important steps that help young people stay healthy and feel positively connected to their schools and communities.

SACY seeks to impact the school environment and thus aims to:

- Support teachers and administrators to utilize evidence-based prevention practices
- Conduct teacher training to implement effective classroom curricula.
- Work with schools to implement an integrated approach to substance use prevention.

SACY is committed to a multi-faceted approach and ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

SACY is a joint initiative of the Vancouver School Board and Vancouver Coastal Health in collaboration with the City of Vancouver, , the University of British Columbia, the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research (CISUR) and the Vancouver Police Department.

From:

https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Support/Mental%20Health/SACY_Substance_Use_Health_Promotion/Pages/default.aspx

Examples of SACY work at Kitsilano include three sessions with the grade 8 students about marijuana use (variations, brain development and myth busting).

Q. What is the capacity for these staff?

A. Sandie Rai works half time at Kitsilano, all day Tuesday & Thursday, and Wednesday mornings.

Q. Is Screen & Social Media addiction included in the work SACY does?

A. No, not that this time. They know it is needed but finding capacity is challenging. They are looking for a speaker on this topic.

Q. What is meant by “Psychoeducation”?

A. Education around psychological, social and emotional skills. Not counselling per se, but skills or education in the area, or information to help fix or at least modify behaviours.

Q. Please explain more about “Capacity Cafes”?

A. Capacity Cafes are an opportunity for parents to hear about youth experiences first hand. Parents hear from students attending different schools, to allow for more honesty than is possible if the participants know each other or their families.

Q. Can parents receive the information that will be given to the Grade 8 students, to allow for consistency of messaging?

A. Yes, they are working on a presentation to share with parents so they will know what has been learned. PAC could include time for this at a regular meeting or elsewhere.

Further discussion clarified the message that while there is safer drug use, there is No safe drug use. Naloxone kits can be distributed but these staff are now allowed to train students in their use.

Parents are concerned that vaping continues in the school washrooms. This is not allowed and it limits the use of the washrooms by students who are intimidated by those vaping. 80-90% of vaping by students is stress-related, so they hope to get to the root cause of the practice instead of just punishing the activity. It can take years of relationship-building with students.

Suggested further resources:

<https://familysmart.ca/>

4. Approval of the Minutes from Kits PAC Meeting & AGM Tuesday, September 27, 2022

Motion: To approve the Minutes as posted on the PAC website with correction in item 12.c Teacher Update “Takaya Tours” in place of “Tzeachten Lands.”

Moved: Corrina Hammond

Seconded: Ishi Dinim

Approved

5. School Updates

a) Student Council Report - Patrick Gregg

Grade 8 Student Council elections have taken place, as has the Clubs Fair.

The Spookilano costume contest will take place in the Atrium at lunch on Monday, October 31st. Prizes including gift cards to Nat’s Pizza.

Grad Council has organized a Grad Spirit Week.

Kitsilano Parliament meets this week.

Q. What is the difference between Student Council and Student Parliament?

A. Student Council focuses on events and fun stuff, while Student Parliament is the voice of students to the administration.

b) Principal’s Report - Benita Kwon

i Clubs 2022-23

There are over forty-five clubs running this year. A complete list of clubs and their meeting dates/times are posted on the school website. It is never too late to join a club!

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/kitsilano/Extracurricular/Clubs/Documents/sbfile/221020/Kitsilano%20Clubs%202022-23.pdf>

ii. Graduation Numeracy Assessment (GNA) 10: October 31 - November 4

Grade 10 students will be writing the Graduation Numeracy Assessment 10 (GNA 10) during the week of October 31 – November 4.

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-numeracy-assessment>

iii. Grade 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day

Grade 9 students will have the opportunity to begin to explore their possible career paths and experience and learn about the world of work by spending the day in the workplace of a parent, relative, friend or volunteer on Wednesday, November 2.

iv. Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences will take place on Thursday, November 24 from 3:00 – 7:00 PM. The online booking system will be open to parents starting November 18. There will be an early dismissal at 2:00 PM to allow teachers to prepare for conferences.

Friendly reminder that these sessions are intended for parents who really need to speak to the teachers, it is not just an opportunity to say Hi.

v. Implementation of Indigenous-focused Grad Requirement

Current Grade 12 students do not have to take an Indigenous-focused course to graduate, this is a new requirement that will begin with the current Grade 11 students. Students now in Grades 8 and 9 have three years to meet the requirement. The school district is helping teachers prepare to offer these new courses.

	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English First Peoples (EFP) Literature Studies 10	2024-25	2023-24			n/a
Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12	2025-26 2026-27	2024-25 2025-26	2023-24 2024-25	2023-24	n/a
EFP 12	2026-27	2025-26	2024-25	2023-24	n/a

**Students only need to select one course to complete.*

Following her prepared presentation, Ms. Kwon answered questions and had time for more discussion about vaping in our school. She explained that the school takes an educational approach to the problem, focusing on the unsafe and intimidating community that vaping can create.

A difficult part of this situation is that many students are not reporting incidents of vaping in the school washrooms because they don't want to snitch. How can we empower older

students to let younger students know that vaping is not a good choice? If older kids are selling to Grades 8's please contact Ms. Kwon.

Q. What happens to the equipment if students are caught vaping?

A. For younger students in Grades 8, 9, 10, the vapes are confiscated.

Q. Where can my child go to use a washroom with clean air, to avoid the vaping smells?

A. The school cannot make a "vape-free" washroom because that implies it is okay to vape in other places. The student can go to the admin to make arrangements to use another washroom.

Q. Is there a way for students to report vaping anonymously?

A. Yes, there is an "Erase It" text/email

Q. Will there be a Parent Walkabout?

A. Not at this time but the admin is working on opportunities to welcome parents back into our school building.

Q. Are there plans to harmonize how teachers report on student grades and course work to better enable parents to keep track of student progress between official reporting dates? Making this information easily accessible by parents might reduce the time that teachers need to spend responding to parent enquiries.

A. No, teachers have the autonomy to choose how they track student progress, whether it be in MyEd BC, Teams or other systems. Parents are welcome to contact teachers at any time.

Comment from a parent expressing appreciation for the Indigenous graduation requirement. Discussion about a fire alarm being pulled during the school-wide Reconciliation lesson on September 29th. A sensor went off and Fit was extended to allow time to complete the lesson. Reconciliation work continues beyond Orange Shirt Day (September 30th), not just in Social Studies and English but in other subject areas as well.

Q. Is there a plan if anyone does not support this grad requirement?

A. Ms. Kwon has not heard from anyone opposed to it.

Q. Is there an Elder to work with Kitsilano Secondary?

A. The District Indigenous Education Department provides support. Amanda White recently retired as Knowledge Keeper of Indigenous Education at age 72.

Ms. McMillan reported that the Grade 11's will take part in the Blanket Exercise.

<https://www.kairosblanketexercise.org/>

Ms. Kwon appreciates that staff members are very good at accessing support and information in the area of Reconciliation.

c) Teachers Report - Carol-Ann McMillan & Melissa O'Donnel

The first six weeks of this semester have gone well as the teachers get to know the students. Wednesday, October 26th there is afternoon Collaborative Time for teachers to meet and plan. Students will be dismissed at 1:45 pm.

The Model United Nations Club meets Monday at Lunch. There are many wonderful clubs for the students.

Q. Please explain how Flexible Instructional Time (FIT) works?

A. FIT gives students time on Tuesday mornings (9:40-10:30 am) and Thursday afternoons (1:20-2:10 pm) to choose how to use the time to work on homework, ask teachers questions or make up missed tests and quizzes. Grades 8-10 must be in a classroom during FIT. Grades 11-12 have more options for locations in the school. Grades 12 may work on University applications. The teachers are pleased with how the students are using their time.

Q. Regarding the chaos in the morning at drop off, is there a designated spot for parents who are driving to let students out?

A. As stated in Week at a Glance, the school parking lot is for VSB Staff only. Parents/Guardians are asked to not drive through or use the school parking lot. Please also adhere to the street and traffic regulations around the school perimeter. Directly in front of the school, there is a no stopping zone on Trafalgar Street and 11th Avenue. Please use calmer streets such as 10th Avenue or Larch Street to drop off/pick-up your child.

6. Financial Report - Charlotte French & Sheila Kirkby

The PAC receives money primarily from the Provincial Government Gaming Grants and Direct Drive donations from parents as well as some funds from fundraising activities during the year. The money from the Gaming Grant and direct donations is allocated in accordance with the regulations with the focus being on support to student extra-curricular and academic activities such as: clubs, teams, and enhancements to curriculum through speakers, field trips, and equipment/supplies.

A. Review of Teacher Funding Requests

Request levels have started to return to normal levels, after going down during Covid due to limitations on activities. However, donation levels have not returned to pre-Covid levels. As such, we are not able to fund all the requests at this time. Funds available include new PAC funds collected, carry forward from last year, and the BC Gaming Grant.

Charlotte and Sheila met with Ms. Kwon to review all requests and ensure they are allowable and that there are no other sources of funding available. The PAC Executive has also reviewed the list of requests. Longevity and number of students impacted are taken into consideration. Some teachers were asked to clarify and/or prioritize their requests. We are not evaluating the specifics of each request (ie. the model of film equipment or exact brand of sports equipment). All purchases go through the VSB purchasing process.

Gaming funds have strict guidelines on use so these funds are allocated to allowable requests first. They must be used for extra-curricular activities. Field trips are allowed. All requests under \$1000 that can be funded through the Gaming Grant are able to be fully funded. Requests over \$1000 are 70% funded.

Requests that do not qualify for Gaming Grant funding have received an allocation from the direct donations from parents. This includes any equipment or supplies that support

curriculum activities. In this category so far this year we are able to fund to 65% of the request.

Department, Club, Team	Purpose of Request	Request Amount	Gaming Grant		Parent Donations & Fundraising Initiatives		Fundraising Events & Partners	Proposed TOTAL ALLOCATION
			Budget	% of Request	Budget	% of Request	Budget	Budget
DEPARTMENTS								
ACADEMICS								
Math Department	Math contests for grades 8 to 12	\$1,800.00	\$1,260.00	70%				\$1,260.00
Science	Science 8 Field Trip to Britannia Mine Museum	\$9,500.00	\$6,650.00	70%				\$6,650.00
Science	"Yukon Dan" Gold Panning in the classroom	\$400.00	\$280.00	70%				\$280.00
Modern Languages	iPad, Apple Care, Protective cases, and Apple Pencil for French and Spanish	\$884.00			\$574.60	65%		\$574.60
English Department	Gaming laptop for a new unit for English 11 New Media course (approximately 120 students).	\$2,260.00			\$1,469.00	65%		\$1,469.00
English Department	Book encouragement awards for students from grades 8-11	\$500.00			\$325.00	65%		\$325.00
English Department	Indigenous guest speakers for English First Peoples 12 (first semester and second semester)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	100%				\$1,000.00
English Department	Overnight field trip to the Cheakamus Center north of Squamish for English First Peoples 12 Classes in the spring.	\$5,000.00	\$3,500.00	70%				\$3,500.00
ACADEMICS TOTAL		\$16,344.00	\$12,690.00		\$2,368.60			\$15,058.60

Department, Club, Team	Purpose of Request	Request Amount	Gaming Grant		Parent Donations & Fundraising Initiatives		Fundraising Events & Partners	Proposed TOTAL ALLOCATION
			Budget	% of Request	Budget	% of Request	Budget	Budget
APPLIED SKILLS								
Trades Exploration, Metal work	Equipment for industrial ed including metal design, automotive tools, safety equipment.	\$972.00			\$631.80	65%		\$631.80
ADST Woodworking	Classroom / woodshop enhancement (equipment and supplies) grades 8 to 12 and the club	\$776.00			\$504.40	65%		\$504.40
APPLIED SKILLS TOTAL		\$1,748.00			\$1,136.20			\$1,136.20
ARTS								
ART	Materials & Supplies for Arts Night	\$500.00			\$325.00	65%		\$325.00
Drama / Kitsilano Theatre Company	Replacement and additional theatre and film equipment as requested: camera lens, camera batteries, memory card, intelligent Mirrors, Basel Masks, & solid state drives	\$8,800.00			\$5,720.00	65%		\$5,720.00
ARTS TOTAL		\$9,300.00			\$6,045.00			\$6,045.00

Department, Club, Team	Purpose of Request	Request Amount	Gaming Grant		Parent Donations & Fundraising Initiatives		Fundraising Events & Partners	Proposed TOTAL ALLOCATION
ATHLETICS/PE								
Athletics	Athletic equipment for our sports teams	\$7,294.00	\$5,105.80	70%				\$5,105.80
Athletics	Uniforms for identified teams(eg. girls hockey, volleyball, golf, cross country)	\$5,300.00	\$3,710.00	70%				\$3,710.00
Athletics	Ref, linekeeper, and student game event volunteers honorarium and recognition	\$2,000.00			\$1,300.00	65%		\$1,300.00
Athletics	Rugby Tackle Bags	\$3,068.00	\$2,147.60	70%				\$2,147.60
Physical and Health Education +	A Life Fitness multi-jungle Cable Machine with attachments as specified in request.	\$8,528.00			\$5,543.20	65%		\$5,543.20
Physical and Health Education +	Vertical Challenger – Jump Tester (lower priority)	\$878.00						
Kitsilano Jr Boys Hockey Club	New team jersey for Jr Boys Hockey teams	\$1,800.00	\$1,260.00	70%				\$1,260.00
ATHLETICS/PE TOTAL		\$61,260.00	\$12,223.40		\$6,843.20			\$19,066.60

Department, Club, Team	Purpose of Request	Request Amount	Gaming Grant		Parent Donations & Fundraising Initiatives		Fundraising Events & Partners	Proposed TOTAL ALLOCATION
CLUBS								
Pride Club	Pronoun Buttons for the school	\$800.00	\$800.00	100%				\$800.00
Canadian Computing Contest Prep Club	Fees for the Canadian Computing Contest	\$168.00	\$168.00	100%				\$168.00
Chemistry Club	Chemicals and equipment	\$1,035.00	\$1,035.00	100%				\$1,035.00
Robotics Engineering Club	Entry for UBC Physics Olympics	\$200.00	\$200.00	100%				\$200.00
Kitsilano Model UN club	In-house Model United Nations Conference	\$410.00	\$410.00	100%				\$410.00
Creators'Collective Club	Supplies for club projects	\$580.00	\$580.00	100%				\$580.00
Kitsilano Heritage Club	Create theme based display cases and adhesive collages of archive materials	\$1,200.00	\$600.00	50%				\$600.00
CLUBS TOTAL		\$4,393.00	\$3,793.00					\$3,793.00
STUDENT SERVICES								
Student Services/Counseling	Speakers on student well-being topics	\$2,000.00	\$1,400.00	70%				\$1,400.00
Indigenous education	Appliances and snacks for the Indigenous students space	\$491.00			\$319.15	65%		\$319.15
Link Crew	Link Crew t-shirts & event supplies	\$1,000.00			\$650.00	65%		\$650.00
		\$2,491.00	\$1,400.00		\$969.15			\$2,369.15
TOTAL ALL REQUESTS		\$69,144.00	\$30,106.40		\$17,362.15			\$47,468.55

Department, Club, Team	Purpose of Request	Request Amount	Gaming Grant		Parent Donations & Fundraising Initiatives	Fundraising Events & Partners	Proposed TOTAL ALLOCATION
TOTAL ALL REQUESTS		\$69,144.00	\$30,106.40		\$17,362.15		\$47,468.55
KITS PAC							
PAC Events	2023 Parent Grad Committee	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	100%			\$2,500.00
	PAC Annual Grad Scholarships* 2 @ \$1,000	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	100%			\$2,000.00
	Teacher Appreciation	\$600.00				\$600.00	\$600.00
PAC Operations							\$0.00
	Constant Contact	\$500.00				\$500.00	\$500.00
	Quickbooks	\$550.00				\$550.00	\$550.00
	Banking Fees and Charges	\$100.00				\$100.00	\$100.00
	PAC Administrative Expenses - other	\$500.00				\$500.00	\$500.00
	BCCPAC Membership	\$75.00	\$75.00	100%			\$75.00
PAC TOTAL		6,825.00	\$4,575.00			\$2,250.00	\$6,825.00
TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET		75,969.00	\$34,681.40		\$17,362.15	\$2,250.00	\$4,293.55
Proceeds Received - Current Year			\$30,920.00		\$4,950.00		
Opening Bank Balance			\$4,264.68		\$13,242.20	\$1,411.75	
Available Funds			\$35,184.68		\$18,192.20	\$1,411.75	\$54,788.63
Surplus/(Deficit)			\$503.28		\$830.05	\$838.25	\$495.08

Motion: To Allocate funds as per the presented spreadsheet, with noted amendment.

Moved: Alan Patola Moosman

Seconded: Corrina Hammond

Carried

Motion: That PAC authorizes the executive to allocate any new funding to teacher submissions that were not fully funded or to new submissions or to make amendments to approved allocations based on the criteria as outlined and previously used.

Moved: Ishi Dinim

Seconded: Corrina Hammond

Carried

7. Chair's Update - Charlotte French

Welcome to Philip Coldrey and Kristen McDougall who have volunteered to join the Executive as Athletic Liaisons, and also to help with planning Pub Nights.

Please sign up for the PAC Newsletter: <http://kitsilanopac.ca/subscribe-to-pac-eneews/>

8. Vancouver District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC) - Ishi Dinim

The first DPAC meeting for the year will be held Thursday, November 3rd therefore there is nothing to report at the time regarding general DPAC activities.

Alan, reporting for Rob Ford, gave an update on the new Extracurricular Choral Program which came about after a request from a number of PACs to find a long term plan to support music education. Students were arriving at the secondary level with exposure to music programs.

There are 500 students in 13 choirs at nine elementary schools. Fees are \$132/11 weeks, with bursaries upon request. It is early to know exactly how the finances will work out but things are looking good.

9. Committee and Liaison Reports

9a. Anti-Racism/Inclusion/Safe School Committee - Alan Patola Moosman

This new committee is in early stages of planning for preventing bullying and responding to incidents of hate. New members are welcome. Diversity on the committee is sought. There are several things to talk about including connecting with other schools for structure and frames of reference.

There will continue to be incidents in the community, but we hope to create a safe space for the students in our school.

Interested? Please contact Alan at apatola@telus.net

9b. What's Next Committee - Corrina Hammond & Alan Patola Moosman

Thank you to Principal Kwon for all the post-secondary information and events listed in the Week at a Glance (WAAG). Alan has received a link to share from the Education Planner BC session but it has an expiry date. He is trying to get this extended.

Volunteer opportunity: New committee members with younger students are needed to take over for the current parents who have students in Grade 12.

9c. Arts Liaison - Corrina Hammond

The school band held its first concert on October 19th.
Mr. Ramsay is planning a multimedia event.

9d. Grad Parents - Alan Patola Moosman

Anyone interested in helping with planning and communication for graduation is asked to contact Alan at apatola@telus.net

10. Other Business

End of September parent donations were lower than usual. Hopefully this will change when we receive the October donations figure. It is never too late to donate to PAC! Please do so through schoolcashonline.com "Make a Donation" and select Fund Destination "S-Kitsilano PAC".

Remember that classes will dismiss early on Wednesday, October 26th for Collaborative Day.

A group of students are supporting Street Feet by collecting new socks for individuals experiencing homelessness. <https://www.thestreetfeetsociety.com/>

Watch for the annual CANley Cup competition in November. The CANley Cup is a district-wide event that aims to raise non-perishable foods and money for the community.

11. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 9:00 pm

Moved: Anna Friedlander

Seconded: Ishi Dinim

Carried

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 29, 2022

Minutes Respectfully Prepared by S. Kirkby, Kits PAC Secretary