

**Minutes of the
Kitsilano Secondary Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
In the School Theatre
Tuesday, April 25, 2023**

Before the meeting parents were given a tour of the Wood and Metal Working Classrooms by teachers Lisa Yeoman and Adam Lipsky, to thank PAC for financial support as they strive to expand the programs and improve the teaching environment. When the school renovations were completed five years ago there was only one part-time Wood and Metal teacher. Now we have two teachers and a thriving program.

Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm with 21 participants (19 parents; two guests).

PRESENT:

PAC Executive

Chair: Charlotte French
Secretary: Sheila Kirkby
Treasurer: Tina Pfeifer
DPAC Rep: Ishi Dinim

Members at Large: Corrina Hammond (Arts Liaison/What's Next), Kristen McDougal (Athletics Liaison), Alan Patola Moosmann (Zoom Host/What's Next), Maureen Prentice (Member at Large/Newsletter Editor).

Guests: Rachna Rajavel (Student Council Vice-President), Benita Kwon (Principal)

PAC Executive Regrets: Ray Miya (Member at Large/Website Coordinator), Philip Coldrey (Athletics Liaison).

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

1. Welcome from the Chair

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION To approve the Agenda as posted on the PAC website.

Moved: Maureen Prentice

Seconded: Corrina Hammond

APPROVED

3. Approval of the Minutes from Kits PAC Meeting Tuesday, February 28, 2023

MOTION To approve the Minutes as posted on the PAC website.

Moved: Tina Pfeifer

Seconded: Alan Patola Moosmann

APPROVED

4. School Updates

a) Student Council Report - Rashna Rajavel

Students have had a great March and April. “Springilano” on Wednesday, April 5th included games and a treasure hunt around the school. There was an opportunity to write nice messages for teachers to go on their classroom doors.

Spirit Week April 25-28 includes an elementary school Throwback Thursday.

Upcoming events include Culture Day on Thursday, May 18th, organized by the Asian Heritage Month student and staff committee, and Rock Paper Scissors tournament on Wednesday, May 24th organized by Student Council.

For Student Council updates follow them on Instagram @kitsstudentcouncil_ (note underscore).

For Grad Council updates follow them on Instagram @kitsgrad23

b) Principal’s Report - Benita Kwon

There is lots going on school wide, with many student-driven initiatives including Black History Month in February, International Women’s Day on March 8th and a full week of activities for Earth Week from April 17-21. The Friday, April 21 “Find it Friday” treasure hunt field trip to Lighthouse Park will be rescheduled. Holding it after school on a Friday turned out to be an unpopular time.

Ms. Lo from the Music Department arranged for the Nadan Band of the Canadian Navy to perform at the school today.

Watch for Asian Heritage Month activities in May.

1. Ministry of Education Student Learning Survey

Reminder to parents of grades 10 and 12 students to complete the Ministry of Education Student Learning Survey by Friday, April 28.

Time Sensitive Survey Link: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm

- Go to “Parents” and use the Direct Access login where no password is required.
- Under "District" select *39 Vancouver*
- Under "School" select *Kitsilano Secondary*.

2. Grade Presentations

· Grade 8-10: Vancouver School Board (VSB)’s Supporting and Connecting Youth (SACY) worker presented on “Edibles,” food products infused with cannabis extract. Edibles come in many forms—including baked goods, candies, gummies, chocolates, lozenges, and drinks.

This was in response to a couple of concerning incidents of younger students trying edibles during school hours at the school. Parents can contact our SACY Worker, Sandie Rai (email: skrai@vsb.bc.ca), for information/support around substance use and prevention.

SACY Website:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5152/sacy-substance-use-health-promotion-initiative>

· Grade 12: Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC) Road Safety Presentation by Kevin Brooks, a motivational prevention speaker on making good choices. He was in a drunk driving accident at age 18 and is now in a wheelchair. His presentation was very dynamic and engaging.

See <https://kevinbrooksspeaker.com/> for more about Kevin Brooks, and a brief interview at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXK_tRLcukc

3. Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences will take place on MS Teams on Thursday, May 4 from 3:00 – 7:00 PM. The online booking system will be open to parents starting Friday, April 28 at 7:00 pm. There will be an early dismissal at 2:00 PM to allow teachers to prepare for conferences.

4. Enrollment 2023-24

· Kitsilano's projected enrollment for 2023-24 is ~1616. September 2022 enrollment was 1607.

· Enrollment data helps to determine school organization and staffing.

5. Planning for 2023-24 School Year

To assist families in planning for the 2023-24 school year, the school calendar and fee schedules will be shared with our school community at the end of May.

6. Vancouver School Board (VSB) Summer School 2023

VSB Summer School will offer the following in-person secondary programs:

- Gr. 8-9 Preview/Review courses and Gr. 10-11 Remedial courses
July 5 – 28
- Gr. 10-12 Completion courses
July 5 – August 4

The course catalogue is available to view online now at

https://sbvsbstorage.blob.core.windows.net/media/Default/medialib/2023-brochure-final-4_11.1834a763771.pdf

Registration begins May 1 at noon. For more information visit VSB Summer School.

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5211/summer-learning>

Q - Which schools will host summer school?

A - Prince of Wales (closest to us), John Oliver, Churchill and Gladstone.

Q - Will Parent-Teacher interviews be held in person again next year?

A - Unknown. This is under discussion for the future. There are pros and cons for scheduling and ease of attending.

Comment: Meeting the Teacher is about more than just meeting the teacher, but also about meeting other parents.

Q - How are things going for Graduation?

A - Graduation will be Monday, June 26th at 6:00 pm. Plan on at least 2.5 hours. Parents are helping with the reception after the ceremony.

The Winter Formal was a success, and a Spring Fling is planned for Wednesday, May 17th. There will be a rehearsal before the grad ceremony. Holding the graduation ceremony in the evening allows teachers to attend.

Regarding unofficial grad activities, Ms Kwon is aware that the water gun tag game “Gotcha” is going on and reminds students that it must take place off of school property. Please remember to be good citizens when playing in the community.

Grade 11 parents are invited to speak to the principal about holding a school sanctioned dinner dance next school year, something that has not happened since 2017. Norma Biln expressed interest.

c) **Teacher’s Report**

There is no Teacher’s Report this month because our teacher rep is unable to attend due to report cards being due in three days.

5. Chair’s Update - Charlotte French

Half of the PAC Executive will be leaving at the end of this year when their children graduate. New volunteers are needed for many roles including Chair and Vice-Chair. Learn more about these roles at <http://kitsilanopac.ca/volunteering/executive-committee-volunteers/>
Any questions or to express interest in helping, please contact kitspac@hotmail.com

Four of the eight PAC Executive members have students graduating this year. We need new volunteer parents to step forward into the volunteer positions, including Chair and Vice-Chair. Learn more about these roles at: <http://kitsilanopac.ca/volunteering/executive-committee-volunteers/> for more information.

Any questions or to express interest in helping, please contact kitspac@hotmail.com

6. Financial Report - Tina Pfiefer, Treasurer

[See table, Appendix One.]

The current balance looks large however most of the funds are allocated to teacher and club expenses and we are awaiting the invoices. The invoices are due to be submitted before the end of the school year.

We have received some lovely thank you notes from the teachers for the funds they have received from PAC to support student activities and learning.

Thank you to Stong’s Market at 4221 Dunbar Street for donating \$1105.12 to PAC, raised through their Online School Rebate Program. For all purchases online at express.stongs.com,

Stong's will donate 4% of the order back to the PAC. The more parents that participate, the higher the revenue that will be generated for the PAC. For every \$1000 spent, \$40 will be donated to the PAC. Just choose our school during the checkout process and they will take care of the rest.

Other ways to support Kits PAC while you shop include:

COBS Bakery - Broadway at Macdonald & 4th at Vine. Ask to support Kitsilano Secondary when paying and they will donate 5% of your order to us.

FlipGive - Kits PAC earns cash back when you buy gift cards to pay for the things you already need at places like Starbucks, Home Hardware, Walmart and many more. We get paid when you shop online, dine out, book hotels or activities. Sign up today at flipgive.com with code RNM6H5.

7. Committee and Liaison Reports

a. What's Next Committee - Alan Patola Moosmann

This PAC Committee organizes evening information sessions for parents about post-secondary options to supplement the daytime presentations students can attend at school.

Who's Next? New volunteers are needed to continue the work of this committee because the current members' children graduate this year. There is a very good contact list and planning information available to handover.

Please contact kitspac@hotmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

b. Parent Social Events - Kristen McDougal

Parent Socials are a great opportunity to get to know other parents at our school. Two events were held this year at local pubs, The Ellis (2204 York Avenue) and Glitch (2287 West Broadway). There is time for one more before the end of the school year. The Painted Ship (2884 West Broadway) is being considered. Watch for information and plan to invite two friends.

Attendance has been modest, 30-40 people, though this is similar to pre-Covid numbers. Suggestion that funds raised be designated to a specific project or cause to encourage attendance by different groups of parents.

c. Athletics Liaison - Kristen McDougal

Families are encouraged to go out to support all Kitsilano Secondary teams. It is great, cheap entertainment.

The Annual Alumni Basketball Event is scheduled for Wednesday, May 18th after the Spring Fling.

For more information about sports schedules see @kitsathletics on Instagram or <http://www.vancouverchoolsports.ca/>

d. Parent Education Speakers - Alan Patola Moosmann

PAC organized an online presentation “Coping with Unexpected Loss” on Tuesday, April 4, 2023. Two staff and a volunteer from the Crisis Centre presented to 20 parents. Handouts from the workshop were available at this meeting. Resources will also be posted to the PAC website. A parent suggested that this become an annual presentation to plan and budget for.

Note, parent education expenses cannot be assigned to Gaming Funds, they have to be paid from donations and fundraising.

Discussion about whether this topic could be triggering and should only be arranged if there is an incident as there was this year. Presenters said it is fine and good to talk about difficult topics like this. “You can’t prevent it if you can’t name it.”

MOTION

That Parent Education becomes a regular item in the Kits PAC budget, the exact amount to be decided each year in the Fall.

Moved: Ishi Dinim

Seconded: John Chesko

CARRIED

e. Grad Parents - Alan Patola Moosmann

The parent committee is working with a large but tight budget to provide light refreshments, decor and photo stations for the after ceremony reception at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. Each grad received two tickets for family to attend. Extra tickets costing \$19 each will be released in stages. The venue holds 3000 so we should not run out of space! A light snack will be provided for the grads since they have to arrive at 5:00 pm to be ready for the 6:00 ceremony.

Opportunities for donations to help pay for the pre-ceremony snacks are being considered.

Q - Would they consider charging more for tickets to help with expenses?

A - No, if tickets are \$20 or more there is an additional processing fee.

Q - What does the \$150 Grad Fee include? (Note: Grad 2023 was able to access \$50/student via the one-time Student & Family Affordability Fund.)

A - Venue (Queen Elizabeth Theatre), cap & gown, two tickets, decorations, flowers.

Q - Why are single-use caps & gowns being bought? Wouldn't it be better to reuse?

A - This has been researched extensively in the past. It is just as expensive to rent and there are tight timelines to return everything undamaged. There is no storage at the school to have our own set.

Thank you to the Grade 8-10 parents for their patience during the Grad discussions. Your day will come!

f. Arts Liaison - Corrina Hammond

Save the date for semester two Fine Arts Night on Thursday, June 1st.

A fundraising evening organized by the Theatre Department at Radish restaurant (1876 West 1st) was well attended and lots of fun.

g. Anti-Racism Working Group - Ishi Dinim & Alan P.M.

This important initiative needs more people to decide how to move forward. Please contact kitspac@hotmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

8. District PAC Update - Ishi D. (Kits DPAC Rep) & Alan P. M. (DPAC Treasurer)

A wide-ranging update covering many topics, including:

- Vik Khanna stepped down as chairperson.
- Alan will step down as Treasurer at the DPAC Annual General Meeting because his child is graduating.
- Ishi will attend the BC Teachers Federation (BCTF) Public Education Conference “Responding to Hate in Our Schools and Community” in Surrey on May 12 & 13.
- Next DPAC general meeting is Thursday, April 27th featuring a School Gardens presentation.
- Parents as Stakeholders in the VSB budget review
- District SOGI (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity) language being updated
- Before and After School Child Care Policy on the VSB Meeting Agenda on Monday
- School Liaison Officer (SLO) draft memo of understanding for a redesigned program

The Choral Program launched September 2022 has been wildly popular with 15 schools and 1100 students taking part. After getting off to such a successful start, it is more than DPAC has capacity for and it will be passed on to new organizers.

Q to the Principal - How have things been going without a Student Liaison Officer for the last two years?

A - There are no qualitative or quantitative results to comment on. The program ended during the pandemic. When she was at other schools, Ms. Kwon found the relationships were helpful. Many conversations are happening and it will take time to develop a re-imagined program for the 18 very different secondary schools in Vancouver. It might not be ready to launch in September 2023.

The Safe and Caring Schools Department was created after the end of the SLO program.
<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5067/safe-and-caring-schools-department>

The BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC) Annual Conference will be held May 5-7, 2023 in Richmond. Alan will attend as the Vancouver DPAC Treasurer and

will take the Kitsilano PAC proxy for voting. Charlotte, Alan and Ishi will meet to review the motions and voting.

9. Other Business

a. Staff Appreciation Lunch

After three years of restrictions PAC is once again allowed to coordinate an Appreciation Potluck Lunch for all the teachers and staff. Watch for a date at the end of June. Please plan to volunteer to help or contribute towards the meal.

10. Adjournment

MOTION to Adjourn at 8:45 pm

Moved: Maureen Prentice

Seconded: Corrina Hammond

APPROVED

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 30, 2023 - in the school theatre

Minutes Respectfully Prepared by S. Kirkby, Kits PAC Secretary

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

APPENDIX 1 - Financial Report Slides from Presentation beginning next page

APPENDIX 1 - Financial Report Slides from Presentation

Kitsilano Secondary School PAC				
For The School Year 2022-2023				
As of April 2023				
	Parent Donations	Gaming Grant	Admin	TOTAL
Opening Cash Balance	20,472.10	5,140.62	1,415.75	25,612.72
Income				
· Parent Donations	17,725.00	-		17,725.00
· Gaming Grant	-	30,920.00		30,920.00
· Rebate with Local Vendors - Stong's		-	1,105.12	-
· Community Events - Pub Nights (Ellis & Glitch)		-	2,208.98	-
Total Annual Budget	38,197.10	36,060.62	4,729.85	78,987.57
School Funding Requests				
· Funding - Academics (Math, Science, Languages, Socials)	3,393.27	8,724.71		12,117.98
· Funding - Applied Skills	1,608.70			1,608.70
· Funding - Arts/ Drama	7,937.60			7,937.60
· Funding - Athletics	1,795.03	7,478.67		9,273.70
· Funding - Clubs	1,001.07	2,143.66		3,144.73
· Funding - Student Services	3,565.28	1,400.00		4,965.28
· Funding - Grad Events				-
· Expenses - Pub Nights (Ellis & Glitch)		-	1,686.00	-
· Expenses - School Events/ Speakers		-	400.00	-
Total Funding Spent to Date	19,300.95	19,747.04	2,086.00	41,133.99
PAC Operations				
· Constant Contact		-		-
· Dues + Memberships - BCC PAC				-
· Banking Fees	-	-	100.00	-
· Quickbooks - Cancelled	-	-	604.80	-
· PAC Admin Expenses		-		-
· Teacher Appreciation				-
Total Operations	-	-	704.80	704.80
Current Balances	18,896.15	16,313.58	1,939.05	37,148.78