

**Minutes of the
Kitsilano Secondary Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
Online in Teams
Tuesday, February 27, 2024**

Waiting room opened at 7:00 pm.

Called to order at 7:05 pm with 31 participants (including three guests).

PRESENT:

PAC Executive

Secretary: Sheila Kirkby

Treasurer: Tina Pfeifer

DPAC Rep: Ishi Dinim

PAC Executive: Vicki Mitsiadis (Grad Liaison)

Guests: Benita Kwon (School Principal), Carol-Anne McMillan (Teacher), Rachna Rajavel (Student Council President),

PAC Executive Regrets: Maureen Campbell, Co-Treasurer; Philip Coldrey (Vice Chair); Ray Miya (Member at Large/Website Coordinator); Maureen Prentice (Member at Large/Newsletter Editor); Elena Yelizarov, (Member at Large: Newsletter).

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

We paused before beginning the meeting to remember Kitsilano Teacher Silvia Ruiz Badilla who passed away last week. *During her tenure at Kitsilano Secondary School, Ms. Badilla proved to be more than just an educator; she was a guiding force, a mentor, and a source of inspiration. Her passion for teaching, coupled with her unwavering commitment to the well-being of her students, made her a beloved figure in the school community. Whether in the classroom, at extracurricular events, or during moments of guidance, Slivia left an indelible mark on the lives of those she touched.*

- credit : Leon Josh, *In Loving Memories News* (online)

The “Read to the End of the PAC Newsletter” prize draw had nine entries this month. Barbara A. won a \$10 gift card for Uno Gelato, generously donated by the West Broadway Business Improvement Association. Be sure to read to the end of the April PAC Newsletter for another opportunity to win.

1. Welcome

Thank you to everyone for joining online tonight, a last minute change due to expected snow. Philip Coldrey, Vice-Chair, cannot attend so Secretary Sheila Kirkby and Treasurer Tina Pfeifer will share the task of leading the meeting.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

MOTION To approve the Agenda as presented, without item 4. Guest Speaker. Ciara O-Riorden, Youth & Family Programs Facilitator at Kitsilano Neighbourhood House (rescheduled to April).

Moved: Ishi Dimin

Seconded: Anna Friedlander

APPROVED

3. **Approval of the Minutes from Kits PAC Meeting Wednesday, January 31, 2024**

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

Moved: Anna Friedlander

Seconded: Gaya Murthy

APPROVED

4. **School Updates**

4.1 **Student Council Update** - Rachna Rajavel

February was a busy month for Student Council with Lunar New Year and Black History Month. Valentines Day activities included Candy Grams, music and Messages of Appreciation.

Coming up: Grads v. Teacher Basketball game at lunch on March 14th and another Spirit Week (dress up) before Spring Break March 11-15.

Student Council information is shared through PA announcements, posters in the school, the Student Council channel on Teams, in the Week at a Glance (WAAG) newsletter found at <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/kitsilano/page/2590/newsletters-and-waag> and on Instagram @kitsstudentcouncil_

4.2 **Teachers Update** - Carol-Anne McMillan

Ms. McMillan shared that the students have been wonderful, checking in that the teachers are doing okay. She has received updates from several teachers:

From Pauline Lo, Music Department

On February 22, we had two students, Frank Reid, grade 12, trombone, and Lily Volk, grade 10, Euphonium, participate in the VSB District Honour Band Concert. Coming up in the week before spring break we will have a spring recital showcasing the music students so, stay tuned to the music Instagram for details. @kitsilanosecondarymusic

From Nimaya Fernando, Science and Skills

Black History Month Panel - Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Student moderators Adrianna Chambers (Grade 11) and Lily Stewart (Grade 10) facilitated a conversational panel with 3 community members from various fields. The panellists shared about their lives and families, and their experiences growing up as a Black person and continuing to pursue excellence in their various fields.

Panelists:

Barbara Chirinos - Regional Lead, National Promotion and Communications, Pacific, Prairies, NWT, Nunavut and the Yukon at Telefilm Canada

Destine Lord - Founder and Anti-Racism and Inclusion Consultant at Demand Different Consulting

Nigel Amenu-Tekaa - District Resource Teacher, Afrofuturist, Artist, Golden Bear Football Alumnus

LoveBomb

Supporting and Connecting Youth (SACY), PLEA Onyx Program

(<https://www.plea.ca/youth-outreach/onyx/>) and Shameless Hussy Production presents an parent education evening with post-show speaker panel: “LoveBomb” on Tuesday March 5th 6:30-9:00 in the theatre at Kitsilano Secondary School. This FREE event promotes awareness and prevention of sexual exploitation of children and youth. Registration is Required. For more information about this touring show see

<https://www.shamelesshussy.com/our-productions/articles/21.php>

4.3 Principal’s Update - Benita Kwon

i. Student Core Competencies Self-Reflections + Goal Setting

All students in grades 8-12 will self-reflect on core competencies and goal set three times each school year. Students completed their first core competencies self-reflection and goal setting in December and recently uploaded it on their SpacesEDU account. Parents can view this by asking their child to log into their SpacesEDU account. Students will complete their last two self-reflections/goal setting in April and June.

ii. Semester 2 Interims

Semester 2 interims will be published on Friday, March 8. Reminder that if parents have any questions about the class and/or child’s progress, that they can contact the teacher at any time.

iii. VSB Budget 2024-25 Survey

Every year, the Vancouver School Board (VSB) sets a budget for the next school year. Like all school districts in B.C. VSB is legally required to adopt a balanced budget (expenses cannot exceed the funds available) for the upcoming school year. The Board is also required to approve that budget at a public meeting.

VSB would like to hear from students, families, staff and the wider community, about what you think is important for VSB to consider in the budget for next year. Please complete this [time sensitive] online survey. Survey closes March 8, 2024.

iv. Ministry of Education Student Learning Survey

Grades 10 and 12 students are completing the Student Learning Survey in classes this week. Parents of grades 10 and 12 students are invited to complete the Ministry of Education Student Learning Survey by Friday, May 3.

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*.

Students and families have reached out to Ms. Kwon wanting to gather or recognize Ms. Badilla. The family has requested privacy. There is nothing planned at this time.

5. Financial Report - Tina Pfeifer, Treasurer

We hope to be able to do another distribution in the Spring for the second semester, if funds allow, but donations through School Cash Online have been significantly lower this year. We will send out a reminder that it is not too late to donate.

Tax receipts are issued for donations made through schoolcashionline.com (see end of minutes for instructions)

6. District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) - Ishi Dinim

The Vancouver District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) is a collection of parents elected by individual school PACs working with the common goal of supporting education for all children of Vancouver. They meet on a regular basis during the school year and advocate to staff, trustees and speak to media, and have stakeholder input on Vancouver School Board committees. Advocating for more educational assistants is one of the many projects DPAC is working on.

The January 25, 2024 DPAC general meeting featured author and educator Valerie Jerome, speaking about her family's experience as Canadians who were athletes, educators and advocates.

Link to recording on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2YIhRKt3zw>

Interested parents are welcome to join DPAC Working Groups including:

1. *Black and Indigenous Working Group, contact: biwg@vancouverdpac.org*
2. *DPAC Facilities Planning, Samantha Anderson (coordinator)
facilitieswg@vancouverdpac.org*
3. *Health & Safety Working Group, Roger Haskett (coordinator)
hswg@vancouverdpac.org*
4. *Inclusive Education, iewg@vancouverdpac.org*
5. *Active Transportation and Safe Routes, saferoutetracker@vancouverdpac.org*
6. *Food Framework, Celena Bendorf (coordinator),
foodframework@vancouverdpac.org*
7. *Music Working Group, musicworkinggroup@vancouverdpac.org*
8. *Anti-Oppression Working Group, contact: karen.tsang@vancouverdpac.org*
9. *Sustainability (not currently populated, volunteers welcome)*
10. *Childcare (not currently populated, volunteers welcome)*

7. Committee and Liaison Reports

7.1 What's Next Committee - Sheila Kirkby

The What's Next Committee coordinates online evening parent education sessions about post-secondary options to supplement the daytime programming students attend.

BC Institute of Technology (BCIT) Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 7pm - 10 attended

Options Solutions Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 6pm. "*Canadian Post-Secondary Trends: What Can YOU Do?*". - 67 attended

Next up: SkilledTrades BC: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 7:00 pm. Watch for a link in the WAAG and direct email from PAC.

7.2 Arts Liaison

We are looking for a volunteer to update PAC on Arts Programs. Please contact kitspac@hotmail.com if you can help.

7.3 Athletics Liaison - Tina Pfeifer

- Grade 9 Girls Basketball finished 2nd place in Cities and compete in Provincials this week in New Westminster
- Grade 10 Girls Basketball City Champs
- Last week Senior Girls basketball had their senior night and had a great season
- Junior Boys Basketball finished 3rd in the city
- JV boys finished second in the league
- Girls Ice Hockey has had great success and start playoffs next week

Spring Sports starting up are:

- Co-Ed Track and Field
- Co-Ed Ultimate
- Co-Ed Badminton
- Juvenile Girls Soccer and Sr Girls Soccer
- Grade 8 and 9 Boys Volleyball
- Jr and Sr Boys Rugby
- Golf
- Tennis
- Softball

The Skiing and Snowboard Club has their first trip this week, February 28, up to Whistler.

We are looking for a volunteer to update PAC on Athletics. Please contact kitspac@hotmail.com if you can help.

Follow @kitsathletics on Instagram for updates and news

7.4 Grad Liaison - Vicki Mitsiadis

The school-sponsored Winter Formal was lots of fun with 250 grads dancing and having fun in the school theatre and atrium. Thank you to the teachers who volunteered to chaperone and to the grade 11s who helped out.

Follow @kitsgrad24 on Instagram for updates, news and photos from the Winter Formal

7.5 Pub Night

We are planning for a May Parent Social Pub Night. Watch for information.

8. Other Business

No Other Business.

9. Adjournment

MOTION to Adjourn at 7:58 pm

Moved: Tina Pfeifer

Seconded: Ishi Dinim

APPROVED

There is no meeting in March due to Spring Break

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 24, 2024 at the school

Minutes Respectfully Prepared by S. Kirkby, Kits PAC Secretary

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

Follow Kits PAC on Instagram @kits_secondary_pac

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Ongoing Opportunities to support our students:

Direct Drive for donations, announced every September and continuing throughout the year. PAC suggests \$50 per student.

Through [SchoolCash Online](#) you will receive a tax receipt immediately when you make a donation of \$20 or more.

1. Go to [SchoolCash Online](#) or find the Donation link on the Kits PAC website.
<https://vsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/1869/196/false/true?fundDestination=S-Kitsilano%20PAC>
2. Select the size of your donation.
3. For Fund Destination, select from the drop-down menu: S-Kitsilano PAC
4. Click: Add To Cart

5. On the next screen click Continue, then Select your Payment Method, and Complete Your Order.

Local merchants who donate to Kits PAC when people shop with them:

- Stong's Market Online Grocery Delivery - express.stongs.com When you order groceries online with Stong's you can choose to support Kitsilano Secondary and they will donate 4% of your order to us. This raised over \$900 last year!
- 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.
- Jar Bar Refillery Kitsilano - 2169 West 4th at Yew. Ask to support Kitsilano Secondary when paying and they will donate 5% of your purchase.
- 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.