

Date: September 15, 2020	Location: online (zoom)	Start Time: 7:30pm
Chair: Shandelle Skaley	Recorder: Avishai Weissberg	End Time: 8:30 pm

Membership	Role	Attended
Bridget Ford Ashley Hansen Shandelle Skaley Avishai Weissberg Joel David	Treasurer Co-chair Co-chair Secretary DPAC rep	Y
Peter Woo	Principal (Non-voting member)	Y
Other members	Liz Ruder-Celiz, Denis Ryan, Julie Anne Teh, Paulina Aguilar, Barry Cheung, Redonna Levis, Uygar Gumus, Mihai Ganea, Henry Phan, Lucy Nguyen, Avril Fu, Miri Alony, Sarah Chui	
Next Meeting	October 6, 2020 at 7:30 pm online (zoom)	

1. Welcome and Introduction

There are many new attendees.

2. Review of Last Meeting Minutes

Bridget brought forward a motion to approve, seconded by Avishai, approved.

3. Principle's Update

Our school started with a 2 day delay, on top of that we had the smoke interfering.

We have 16 divisions this year with learning groups of under 16 per group. The recess time and play areas are not shared between groups. We are trying to get sports equipment out to give kids what to play with, even if they don't play soccer or frisbee.

New teachers:

A few teachers are on leave, and we have a new kindergarten class.

New continuing contract teachers:

- Nicole Louie - div 13 - grade 1
- David Johnson div 16 (K)
- Alison Mckend - Resource
- Alice Lin - div 9 - grade 2+3

Temporary contract teachers:

- Haylee Varty-MacDonald (W only) - Div. 2 - Grade 6/7
- Kassandra Tchir Music Prep
- Shannon Mah Div. 5 - Grade 4/5

Music is going to look very different due to the many restrictions ; there are enough violins to go around to everyone. This is still a work in progress.

Kindergarten gradual entry is ongoing.

If you are on option-4 (learn from home), the school is working hard to find a way to teach effectively. Currently it's under 30m per day. Hybrid teaching was very hard on the teachers last year (long hours, tech support). Every school is doing things differently.

We're also thinking ahead what to do if we have another lockdown. All the classes (included K) are using MS Teams, to enable some online learning if needed. We are also using online programs: Raz kids, Online math.

Upcoming Events

Sept 24: Meet the Teacher day.

Sept 28: Terry Fox Run. This year one class will lead the run, classes will run separately.

Sept 30: Orange Shirt Day. There will probably be an online assembly with some performances and speeches.

A Parent/Teacher conference is coming up as well (for goal setting etc).

PAC finance committee, heads up! There might be a request for materials for help with COVID (e.g air filter for the classroom ; maybe a HEPA filter?)

We'll want to support the teachers experimenting.

Seismic Update

Hopefully in 2 years we will have a new school on what is currently our grassy area. The contractor has been selected, it's the same contractor as the one rebuilding Bayview Elementary. We are not sure if they're actually ready to start, staff wise, since Bayview isn't done yet.

Kent (the VSB project manager) reported that the tender has been approved and the project is at go-ahead.

Q&A

Q: is there a tech lending program?

Mr Woo: We don't officially have one now but we can lend out ipads if needed.

Q: Can option-4 parents email the school directly?

Mr Woo: yes.

Q: How many kids are in each option?

Mr Woo: As of yesterday, there are 371 kids total at the school. 98 took option-4, two kids have dropped out, 271 are in class.

Q: My daughter is in kindergarten, registered for in-person. If we feel uncomfortable, can we change to one of the other options? If so, how?

Mr Woo: Official school board says no, but it should be ok. VSB said not to fight parents who are not comfortable. Only the province can control the computer records. In any case you will not be kicked out of the school. Further, learning from home is posted for everyone to see.

Q (from child): I'm in grade 2, can I join the meeting tomorrow?

Mr Woo: We don't actually have a PAC meeting tomorrow. But please come to school tomorrow, you are in option 1.

4. DPAC Update (Joel)

Joel:

I'm your DPAC rep. The DPAC is a collection of reps from PACs from all over Vancouver.

We have the ear of the VSB and ministry of education, we can advocate on behalf of parents.

We meet once a month. It's open, so you can attend if you wish. If you have anything you want raised, please let me know.

The 1st general meeting will be on Sept 24, 8PM.

PAC execs (Ashley and Shandelle), you can attend PAC 101 on October 1st.

Bridget: I'd like to put together a motion forward to have at least one washing station (sink, aka "hand basin") per class in the new school.

Joel: I'll raise that in the next DPAC meeting and keep you posted.

Mr Woo: The current plan is 2 sinks for every 2 classes.

For the time being, this was considered to be a suggestion so a vote was not necessary.

Ashely: FYI the plans for the new school are on the pac website.

5. Financial Update (Bridget)

Bridget:

We have 2 bank accounts, a general one and the "casino" one. We get \$20 per student/year in the casino account. The casino account can only be used for extra curricular activity, not for the building and not for technology. The other account is at our discretion.

We had a meeting in June, and the bank balance is \$16,953.21. Over the last 4 months we gained \$3 interest.

The casino account's balance is \$10,865.93. We gained \$1.50 interest over the last 3 months.

The amount we have now is a lot more than what we've had in the past. We want to use it for a new playground in front of the new school. If we continue at this rate of raising 20K/year, that should be easy. We have experience in raising money for playgrounds, the last one was completed 3 years ago. We are open for more ideas for what we can spend the casino money on.

I applied today for the casino grant for this year (about \$8K). Previously we used this account for awards, scholarships for former students of DLG, sporting equipment, signage, tents, and banners for sporting events.

Q&A

Ashley: Can we justify sports equipment as extra curricular?

Bridget: It's already considered ok.

Ashley: How about portable soccer nets, more items for individual usage?

Shandelle: We already have soccer nets. Can the school let us know what more is missing?

Redonna: A few years ago we gave teachers 200\$ for extra supplies. Can we consider that again?

Bridget: We haven't done the budget for this year yet. That would come of our discretionary funds. We can put it up for the executives to vote on.

Mr Woo: Teachers are looking at what the classes are actually using for sports. Right now it's soccer, football. The existing soccer nets may not be enough. I agree portable soccer nets would be useful. somewhat because they are restricted on where they can play.

Ashley: Do you think they would like chalk? I can get a group discount.

Mr Woo: I'll bring it up in the next staff meeting.

Bridget: The PAC has to make its purchases directly. The school needs to get our approval and we'll order it on your behalf.

6. Other Business

Shandelle:

Some examples of past events: movie nights, glow parties, carnival at end of year. It's going to be challenging this year. We could try out virtual events, if you have an idea let us know.

Ashley suggested a Halloween scavenger hunt, as an afterschool event, on the Friday before Halloween. If you want to help out and figure out details, or have more suggestions, please let us know.

Another idea was suggested for a virtual "Amazing Race".

Shandelle: We also do multiple fundraisers a year, Purdy's chocolate is a major one. This year will probably only be that one.

Bridget: We got permissions from the VSB to do an online Purdy's fundraiser this year.

Ashley proposed having a virtual clothing drive, keeping the clothes at the school, so that when the kids need jackets they have one. Some problems were mentioned in regards to this idea, we will revisit in the future.

Tent or other items for School Safety

Shandelle: The PAC is offering to buy the school a tent. Is there interest for this in the school?
Mr Woo: yes, teachers have asked for a tent. It might be difficult for some teachers to set up, storage might be an issue. These are pretty large tents. We can try and experiment, maybe bring it in as is without folding.

After some discussion about logistics, Mr Woo said he will talk it over with the staff and bring it up next time.

Nominations

Shandelle: We are looking for a co treasurer. Is anybody looking to volunteer?
The resolution was that we will do nominations at the next meeting.

Q&A

Q: Regarding the HEPA filters, is it just one teacher requesting it?

Mr Woo: 3 are looking into it, 1 already bought a used one for \$400 (USD).

Ashley: HEPA filters have not proven to be effective. It gets rid of smoke and dust, but it's not going to prevent COVID-19.

Redonna: Maintenance for HEPA filters is not cheap.

Next Meeting

Shandelle: October 6

Denis put forward a motion to keep 7:30 as the meeting time. The motion was seconded and approved.