

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Kitsilano Secondary Parent Advisory Council

KSS Staff Room

May 22, 2014, 7:30 pm

PRESENT:

PAC executive: Chair Shelley Nicholl; Vice-Chair Verónica Pacheco-Sanfuentes; Treasurer Maria Rezvanova; Co-Secretary Ian Chunn; Past President Lisa Herrera; SPC Eva Antoniak
Regrets: Lesley Douglas Martina Mitterer
Members: 15 (including Executive)

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm

1. Welcome and introductions

2. MOTION: Adoption of Agenda

Moved: Verónica Pacheco-Sanfuentes

Seconded: Rafe Angell

CARRIED

3. Adoption of April 15, 2014 minutes: tabled to next meeting (Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014)

4. Chair's Report – Shelley Nicholl

The Chair expressed her deep appreciation for the parents' involvement and for their kind donations. She reviewed some of the year's highlights, and acknowledged the special contributions of PAC members who made the time to participate so actively. Cited highlights included the Cookie Bash, the website, the Tutorial Committee, the Gabor Maté talk, the snacks for our meetings, the Teacher Appreciation lunch, and the Positive Action recognition committee.

5. Principal's Report – Ellen Roberts

The Principal echoed the Chair's sentiments, saying ours has been a delightful PAC to work with. She went on to discuss staffing: Vancouver-wide, elementary schools are stable, but secondary numbers are declining. With retirements and some teachers moving to other schools, there has been no surplus at Kits, which means no one has had to be laid off. Department heads were given their numbers of blocks yesterday; the student-driven timetable will not have any classes with fewer than 20 registrants. The calendar has been worked out. Tutorial will be five minutes longer (and peer tutors will be involved). The longer lunch was maintained.

The School Plan, which is a statement of goals, has had its deadline extended to autumn. The fundamental goal of improving achievement is being reached; another fundamental goal, of raising awareness about Aboriginal culture, is also experiencing success and a higher profile in terms of events and activities.

Upcoming: Grad will happen. There will not be an academic awards night June 2: because of the ongoing job action, there will not be enough time to administer then. Regarding the seismic upgrade: there is art on the hoardings now; we are days away from excavation. Three trees will be kept, but one must go. The school's street address will change to Trafalgar.

6. Treasurer's Report – Maria Rezvanova

Of the funds allocated, \$30,600 has been spent; there is \$7600 left in the Gaming account, and \$1100 in the Admin account. Athletics overspent their allocation by \$500; we will want to investigate why. The

Treasurer has some invoices in hand, and be getting more from Martina Mitterer regarding the Teachers Appreciation lunch.

MOTION: That, in lieu of their allocated \$400.00 membership fee, the Reach for the Top club be granted \$90.00 as an entrance fee and \$100.00 for a wrap-up pizza party.

Moved: Ian Chunn

Seconded: Naomi Pauls

Passed

7. SPC Update - See Principal's Report, above.

8. After-grad Update – Lisa Herrera

About 100 parents attended the meeting last week. Tickets are selling steadily. Eight parents have volunteered to help with the event from 11:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m.; we are seeking two more. Two grade 11 parents have agreed to run the night and to carry the process forward for next year.

9. Positive Student Action Awards – Shelley Nicholl

More volunteers for the event, June 5th, are welcome: people are needed to help set up, get out the lunch, check people in, and coordinate with the Principal. The event will be held in the Counselling Suite.

10. PAC Election

There was no quorum, so elections will take place at the September meeting. Executive members offering to stand include Shelley Nicholl, Lesley Douglas, Veronica Pacheco-Sanfuentes, Maria Rezmanova, and Martina Mitterer.

11. Grad Transitions Presentation – Ellen Roberts

Ellen reviewed a package of relevant materials she had prepared, and responded to questions. She particularly recommended Emilie Dorsemann, the Career Information Assistant (CIA!), in the office three days a week. Another good resource for parents and students to consult is educationplanner.ca.

12. Teachers' Report – Roz Best

There have been some excellent presentations lately: "Touring Rainbow"; "The Jellyfish Project"; and "Safe Teen" (funded by PAC). The latter was seen as extraordinarily valuable, and is seen as something to continue for grade 9's, with the level two presentation, on healthy relationships, recommended for grade 11's. There are new opportunities for leadership training, in areas ranging from science to the UN; parents should encourage their children to ask the teachers and counsellors, "Are there neat opportunities you think I should think about?"

Phase I of job action (no extra-curricular activities; no work an hour before the bell, nor an hour after). The issues are going before the Labour Relations Board on Thursday, May 29, at 11:00 a.m. One ramification: students who have not been completing their work, thinking they would have time, should get things done right away. Monday there will be picket lines in Vancouver, and after that, teachers will not be permitted to do school work during the lunch hour, nor come before 45 minutes before the bell, nor stay longer than 45 minutes after the bell. We are moving into Phase II of the strike action, with rotating strikes Phase III would follow a vote, and could result in a full withdrawal of services, with 48 hours' advance notice. A lockout could happen during marking time at the end of the school year.

Adjourned: 9:00 p.m.

/IC