

**Kitsilano Secondary Parent Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes**

KSS staff room  
November 27, 2012, 19:30

Present:

PAC Executive: Chair Lisa Herrera; Vice-Chairs Veronica Pacheco-Sanfuentes, Rafe Angell and Shelley Nichol; Treasurer Maria Rezvanova; Secretary Martina Mitterer; DPAC Reps Saeed Dyanatkar; Shelly Moffat; MAL Lesley Douglas

Regrets: Ian Chunn, Anne Hayes – Teacher Rep

Administration: Principal Ellen Roberts

Members: 25

Meeting called to order at 19:30

1. Welcome and introductions

2. MOTION: Adoption of Agenda  
Moved: Saeed Dyanatkar  
Seconded: Rafe Angell  
CARRIED

3. MOTION: Adoption of October 25<sup>th</sup> minutes – Deferred to next meeting as no copies were printed for the meeting.

4. Speaker: SACY representative - Andrea Arnot

School Aged Children and Youth. Gives children help with any questions regarding any problems they may be facing; office is here at the school; helps parents adjust to parenting styles for teenagers and holds workshops to keep lines of communication open.

Workshop for parents: Grade 8 workshop was already held with 26 parents in attendance.

Samples of some workshops held: Workshops for internet and how it is used; how to have a democratic family meeting, youth culture capacity cafe i.e. drugs and alcohol what youth wants what parents want.

If we want any of these workshops, parents are encouraged to talk to PAC to book a workshop.

Brochures were left for parents to take after the meeting.

We asked Andrea, to please send the information directly to the PAC so we can put it into the news letter. Next available workshops are after spring break.

5. Speaker: Science Dept. Head - Joe Silvestre

Background: teaching for 15 year at this school, and 4<sup>th</sup> year as Dept. Head; has taught every grade level here.

Current curriculum is from 2006 with BC Science that also has a devoted web site and children are encouraged to use it on a regular basis. It has small online quizzes that the children could test themselves with.

Biology curriculum is not great - genetics is no longer on the curriculum.

Ministry is trying to overview this curriculum and feedback is requested.

Genetics replaced with ecology which is very dry and not as enjoyable for the children to learn.

Reason for change: to align themselves with other provinces.

We should, as a PAC, try to use our voice to change things again.

Dept. goals:

1. To increase student's awareness of science opportunities outside of the class room – future career goals 50% are linked to biology and chemistry.

2. Project to have every science teacher linked to the web site so they have a foot print on the web.

How to access:

Kits web site; Teachers tab; Science tab – all the teachers with a highlighted name have a web site. If a student is absent and missed a class, they can get the information missed from the web site.

A demonstration of the web site was given. A handout was given to help parents and children “Kits Science – Who’s Who?”

Web site also contains answer key work sheets and if the students still need help, they should go to the tutorial especially if they don't understand how the answers were found.

An overview of the web site for the school text books was also given.

There is always the option not to purchase the workbook but just to print out the assignments from the web site and hand it in to the teacher.

If the student knows what is in the workbook, the student can pass the course.

Teachers are also trying to make the students more aware of outside web sites such as Science World and Saturday morning lecture web sites from SFU.

French Immersion is officially not in the science budget but they are included in all the staff meetings. Field trips are the same and they get the same material.

6. Speaker: Early Response Concussion Service Team - Kathy Wong

We had 5 cases last year and 3 this year in grade 10 alone – School counsellor reports.

Concussion students look fine but they cannot get back in the swing of things right away therefore we need more information on how to deal with the after effects of concussions. A lot of children are getting concussions and it is not being noticed. Ratio of concussions per statistics is: 100:100,000 adults and 200:100,000 children.

A handout was given called “Teaching Kids with Concussion”. The program is to help children with concussions have a better recovery especially in school.

50% of concussions are from falls and not from sports. It does not mean you have to get hit on the head but even a chest push can cause a concussion.

Barbara Mingo, school counsellor is an advocate. Sports medicine specialist will be speaking at the January 2013 PAC meeting. The only way to prevent concussions is education and awareness. Children also need to understand so that they can report it. PAC would like to have a workshop in January - devote 1 hr. If enough interest we will book the library or auditorium.

7. Teachers Report – Anne Hayes – given by Ellen Roberts

No. 1 item is that some teachers would like PAC to know that the lunch time is only 40 minutes and parents are encouraged going to the VSB to request a 50 minute lunch hour. It is something to think about it for the next year. Will a discussion and pressure on the VSB make a difference?

8. Principals Report – Ellen Roberts

138 minutes of instruction per day – discussed a possible sign-in sheet for students to attend early tutorial. Goal is getting the students in the habit to come early enough for tutorial classes.

Carnival and Remembrance Day assemblies were held. Immunization was well attended, soccer team acknowledge. Science fair was in progress during PAC meeting.

Upcoming: indoor track meets. All junior kids are involved Gr 11/12 optional. End of Term is this week. Pro-D Friday; Presentation from SOLO about safety online; report cards home; parent teacher conference to be booked by the parents using the online format.

9. Treasurers Report – Maria Rezvanova

All teachers were informed of their funding that has been approved. Spare money of \$1900.

10. Committee Reports

DPAC - Saeed – 1<sup>st</sup> meeting Oct. 11 main discussion was funding versus fundraising. Schools with better funding should be able to help schools with less funding. VSB has an advisory committee and sub committee to raise questions about funding.

Possible for DPAC to get information for the school science curriculum

Sofia CPF - nothing particular to report but we received the funding.

11. Chairs Wrap Up – Lisa Herrera

Next meeting January 31, 2013

SPC election school planning committee – encouraged to put out names in January. Money for student awards - will be brought up in Feb.

12. Adjournment 21:00

Next PAC Meeting is Thursday, January 31, 2013

/mm