



**Minutes of the
Kitsilano Secondary Parent Advisory Council
AGM KSS Room 201
30 October 2017, 7:00 pm**

PRESENT: **PAC executive:** *Chair* Norma Biln; *Co-Secretary* Valerie Murray; *Co-Treasurers:* Maki Kristiansen and Toan Vo; *Fundraising:* Daniela Girard; *Members-at-large* Maria Dabiri, Ebru Montagano, Patricia Thiel, Frances Clarke; Maria Dabiri
Administration: *Principal* Ranjit Bains
Guest: James De Couto, new music department teacher

REGRETS: *Vice Principal* Jill Sehmbi; *Vice-Chair:* Buket Donnelly; *Co-Secretary:* Helen Soulsbury;
Fundraising Chair: Roger Kao; *Members-at-large:* Shana Cherry, Karen Shaw, Rebecca Jennings,
Frances Clarke, Teri Charuhas; *Teacher Rep:* Doug Smith; *Student Council:* Sam and Dana

Members Present: 35 (including Executive)

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm

1. Approval of the Agenda

- a. **MOTION:** Approval of Agenda
 Moved: JP Holecka
 Seconded: Anne-Marie Lapointe
 CARRIED by majority

2. Approval of the September 26 2017 PAC minutes

- a. **MOTION:** Approval of September 26 minutes
 Moved: Maria Dabiri
 Seconded: Ingrid Sulston
 CARRIED by majority

3. Business from the Minutes:

- a. Denise Lauritano gave an update on the letter that was supposed to be sent to VSB to accelerate the completion of the gym. This letter was not sent at the end as an additional crew from Ontario has recently been added to work on finishing the gym.

4. Principal's Update: Ranjit Bains

- a. Gym: since our last PAC meeting, we were successful about raising concerns about the completion of the gym floor. An additional team of workers from Ontario is here to accelerate the process. New date for completion of the new gymnasium is Dec 8-15.

- b. The theatre will most likely be ready shortly after Christmas.
- c. Landscaping around the school is happening now and the demolition of the existing buildings will be starting any day.
- d. Student Learning Grant: BC Government announced that they were allocating ~ \$50/student. A district committee was formed to determine how the funding was being allocated between elementary and secondary. It was decided on a 60 (elementary) /40 (secondary) split. We received ~\$40 for every student enrolled in September 2016 for a total of **\$38,052**. The money had to be spent by January 2018. It is a “one time” donation from the Government as far as we know.
- e. Ranjit explained that through a consultation process with the school Finance Committee and PAC, the purpose of the Student Learning Grant was to be used for instructional resources and wherever possible, defray cost to parents.
- f. Ranjit explained how this money has been/will be used:
 - i. Web Server: \$500 (Applied Skills Department)
 - ii. Student Learning Workbooks \$3,000 (ELL Department)
 - iii. Novel Studies Books \$5,000 (English Department)
 - iv. Musical Instruments: \$5,000 (Music/Drama Department)
 - v. Cloudbooks \$15,000 (All Departments)
 - vi. Bluetooth Keyboards \$1,500 (All Departments)
 - vii. Field Trips Fees \$7,252 (All Departments – subsidize cost)
 - viii. Lights, Editing, Cameras \$800 (All Departments – subsidize cost) for a total of **\$38,052**
- g. Many issues and ongoing requests with resetting passwords on MyEducation BC website. Requests are addressed as soon as possible.
- h. Parent-teacher conference will be held in December this year rather than the usual January.
- i. Covered bike shelter going into the west elevation side of the school.
- j. Soccer Field expected to be ready in June-July. Still looking into the dimensions and hopefully share the cost of maintenance with the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation and/or others.

5. James De Couto

- a. M. De Couto is a new teacher in the music department.
- b. He presented his ideas to improve our music department and he was looking for feedback from parents tonight.
- c. New courses he would like to add next year:
 - 1) strings program (now 2 bands and 1 choir)
 - 2) guitar/piano
 - 3) jazz band - opening it up to R&B and rock
 - 4) music and technology such as recording and composition

6. PAC Mission & Budget Process: Norma Biln, Chair

- a. Norma shares the PAC mission. She also mentioned the high generosity of parents in the past 2 years going from \$3,000 to \$75,000.
- b. The money was allocated this year prioritizing the longevity of the purchase requested by the teachers, the number of children impacted and the impact on the academic life of our students.
- c. A Donor wall is something we will do this school year to raise more money.

7. Treasurers Report: Maki Kristiansen & Toan Vo

- a. Maki presented the Budget recommendations by the PAC executive.
- b. There was over \$108,000 in requests for our \$63,000 budget.
- c. Maki gave a summary of last year expenses.
- d. Norma explained the rationale for the executive PAC recommendation and the discussion was opened for feedback/comments/suggestions.
- e. Sports uniforms now request a deposit from parents as most of the students were leaving in June with their uniforms.
- f. Norma suggested that we use our Grade 11 students next year to volunteer entering some data as it took over 150 hours to enter each address for the \$25 PAC donation at the beginning of the year. Discussion held on how we can save time and be more efficient.
- g. Parents are grateful for the time PAC executive has spent on making the recommendations for the money to be spent on teachers' requests and all other activities.

8. Approval of the PAC Budget

- a. **MOTION:** Approval of Budget
Moved: JP Holecka
Seconded: Daniella Girard
CARRIED by majority

9. Centennial Update: Norma Blin

- a. Centennial Celebration will be on May 11-12, 2018.
- b. Alumni and former parents will be there.
- c. Will get more details in the next few weeks.
- d. Looking for more volunteers.

10. Upcoming Dates: Norma Biln

- a. Dec 19th Parent-Teacher Conference
 - i. Comments from parents about the difficulty to book a time with teachers
 - ii. Suggestion made that teachers who think they need to meet with a certain parent should have priority over parents of students doing really well.
- b. Cookie Bash – Dec TBD.
- c. Next PAC meetings @ 7pm Room 201 (Nov 28, Jan 30, February 27, April 24, May 29).
- d. Pub nights @ 6:30pm Colony Pub in Kitsilano (Dec 14, March 15, June 14)

11. Other Business: All

- a. A parent is wondering if there is a transition plan for PAC.
- b. Norma is mentioning that this is her last year as a Chair as it will be 3 years (maximum).
- c. Norma is inviting PAC parents to attend PAC executive meeting if interested.

12. Adjourn

- a. **MOTION:** Adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Patricia Thiel
Seconded: Daniela Girard
CARRIED by majority

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

Next PAC meeting is TUESDAY, November 28 in room 201

**Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:
Valerie Murray – Co-Secretary**