

Minutes

POINT GREY SECONDARY SCHOOL		
10.18.2016	7:00 pm	Staff Room
Meeting called by	Elizabeth	
Type of meeting	PAC meeting	
Secretary	Karen Aiouch	
Attendees	Karen Aiouch, Fan Chun, Greg Anstruther, Nikki Penner-Horodyski, Ginous Taylor, Arnold Cheung, Anne Lee, Adam Parry-Wingfield, Carla Shore, Patty White, Gilliam Beath, Sophie Yang, Mina Kang, Tracy Yuen, Esther Kwok, Temmy Lam, Choy Siu Wah, Yuna Duan, Elaine Yeung, Mei Chong, Rhoella, Emiko Dong, Chris Lockhart, Bin Ye, Sam Wong, Angie Lo, Suzi Noetzel, Michelle Huang, Jessie Xie, Anda Ng, Llisa Tripodi, Sandra Wong.	
Item 1. Adoption of minutes		
Adoption of the agenda: Motion by Fan Chun, seconded by Karen Aiouch. Adoption of the January 19, 2016 Meeting's Minutes: Motion by Arnold Cheung, seconded by Nikki Penner-Horodyski.		
Item 3. Principal's report		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Grade 8 Camp took place Sept. 21-23. It is a good way to start the year and allows the new grade 8 students to make new friends and connections across the grade. • On September 29, the Parent Walkabout was held at the school. We saw quite a few parents at the event. It was a good opportunity for parents to hear about course and class expectations along with putting faces to their child's teachers. Also, by walking through the timetable parents got a chance to see most of the school. Unfortunately, the Mini teachers were away on their Orientation trip. • September 30th was a Professional Development Day and there was discussion about the new curriculum as well as possible changes to reporting for K-9. • The Ministry of Education is looking for input from parents on how they would like to be informed about their child's progress. Parents will be able to go to http://engage.gov.bc.ca/yourkidsprogress to provide their feedback by Feb. 28th. In addition, 10 community feedback sessions will be organized throughout the year. The Ministry will then present a final reporting plan in June. • Enrolment for this year is currently at 1027 which is down from last year's enrolment of 1055. Across the District we have larger grade 12 classes graduating and smaller grade 8 classes coming in. For example, this year's grade 12 class is 242 while the grade 8 class is 167. As this trend is expected to continue in the near future, there will be downward pressure on enrolment. There was an opportunity for Point Grey Staff with the VLN to pick up 20 blocks of teaching; that helped us not declaring some junior teachers as surplus. We had to declare one counsellor as surplus; we used to have 5, now we have 4. • A parent asks about the shop class we used to offer. There was not a lot of interest from the students, and the teacher retired. The material might be outdated as well. • The Mini Information night was held on October 13th, to give prospective students information about our amazing Mini program. Unfortunately, we get far more applications than we are able to accommodate as our cohort is limited to 30 spaces. • The school held our annual Terry Fox run on September 29th. We raised about \$1100 for cancer research and practically the whole school participated in the run. • Clubs day happened on the afternoon of October 17th. Clubs get a chance to showcase themselves and encourage other students to join. Clubs are another important piece to extra-curricular offerings at Point Grey and allow students to form friendships while extending their learning. • The Grade 12 Parent Information Night will be held on October 19th. The grade 12 counsellor, Mr. Baxter, will go through the grade 12 year, graduation requirements, online courses, and post-secondary information. • The Parent Grad Committee is meeting this week. This committee organizes a dinner/dance and dry grad evening for the graduating class. If you are able to volunteer your time, please attend the meeting. • October 21st is the Provincial Professional Development day. Provincial specialty teaching groups such as BC math teachers hold workshops. 		

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Item 4. Co-Chair's report

- On Sept 9, PAC organized a breakfast for all staff & teachers.
- On Sept. 15, PAC held a welcome dinner for grade 8 parents.
- On Sept. 29, PAC was also present to meet the parents at the Walkabout evening.
- Call to volunteers for the different sub-committees.
- On our next PAC meeting, on Nov. 15, will welcome M. Lai, the head of the Math department.
- In January, we'll welcome Unlock your future to talk about scholarships.

- Meetings of the Chinese community sub-committee: presentation by Esther Kwok, Cindy Hum and Tracy Yuen. This sub-committee meets the needs of non English-speaking parents: explains how the school system works in Canada, communicate via WeChat. There are 77 members in the group. It organizes a Dumpling evening every year.

- Grad Committee: last week was the 1st meeting, Esther Kwok and Cindy Hum are co-chairs. The first fundraising activity is a Poinsettia Sale (deadline Nov. 17). The committee is also executing 2 gift cards programs. Safe Grads Night (June 2): parents attend the first part of the evening (no siblings), a dinner then a dance. Then parents leave, kids change and dry entertainment starts.

Item 4. Guest speakers: Ms. Pante, Vice-Principal, and Ms. Lacoumentas, Head of department

Ms. Pante

- The purpose of the new curriculum is to be more flexible. The initiative is teacher-driven; any teacher could send feedback on the curriculum.
- It is focused on the key concepts to organize knowledge, to deep learn, to help students construct a big picture, to integrate aboriginal culture, to make students educated citizens.
- The only Provincial exam this year is English 12; all the other provincial exams have been cancelled. We'll know more about the new exams (numeracy and literacy) in the upcoming year.
- More information can be found on www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca.
- The real focus is on the core competencies: thinking competency, communication competency, personal and social competency.
- The model is KNOW, DO, UNDERSTAND (KDU).
- 2016-2017 Term 1 and 2 Report cards will remain the same. The grade 8 & 9 Term 3 report cards might include, on top of the marks, assessment of core competencies – possibly in the form of self-assessment by students.

Ms. Lacoumentas

- There will be a lot of choices offered in English and Socials for teachers.
- Inquiry-based learning: the process is to pose real questions, to find resources, to interpret information and to report findings.
- Example: study of a novel. Core competencies to cover: thinking, personal and social responsibility, communication. During their inquiry, students should ask creative and critical questions supported and inspired by text (text= written words, videos, etc.). Students are taught to do research: databases more than internet, books as resources.

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Item 6. Treasurer's Report

- We have different types of funding: gaming funds, parents donations and fundraising activities.
- As of today our account balance is up to date. Two signatures are needed from 2 execs.
- We have 3 accounts: 1 at HSBC, 1 at VanCity, and 1 at school, managed by administrative staff.
- One of the fundraising activities, the gift cards program, was too heavy to manage. We stopped it as of this year. We still have \$20,000 left from the program's past years.
- Each year, we receive approx. \$20/student from the gaming funds. Gaming funds are restrictive: we have to use them for extracurricular activities (library, special speakers in some classes, \$5,000 approx. for athletic program, mini field trip, music department). Last year, we funded the new (portable) sound system for the auditorium and the gym (\$12,000).
- The parents donations vary: from \$14,000 in the best year to \$1800 in the worst year.
- Suggestion from a parent: send another letter / email at the end of the civil year to ask for donations.
- Motion: to give the PG PAC the authority to distribute and make decisions of where the funds received by PAC will be allocated. Motion from Arnold Cheung, seconded by Cindy Hum. 20 votes in favor. 0 opposed. 0 abstained.
- Ms. Lacoumentas mentioned that there is no additional financial resource allocated to the new curriculum. Elizabeth Chang and Greg Anstruther remind everyone that the gaming funds can't be used for the curriculum, only for extra-curricular activities.
- Talking about fundraising, Arnold Cheung mentions that parents could give their recyclables in the name of PG PAC, and the money would go to PAC.

Item 7. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Greg Anstruther, seconded by Fan Chun. Adjournment at 8:50pm.

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PAC Meeting

October 18, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the staffroom

Agenda

1. Welcome and introduction of Executives Ginous
2. Adoption of minutes Ginous
3. Principal's Report
4. Guest speakers: Ms. Pante, Vice-Principal & Ms. Lacoumentas, Department Head
5. Co-Chair's Report Elizabeth
6. Treasurer's Report Fan
7. Adjournment

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 15th, 2016