

# PAC General Meeting - Minutes

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**January 17, 2018**

## ATTENDEES

Stephanie LeComte, Charlotte Burns, Julia Kutlubay, Lisa Black, Sheenagh Trembath, Tara Zielinski, Chelsea Duhs, Mandana Vali, Connie Hart, Michelle Ross, Cynthia Soboren, Annabel Pringle, Kate Pratt, Dagmar Meachen, Linda Gour, Tania Pan, Zoe Mackenzie, Gustavo Rodriguez, Roselia Moreno, Sydney Smith-Patchell, Jessica Gibson

### 1. CALL TO ORDER (Charlotte B)

Meeting called to order at 9:03am by Charlotte.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Charlotte B)

1st Connie H, 2nd Kate P. Approved.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 22 2017 MEETING (Charlotte B)

1st by Julia K, 2nd by Linda G. Approved.

### 4. SOGI CURRICULUM PRESENTATION (SD45 Guests: Maureen Lee & Todd Lund)

Tara Z introduced and welcomed our special guests to the PAC Meeting. Firstly, present at the meeting was Chair of the SD45 Board of Trustees Carolyn Broady. Carolyn is also the school liaison for Ecole Pauline Johnson, as well as 3 others schools.

Tara went on to introduce the presenters for today's PAC Meeting; Maureen Lee and Todd Lund joining us from SD45. All welcomed our special guests and thanked them for coming to our PAC Meeting.

### **SOGI (Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity)PRESENTATION**

Todd and Maureen thanked Tara and the PAC for inviting them to speak at the meeting today. Todd is an elementary school counsellor and SOGI District Leader. Maureen is the District Principal for Student Support Services. Both Maureen and Todd introduced themselves via pronouns and outlined the

assumptions made about people based on how they introduce themselves. One of the missions of SOGI is to teach children to love and accept each other just as they are.

Maureen shared a video with the group which detailed the experiences of a student, Milan, in Prince George. The video can be found on YouTube.

There are 51 school districts in the SOGI network and West Vancouver was one of the original 9 schools. The aim of the network is to ensure that students feel safe in the school environment and feel accepted.

One of the steps that Maureen talked about was challenging the heteronormal narrative; for example changing the term “Mum and Dad” to “Your Parent/s”.

For our school SOGI means:

- creating a safe space for all where diversity is celebrated;
- Shifting of language: instead of “hello boys and girls” - “bonjour mes amis!”, “good morning everyone”, “could you all...”, “distinguished guests”

Maureen also shared a selection of books containing age appropriate messages that were passed around the group.

Maureen stated that there is no set curriculum for SOGI, but that it is encouraging the schools to be more conscious of how common things are presented eg family make-up. At the district level there are education sessions for staff, senior management and parent presentations such as this one today.

Maureen and Todd shared photos of the Pride Parade which the West Vancouver School District participated in during last summer. Details for participation for this year’s Pride Parade can be found on the district’s website.

Tara thanked Maureen and Todd for coming to talk to us this morning.

## 5. PRINCIPAL’S REPORT (Tara Z)

### **ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE - ART STARTS**

- Grant Application (May 2018 for a September 2018 Artist in Residence) The artist is Carolyn Elliot (M. Craig Elliot’s mother) who is exceptionally talented. All children will participate in creating a legacy project mural and there is the potential that it be shown in a Vancouver art gallery before being mounted in the Learning Commons.

## **ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE - DANCE**

- Joanne Fetchko - Dance in Residence, will be working with all students from June 11-15 to create a flash mob style dance which will be presented to all parents at the Year End PAC BBQ on June 15.

## **FETE D'HIVER 2018**

- The school has booked French Theatre company, Théâtre la Seizième, from 29 January-8 February to work with students in Grades 1-7 on improvisation, vocal skills and voice projection. Classes will receive one workshop each of about 50 min-1 hour.
- The theme will coincide with Fete D'Hiver.

## **STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY 2018**

- An invitation to participate in this survey will be included in the E-Bulletin. All parents are encouraged to submit their opinions which are collated by the Ministry.

## **PJ PARK**

- Tara is looking for volunteers to work with her on coordinating the maintenance of the PJ Park and detailing the curriculum which is taught in the park.
- This will be a rewarding role and anyone who is interested can contact Tara directly.

## **UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS**

- ELL Parent Session will be held 30th January 1:45pm-2:45pm.
- All upcoming events can be found on the E-Bulletin and PJ's online calendar.

## **6. PROPOSED GALA (Charlotte B & Connie H)**

Connie introduced herself as Chair of the Quebec Trip Committee. As their major fundraising effort for this year's trip they are planning a major event/Gala instead of bake sale/car wash etc. The proposed date is April 28th at the Gleneagles Golf Course and they are wanting to distribute a Save The Date flyer ASAP. The night would also be a whole of school fundraiser with a yet to be determined amount being given to the PAC to assist with the current budget deficit.

There are 13 parents on the committee which is meeting on Friday, all are welcome. The planned theme is Mad Men glamour. There will also be auction items to assist with fundraising.

Questions were raised regarding how a "Gala" type event would be presented to the school community when traditionally a "Gala" was a PAC run event that benefited the entire school. There were concerns about misrepresentation and it was suggested that a name other than "Gala" be used for the event.

Lisa B asked Connie to come back to the PAC with a proposed budget outlining targets for Quebec trip fundraising, \$ for PAC and \$ as a Legacy item.

It was agreed that further discussion at the next PAC meeting was required. It was also agreed that the term "Gala" not be used but instead "Soiree" was suggested and all agreed.

## **7. SANTA'S WORKSHOP (Charlotte B)**

Charlotte thanked Kate, Lisa and Dagmar for their efforts organising a very successful Santa's Workshop!

The event raised \$1294 for PAC and \$1300 was donated to North Shore Youth Safe House.

## **8. UPCOMING PAC EVENTS (Charlotte B)**

### **GELATO FRIDAYS**

- Will continue once a month and be communicated via the E-Bulletin.

### **MOVIE NIGHTS**

- The Movie Night planned for January has been postponed.

### **LUNAR NEW YEAR EVENT**

- The PAC is looking to hold an authentic event and are seeking a volunteer from the Chinese community. This will be communicated also through the E-Bulletin.

### **FAMILY BBQ**

- The date has been set for this event - June 15th.
- To ease the volunteer burden this year, the BBQ will be outsourced.

### **CREPE LUNCH**

- This year's Crepe Lunch is January 31st.
- Noeleen will be running the event again this year with many assistants. Thank you Noeleen!

### **SPIRIT WEAR**

- Another offering of Spirit Wear will be late February.
- Adding back in yellow and white T-Shirts.
- Julia is also looking into children size umbrellas and shorts.
- New #pjproud to be featured on items with a contest to boost our following on Instagram and Facebook to follow. The entries will be featured on the bulletin board. More details to follow.

## **9. TREASURER'S REPORT (Lisa B)**

Lisa began by presenting the Profit and Loss sheet and made the following comments:

- Fun Lunch revenue is on track as per the budget.
- Spirit Wear is also on track for the year.
- The Gaming Grant of \$7640 is lower this year as it is based on number of students.
- Quebec Trip - the cheque has been written for the budgeted amount of \$12,000.

## **10. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES (Charlotte B)**

A recommendation was made to add the link to the meeting minutes to the PAC section of the E-Bulletin.

## **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Charlotte B)**

Tara was asked if the language being used by the Grade 6/7s has improved, which Tara confirmed it has dramatically. An e-mail was sent to parents and Tara and the teachers had a meeting with all the students back in November.

Charlotte raised a concern that some parents are being vocal about any delay in communication from teachers eg response time. Tara confirmed that teachers are asked to be prudent and respectful of their time and the time of parents, however teachers are working through the day and cannot always respond immediately, this includes weekends.

Sheenagh mentioned that the DPAC has a budget for schools of \$250 for parental education. Kate mentioned 2 potential speakers, but they are high profile and would need to be part of a larger DPAC run event. Other suggestions included a sleep expert or a session on Google Classroom and the various tech platforms used at school (Fresh Grade / IXL).

The school is also looking for additional parent volunteers to help with the drop zone in the mornings. There is new signage coming also. This is run by Carlos an RCMP Officer.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT (Charlotte B)**

Meeting Closed at 10:52am.