

**École Alpha Secondary School Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting
and AGM**

Monday, May 6, 2024

7pm, in person, Alpha Library

MINUTES

Approved June 4, 2024

1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Introductions, Maria F

Present: Maria F, Gloria M, Janice C, Jessica J, Liezel L, Ben Paré (Principal), Melanie W, Vivien G, Stacie S, Nancy N, Krista C, Chloe P, Ella H, Arlene E, Julia S, Johanna K

Regrets: none

2. Approval of Agenda, Maria F

Chloe P motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Gloria M, all in favor.

3. Approval of Minutes from April 8, 2024, Meeting, Maria F

Postponed to next meeting as they have not been sent to the membership yet.

4. Chairperson's Report, Maria F

a) Staff Appreciation Lunch, Monday June 24, 2024, 11am to 1pm

If you can help with organizing the event ahead of time, please, please reach out to Maria at the PAC email

Need 15-20 volunteers the day of, please sign up, arrival 2 hours ahead of the event for setup

Baked good, buffet items, cash donations all accepted via School Cash Online

b) Surveys - At times throughout the year, the school sends out surveys. There is passive consent for them – you must reply to the school if you do not want your child to complete the survey otherwise consent is assumed. Student surveys are taken during instructional/class time (30-45 minutes depending on the survey). Parents, of course, can instruct their child privately to opt out of the survey.

c) Maria is giving notice that she will be make a motion at the next PAC meeting to amend C&B: Section 6, Meetings #1: Change wording from “Executive meetings will be held at the call of the president” to “may be held at the call of the president”. Vote to take place next month at June meeting.

d) June 26 Grade 12 dinner dance, kids are meeting at the hotel, not the school.

Parking lot will be locked up. If they do want to leave their car until the dry grad event is over, please park next to the field on Parker or Gamma. It has been noisy in past years in neighborhood when students return at night to get their cars so parking in these areas might be better. This info will be also shared with grads at upcoming assembly.

e) Reminder to stay on time tonight as per agenda if you are speaking.

f) Those with reports tonight please send to PAC Secretary after the meeting to help with minutes

- g) Discussed other roles on PAC like Fundraising. The fundraising position at PAC will NOT, necessarily, be to lead all fundraisers, but rather to oversee others and offer guidance. Custom fit this role to your own style and time commitment. Be a guide/consultant for those who want to lead a fundraiser. Of course, leading a fundraiser(s) yourself is always an option as well. Fundraising experience is appreciated.

OR, if you're interested in taking on a *specific existing* PAC fundraiser next year (or have a new idea, big or small) please email the PAC to request the Fundraising Checklist to give you an idea of what is needed to get started, pacexecutive.alpha@gmail.com

The checklist is a resource to guide you. Fundraisers deal with PAC funds, and you may collaborate with other parents, teachers, and staff; it's important to follow certain steps to execute a successful fundraiser.

Other roles on PAC include Communications (website, monthly updates, etc.), and Grade 12/Grad.

5. Principal's Report, Ben Paré

- a) Robotics Team of 15 went (12 from Alpha), went to the World Championships in Dallas, Texas, April 25 to May 3, 2024.
- b) Grade 10-12 semi formal dance was so fun!!! 176 tickets sold, one of the best school dances Ben has ever seen. Good food. Everyone danced for 3 hours. Overall lost money. \$6K for venue and food.
- c) Last Thursday, the Burnaby Access Program students from Alpha, North and other Burnaby and Vancouver schools had an art show at Roundhouse Community Centre.
- d) For Burnaby Youth Week the school had an afterschool basketball from on Friday 3-5pm, with pizza and pop.
- e) Alpha Theatre Company performed Clue May 1 to 4, 2024, well done.
- f) First student forum held April 17. There is much to report from the forum, one item to note is that of kids there, 86.4% felt seen at the school. Department heads will read the report and then it will be shared with staff. Next there is a department head retreat in June to discuss next steps.
- g) Ben is leaving the school and heading to Byrne Creek next year. Victoria Lee will be new Principal.

6. Treasurer's Report, Janice C

- a) In April we received additional funds from Purdy's because we sold over \$4K this year.
- b) Progressive gift card fundraiser has started, and we have received etransfer funds.
- c) Reviewed financial statements.
- d) Robotics Club travel donation – last year PAC provided \$2,500.00 for 5 students for travel. 15 students this year. Maria F motioned that PAC provide \$2,500.00 total to the 15 students who went to the Robotics tournament. Chloe P seconded. Discussion. All in favor. The \$2,500.00 will be split among the 15 families.

- e) Discussed the need for preparing a budget. Janice reported that historically PAC received few requests and it's hard to know at beginning of the year what to plan for. Requests come throughout the year for club and program support. Noted that the PAC is quite active this year, perhaps more than other years, resulting in more requests.

7. Parent Representative Reports

a) Grade 12, Stacie S

- i. **Capstone Feedback Sheets** are ready for pick-up in Student Services, please ask your grad to pick theirs up.
- ii. **Raffle** - CONGRATULATIONS to Ruby Dumayas, the winner of the Dry Grad 50/50 Raffle \$1,400.00+
- iii. **Grad Dinner Dance Tickets** \$140, <https://burnaby.schoolcashonline.com/>
A group photo will be taken at the hotel.
- iv. **Dry Grad Tickets** \$70, at school cash online
*Student must attend the grad dinner dance to attend the dry grad
- v. **Dry Grad Fundraiser is coming soon.** Hope to get you information ASAP but look for information coming hopefully this week.
- vi. **Dry Grad Sponsors/Donations:**
Donate to Dry Grad to get your 2024 donation receipt at , at school cash online
- Select Fund Destination: Alpha Secondary
- Message to School Board: Alpha Dry Grad 2024
Own a business or work for a company that would be interested in sponsoring our 2024 Dry Grad? All sponsors will be mentioned on social media and newsletters. All cash donations will receive a tax receipt. The Dry Grad Committee is seeking with much gratitude products, merchandise, unused gift certificates/cards, sporting tickets for fundraising or student raffle give away. If you would like to donate or have questions, please email drygrad.alpha@gmail.com.
- vii. **IMPORTANT DATES**
Past Due: Grad comment assignment in teams due. This comment is what is said about your Grad as they cross the stage.
May 3rd Gold cord list posted outside of the Learning Commons for verification (if there are any concerns, students must see Ms. Watson in the main office by Friday May 10th)
May 8th Last day to purchase additional tickets (up to 10 additional) at \$5 each on school cash online. Each student will receive 2 complimentary tickets. After May 8th Tickets may be purchased in the school office after May 8th if there are still tickets available.
May 10th Grad Dinner Dance Payment Due
Grad Dinner Dance Wednesday, June 26, 2024@ PINNACLE HARBORFRONT HOTEL at 6:00 pm. Please pay your \$140 fee by May 10, 2024, at school cash online

If payment is not received by May 10th, your student will not be eligible to attend the Dinner Dance or Dry Grad. If you have any concern with payment, please contact your counsellor.

May 10th Dry Grad Payment Due, please pay your \$70 fee by May 10, 2024 , at school cash online

*Student must attend the grad dinner dance to attend the dry grad

May 10th Last day to see Ms. Watson in the main office for graduation Gold Cord

May 13th to 17th School Leaving Ceremony ticket pick-up in school office (not available during class time).

May 13th to 24th Grad table sign-up. Forms available from Grad Council members in the foyer.

May 13th letter outlining more details about the School Leaving Ceremony, including parking and guest information will be send out.

May 14th and 15th from 3:03-3:30pm Grad gown pickup in the Learning Commons (Library)

May 21st (Tuesday) During Period 6, **Mandatory** Grad Rehearsal Assembly

May 21st (Tuesday) **5:15pm** -all grads must be at SFU in the Robert C. Brown Hall (Grads must be on time by 5:15 pm)

6:30pm Ceremony begins at Simon Fraser University's (SFU) Convocation Mall. It will be outdoors and could be chilly please bring appropriate clothing to keep warm.

June 1st All paperwork for the required 30-hour work/volunteer experience must be completed and handed into Ms. Teng or Ms. Lo in Student Services

June 10th Central City field trip

June 21st 12pm (noon) Grad luncheon in the cafeteria

June 21 yearbook distribution. (Pay \$65 by school cash online available until last ~25 are sold)

June 26th Grad Dinner Dance @ PINNACLE HARBORFRONT HOTEL at 6:00 pm, Dry Grad following until 3 am Thursday, June 27th.

b) Community Policing, Chloe P

A few interesting items from the Burnaby Public Safety Council meeting that took place Wednesday, April 23, 2024.

All reports can be found on the Burnaby city site and minutes will be available prior to June's meeting. But for your info:

- i. Maybe surprisingly, there has been an overall **decrease in crime numbers** from 2023 to 2024. There are many available stats, but I thought the one that is maybe of the most interest to us, is that D1 has experienced an overall reduction of 60%.
- ii. We have **many programs** in place to assistance with people experiencing homeless, mental health, addiction as well as a prolific offender suppression team, fraud team and teams that include nurses. Just to name a few.

- iii. The city is investing in **community training for the protection of women**. This includes education about gender based and intimate partner violence, the role of police and information for newcomers about Canadian laws.
- iv. **Bike registration** is available through VPD: <https://project529.com/garage/organizations/vpd/landing>
- v. The city received a **federal grant** to instate new programs to **combat gun and gang violence**. Dawn, her team, the city and many not-for-profit organizations have worked quickly to initiate a multitude of programs that target, identify, educate, support and counsel at risk youth and their caregivers. There is also research, marketing campaigns and community events happening for this purpose. In the first 9 months of implementation, 34 youth have been supported, 105 programs have started, and over 150 parents and caregivers have been supported through education and counselling.
- vi. **RCMP's bike unit**, which comprises of 6 members, is busy doing front line policing and investigative work. Because they obviously work while riding bikes, they can move easily and quickly through crowds, around barriers, enter narrow and small areas, can approach people quietly (and therefore are less detectable), patrol areas that would be otherwise be unreachable to cars (like trails, parks, corridors between buildings, paths, etc.). They also work with schools to provide information about bike maintenance and safety.

Those are the points that I think might interest you most... Again, more info on the City and RCMP sites, and meeting minutes will be published sometime before the next council meeting.

Any questions about Community Policing, email Chloe and Gloria at the PAC email.

c) District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC), Vivien G

i. DPAC Budget and Survey:

Thank you everyone for participating in DPAC budget survey. DPAC did organized a survey to inquire from parents about their thoughts about the budget. Due to time limitations, DPAC did their best to survey the memberships.

Here is a summary of survey results that were presented at the DPAC meeting in April 2024.

“Many, many different ideas were shared - indicating the varied values and priorities carried by our Burnaby families. Understandably, as a public school system, we are trying to provide for and meet the varied needs of families with different interests, opportunities, values and hopes to their children. The information shared however paints a shared story of our parents being worried. They are worried that their children’s needs are not being met.

Overall, we interpret this feedback to tell us that families do not believe that Burnaby schools are receiving the resources they currently need. Families are concerned that cuts to existing programs, on top of an already under-funded

system is hurting our school children. We are looking to the district to answer to this:

- how else, other than reducing costs by cutting programs, can you balance the budget?

- how else can we generate funds?

- what other ways are you trying to solve this problem?"

Then after providing the survey results, groups were divided, and parents provided their feedback on a few key questions. Notes were taken and provided to the DPAC executives. A few Alpha parents did attend and provided feedback. DPAC greatly appreciate parent feedback. DPAC chair was able to provide input to the school district. DPAC April meeting minutes will be available. Budget details will be available on SD41 website. Pls refer to latest news on SD41 budget; <https://www.burnabynow.com/local-news/incredibly-difficult-decisions-needed-to-balance-burnaby-schools-budget-board-8661674>

ii. **DPAC Website:** Two members of DPAC will be updating the DPAC website. More details will follow.

iii. **BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC) Annual Conference:** Three executives of Burnaby DPAC (including Vivien) attended BCCPAC annual conference. The BCCPAC executive director did inquire from the Honourable Rachna Singha, Minister of Education and Child Care, about the overcapacity issues at various schools.

Excellent speakers and resources were available at BCCPAC conference: Neeru M, Program Facilitator from Children of the Street, spoke of Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking (www.childrenofthestreet.com). Laurent Rainey-Blue Isadore provided a talk about indigenous culture and information on protecting women in our society. #MMIW, #MMIWG #MMIWG2S

Beautiful to see parents connecting with one another; parents from all over the province. People came from small town up North, from the interior and to our neighboring cities. Small town has small town school problems as well big city comes with big city problems. It's important to be aware that the school budget cover a large diverse group of children of the province.

d) Fundraising (gift card update), Vivien G and Julie S, Art Parent Volunteer

Gift card fundraising is to support the Arts department for their annual show next year; Art, Drama and Music teachers will be involved in a Production. Gift card fundraising is a test run.

May order deadline is May 8 midnight. Order will be ready for pick up May 17 8:30am or 3pm at the school office (from Julie or Vivien). Please refer to attachment to these minutes. Submit your completed order form and e-transfer payment to the PAC email.

Gift card fundraiser will run through to September.

4-5% of the cost of the gift cards go back to the PAC for this Art fundraiser. Flyers for this fundraiser are attached to the minutes.

8. Committee Reports

a) School Expansion, Vivien G

Vivien asked Ben and Maria (President), what the expansion group/committee can do to initiate some form of communication with the city council/MLA about the overcapacity situation at Alpha. Since the beginning of the year, Vivien has inquired about the overcapacity at Alpha. Burnaby School District Secretary-Treasurer, Ishver Khunguray, had presented to PAC that the district is trying to speed up the process. Vivien had inquired from Bill Brassington, Chair of Burnaby Board of Education, about the field at Alpha and learned that the city owns the field. Next year, Alpha school library will be partially occupied for classroom use. Will this affect our students learning? What is coming next? How many more students are coming and what can the parents do to help expand the school?

A zoom meeting is available for a committee; Fridays May 17 or 24 pm 7pm. Please email the PAC email let us know if you are interested in joining.

b) Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) Revisions, Melanie W

A Code of Ethics is required for PAC Executive members, committee members or representative. There is a statement of understanding each member/representative must sign each year.

Melanie W moved to adopt the Code of Ethics form that was circulated to the parents. Stacie S seconded. All in favour.

It was noted that the word "agree" should be edited to "agreed" on the document.

Melanie W moved that we adopt the Administration of the Alpha Parent Advisory Council Code of Ethics form that was circulated to the parents. Stacie S seconded. All in favour.

These documents are attached to the minutes.

9. AGM, Gloria M

A 2-page handout was distributed to meeting attendees outlining each position and duties. This document is attached to the minutes.

Prior to voting on each position, Gloria M read out what the position entails as described on the handout.

President:

One nomination received in advance of the meeting, Maria F. No other nominations.

Voted in by acclamation.

Maria F is President.

Vice-President:

No nominations received in advance of the meeting.

Ella H nominated herself.

Vivien G nominated herself.

Secret ballot. 15 votes. 9 votes for Ella, 5 for Vivien, 1 abstain.

Ella H is Vice-President.

Secretary:

No nominations received in advance of the meeting.

Melanie W nominated herself. No other nominations. Voted in by acclamation.

Melanie W is Secretary.

Treasurer:

One nomination received in advance of the meeting, Liezel L. No other nominations.

Voted in by acclamation.

Liezel L is Treasurer.

District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Representative:

One nomination received in advance of the meeting, Vivien G.

Melanie W nominated herself.

Secret ballot. 15 votes. 10 votes for Vivien G, 5 for Melanie W, 0 for No DPAC rep, 0 abstain.

Vivien G is DPAC Representative.

District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Alternate Representative:

No nominations received in advance of the meeting.

Melanie W nominated herself.

Secret ballot. 15 votes. 13 votes for Melanie W, 2 for No DPAC Alternate rep, 0 abstain.

Melanie W is DPAC Alternate Representative.

Term for the new Executive is June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025

Outgoing Executive will help with transition in month of May.

June meeting will be run by the new Executive.

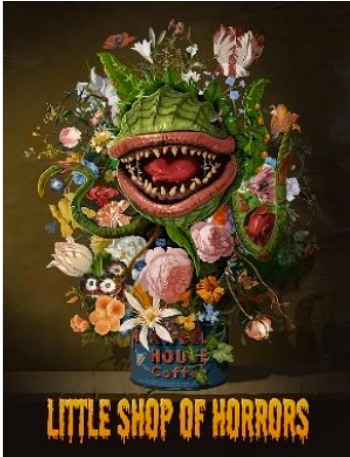
10. Upcoming Events/Dates of Interest, Gloria M

- Friday, May 17, PRO-D Day school closed
- Monday, May 20, Victoria Day school closed
- Tuesday, May 21, Grade 12 Leaving Ceremony
- Wednesday and Thursday, May 29/30 Grade 7 Eagle for a Day
- **NEXT PAC meeting: Monday, June 3, 7pm**

11. Adjourn, Maria F

Meeting ended at 9:09pm

ALPHA PAC GIFT CARD FUNDRAISING



Alpha Theatre Company Program is well underway with this year's production of CLUE, and has our hearts and creative minds set on an outstanding musical production next year. Together with the Music Department and Ms. Adam and Choreography by Ms. Batten in our Dance Department we are excited to announce that in June 2024, Alpha Theatre Company presents LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS!!! "Feed me, Seymour!"

To help Alpha Theatre Company musical dreams together, PAC is introducing Gift Card Fundraising for the month of April & May. All funds goes to the Arts. If Alpha memberships welcome this type of fundraising, it may continue the following year.

How the Gift Card Fundraising Program works:

Supporters (family or business) will purchase gift card from PAC through order forms available online on PAC website or via paper orders given out to students in Theatre, Drama, Dance and Music classes. A percentage of each card sold goes to PAC and ongoing student interests.

Choose from our list of 25+ vendors like Chevron, Esso (you have to buy gas anyways! Might as well send some of that money back to our kids!) Amazon and Walmart, Safeway and Save-On, Cactus Club and Tim Hortons...to name a few. For more details: refer to Order Form

Garden Works has been added to our gift card vendor list. What a great idea for Mother's day and Father's day! If you purchase a \$30 gift card, PAC receives \$5. If you purchase a \$50 gift card, PAC receives \$10!! The opportunities are endless! More vendors are available upon request. Please contact PAC pacexecutive.alpha@gmail.com to see our full list.

Your Support Matters:

Please reach out to family members, friends, neighbours and colleagues for their support. For instance, do you know an employer or colleague who purchases large amounts of gift cards? Larger orders bring in more money for our school programs!

Direct Donations to Theatre Company:

If you prefer to make direct donations to Theatre Company, this can be made through District Donations earmarked for our program. Anything over \$20, will provide a tax receipt. Contact Mrs. McAllister for more information cristina.mcallister@burnabyschools.ca

Thank you for your support in public education and the Arts!

ALPHA SECONDARY - GIFT CARD FUNDRAISING

DATE: MM ____ /DD ____

VENDOR	%	Order	Value	Total	PAC Raised
Hudson's Bay	3%		\$100		
Walmart	3%		\$100		
Walmart	3%		\$250		
Chevron	2%		\$100		
Esso	3%		\$100		
Petro-Canada	2%		\$100		
Shell	2%		\$100		
Choices	7%		\$100		
Loblaws (superstore, No frills..)	5%		\$100		
Loblaws (superstore, No frills..)	5%		\$250		
Safeway	4%		\$100		
Safeway, Sobeys, Fresco	4%		\$250		
T&T	4%		\$100		
Save on Foods, Urban Fare, Price Smart Foods,	5%		\$100		
Save on Foods, Urban Fare, Price Smart Foods,	5%		\$250		
Staples	3%		\$100		
Buy-Low Foods	5%		\$100		
Earls	5%		\$50		
Cactus Club	10%		\$50		
WhiteSpot	10%		\$50		
Macdonalds	3%		\$50		
Tim Horton	3%		\$50		
Amazon	2%		\$100		
Dollarama	3%		\$50		
Starbucks	5%		\$50		
Winners/Home sense	5%		\$50		
Sportschek/Atmosphere	3%		\$100		
Cineplex Odeon	5%		\$50		
Garden works	16.6%		\$30		
Garden works	10%		\$50		
TOTAL					

FAMILY LAST NAME: _____ Cell No. _____
 FAMILY FIRST NAME: _____
 Student name or student Number _____
OFFICE USE: reference no. _____ received _____ / _____