

ÉCOLE ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL
PAC MINUTES
Wednesday, May 6th, 2020

Attendance: Mr. Wozney, Melody Eng, Janice Chiem, Susan Fritz, Angela Dasovic, Irene Li, Lina Basso, Anne-Marie Porth, Donna Rae-Young, Joy Norgard

Regrets: Margo Hrennikoff, Lina Silvestre, Claude Tani, Stace Dayment, Raquel Do

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- Melody welcomed everyone to the meeting via the Zoom online meeting platform.
- January, February and March minutes – postponed approval to the June meeting.
- April PAC meeting was cancelled due to the COVID-19 virus.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- This has been an unprecedented time having gone from normalcy before Spring Break, to extremely challenging times during and after Spring Break. This has been especially challenging for grade 12 students who are learning a difficult life lesson that life can be very unfair.
- The administrative team is very proud of the teachers, students and community with how everyone has come together to take on the challenge of ongoing learning to the end of the school year. It is important to remember that this is NOT normal online learning where one makes the decision to sign up knowing what the program looks like and its expectations. This is emergency remote learning that is reimaging something that has never existed before. Everyone is grappling with challenges, stressors, varieties of access to technology and varying home situations. Every student has varying degrees of vulnerability. Therefore, rather than focusing on curriculum and content, the focus has turned to connection and continued student engagement.
- The District is looking at potential scenarios for September and the start of a new school year. The likelihood that the school year will return to normal is low given the physical distancing and sanitizing measures that will need to be strictly followed until a vaccine for COVID-19 is developed. Discussions are happening daily in the District and schools to come up with decisions for the fall.
- Course schedules – any issues with summer courses should be taken to school counsellors. The course schedule for next year is complete and any changes to a student's schedule should also be brought to the counsellors at this time.
- School Leaving ceremony – the traditional event at Bill Copeland has been cancelled and the District is coming up with a virtual version for all high schools to have similar formal recognition ceremonies that will include a Valedictorian, speeches, Artona grad photos and up to four additional photos which students will submit.

- Grad Dinner/Dance – this event has also been cancelled and an official letter will be sent out informing families of this decision. The school is working on issuing Dinner/Dance refunds as soon as possible.
- Year book – Mr. Wozney will have a meeting with Mr. White to make a decision about the year book. One third of the year will be missing from it, including photos of the spring sports teams.
- Final Report Cards – a final report card will come out. Students are still expected to engage in their courses and get their assignments done until the end of the year so final marks can be calculated.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- There has been no activity for the months of March and April aside from interest income for the General and Gaming accounts.
- The casinos have been closed and not earning revenue so we are uncertain as to what can be expected for a Gaming grant in the fall.
- General account available balance for PAC use: \$19,563
- Gaming account available balance for PAC use: \$8,649
- Please see report for full details.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Nothing to report

VICE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Nothing to report

CLASS REP REPORTS

- Grade 8 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 9 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 10 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 11 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 12 – Work experience students whose hours were supposed to be worked during Spring Break and couldn't due to COVID-19, will not be negatively affected. Email Ms. Gillam or Ms. Tsai and cc Mr. Wozney with concerns.
- ELL – Nothing to report.
- Mini school – Nothing to report.

DPAC

- There were no meetings in March or April.

- The May meeting will be virtual and will provide a preview of the District budget proposals for the next three fiscal years with details made public June 1, 2020.
- The AGM has been postponed to the fall and a set schedule will be announced following guidelines and instructions from the Health authority and the District regarding the conduct of larger meetings.

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR DPAC FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DPAC, SD41 AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Burnaby DPAC contact: info@burnabydpac.com

Burnaby DPAC website: <http://www.burnabydpac.com>

Burnaby DPAC Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BurnabyDPAC>

FUNDRAISING

- Nothing to report

DRY GRAD

- The contract for the Dry Grad venue, The Metro, has a clear term of 180 day cancellation policy and therefore the \$2500 deposit will not be refunded. However, the venue will allow changing the event date to the fall or next year and using the deposit for the future event. Some parents on the committee were very happy to have that option. Other parents feel that it is unfair to not get the money back and don't want it used for a future date.
- Alternate options are being looked at including the possibility of using the school field to hold some kind of celebration following physical distancing guidelines.

COMMUNITY POLICE

- No meetings took place due to COVID-19. Nothing to report.

OTHER BUSINESS & QUESTIONS from parents

- Edmonds Community School has seen an increased need for hot lunches for students and the need is expected to grow with the economic fallout from COVID-19.

Donations of food are being accepted for family grocery bags. Cash donations are also being accepted through School Cash Online using the District tab. Include 'Burnaby Meal Program' in the text box in order to direct your donation to this program. Donations over \$20 will receive tax receipts.

For more information, contact Natalya Khan, Coordinator, Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) & Cultural Transition Services
Phone: 604-296-6900 ext. 661101
Email: natalya.khan@burnabyschools.ca

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:04pm

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES OF INTEREST

- May 14th – Grade 12 virtual assembly with road safety speaker, Kevin Brooks