

ÉCOLE ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL
PAC MINUTES
Monday, November 2nd, 2020

Attendance via Zoom: Mr. Wozney, Melody Eng, Janice Chiem, Susan Fritz, Irene Li, Claude Tani, Donna Rae-Yeung, Arlene Elliott, Stace Dayment, Raquel Do, Barbara Mudrovic, Helen Leong, Kent Cloide Guiam, Anna Maria dePalma, Maricela dela Cruz, Ashley Sandquist, Patricia Wong-Reinhardt, Chris Schmechel, Valdet Sahatciu, Kristen Valente, Susan Tang, Yunuen Perez Vertti, Cecil Swadling, Ha Vu, Stig Tollefsen, Tammie Mark, Karl Wdl, Yanjie, Tigist, Paoka, Lauren, Nikki, Carol, Vesna, Norm, Mary, Mackenzie, Jurgen, Johanna, Lesley, Arthur, CL, BWdl, Funky Fresh, iPhone 12

Regrets: Lina Silvestre, Anne-Marie Porth, Margo Hrennikoff

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- Melody welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- October minutes – Motion was made by Melody to approve minutes, Janice seconded, all in favor – motion passed.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Provincial literacy and numeracy assessments are starting the first week of November. These include the numeracy assessment for any grade 11 or 12 who has missed taking it and the literacy assessment for any grade 11 student that missed taking it last year. The grade 12 literacy assessment has been cancelled for this year and is not required for graduation.
- The regular Remembrance Day ceremony cannot take place this year. The Visual and Performing Arts department has made a video of different performances that teachers will show in class on Tuesday, November 10th, in lieu of school assemblies. The school will be closed Wednesday, November 11th.
- The end of the first Quarter is November 13th. There were very few 'I' reports at midterm but now is the time to resolve any missed learning outcomes. November 16th and 17th are Quarter turn around days where classes will not be in session but teachers will be available to students. Quarter 2 begins on November 18th and Quarter 1 report cards will be available on the MyEd portal on November 14th.
- The Honour Roll will be published at the end of Quarter 2 as it would be for the end of a regular first semester. It will include the four courses for the first two quarters.
- If there are any scheduling issues for Quarter 2, please contact the appropriate counsellor as soon as possible.
- Staff and students have done a tremendous job following Covid-19 protocols. To date, there have only been three cases of exposure in the school, all of them were unrelated and none have spread amongst the school population. Some students are still forgetting masks but the school has some masks for those who forget to bring their

own. Please ensure that your student has a back-up mask in their back pack and encourage continued mask use.

- The staff has been discussing what has been learned during this year of pandemic teaching and is looking at some of the changes that seem to be working well that could possibly be carried over after the pandemic. For example, staggering breaks has led to less congestion in bathrooms and hallways. No bells during the day has had a calming effect in the building. For senior students, perhaps some Quarter courses or blended classes can continue to be offered.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- A Gaming Grant of \$22,600 was received in October and was transferred to a cashable term deposit. These funds will be used at the end of the school year for the Teachers Wish List and scholarships.
- There were no disbursements from the General or Gaming accounts in October.
- General account available balance for PAC use: \$18,268
- Gaming account available balance for PAC use: \$14,965
- Please see report for full details.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Active fundraising has been suspended for this year but donations to the PAC can still be made via School Cash Online, Cobbs Bakery at Kensington Square and the Return-It Depot at Kensington Square.
- The positions of Chairperson and Secretary will need to be filled for the next school year. If anyone is interested, please email the PAC executive so information sharing and transitioning can begin.
- Available positions for this year to be filled are Fundraising, ESL Rep and Community Policing. Please email the PAC executive if you are interested.

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 – Looking for thoughts and ideas about a Dry Grad event for this year.
- ELL – Nothing to report.
- Mini school – Nothing to report.

DPAC

- Last month's meeting was the annual Finance 101 which is a recap of responsibilities for new PAC Treasurers.
- Next year's Gaming Grant will be based on different calculations though how it will be calculated has yet to be decided. The amounts will most likely be reduced due to Covid restrictions for Gaming this year.

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

- Purdys Christmas orders will not be taken this year.

DRY GRAD

- Waiting to see what can be done. No fundraising has taken place for this year.

COMMUNITY POLICE

- Meetings will be held the last Thursday of the month in person at the Community Policing office on Hastings between Carleton and Gilmore Avenue. If anyone is interested in becoming the Rep for these meetings, please email the PAC.

OTHER BUSINESS & QUESTIONS from parents

- Arlene started a Facebook group page for Alpha parents. To date, there are 65 members. If interested, go to:

www.facebook.com/groups/1023897104702928/?ref=share

- Question regarding text books for students who want them – the District is moving away from purchasing text books as they become outdated very quickly and most teachers are moving to using online resources.
- The science labs have limited opening times for use due to the need to sanitize equipment and for Health and Safety reasons.

- Students wanting to return to school in the second Quarter after doing online courses in the first Quarter have to understand that the school schedule will probably not match their online schedule and they may have to repeat a course or accept a spare block until that time can be filled with something else. The school will do it's best to work with the students and families for a smooth transition back.
- Ms. Gillam is working with grade 12 students on their 30 hour volunteer/work experience graduation requirements. There will be some leniency in getting hours as there are limited volunteer opportunities due to the corona virus. Donna mentioned that Big Brothers Vancouver was looking for mentors for online Zoom mentorship.
- Parents of online students are feeling disconnected from the school so a new position for an Online Class Rep is being added to the PAC and Paola has volunteered to fill this position.
- There will be no Parent/Teacher meetings this year. Please email or phone your child's teacher anytime if you have questions or concerns.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:50pm

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES OF INTEREST

- November 3rd-4th – Provincial Literacy and Numeracy Assessments
- November 4th-6th – Grad photo sessions at Artona
- November 11th – Remembrance Day, school closed
- November 13th – Last day of Quarter 1
- November 16th-17th – Quarter turn around days, no classes
- November 18th – First day of Quarter 2
- November 24th – Quarter 1 Report Cards available on the MyEd parent portal
- November 27th – Pro-D, school closed