

**ÉCOLE ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
**PAC MINUTES**  
**Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

**Attendance via Zoom:** Mr. Wozney, Melody Eng, Janice Chiem, Susan Fritz, Irene Li, Lina Silvestre, Anne-Marie Porth, Donna Rae-Yeung, Arlene Elliott, Stace Dayment, Raquel Do, Gloria McKale, Melanie Sing, Paola Fairey, Ashley Sandquist, Stacie Schmechel, Maricel dela Cruz, Johanna Kwan, Heidi Fehlauer, Ella Ho, Connie Leung, Anna Marie da Palma, Alice Shin, C Fox, M. Dee, Dimpy Dsouza, Nikki, Andrew, Gary, Donna, Annie, Frances, Ingrid's phone, Good Evening

**Regrets:** Claude Tani, Margo Hrennikoff

**WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

- Melody welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- January minutes – approval postponed to March's meeting

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

- The Compass survey for students will be emailed on Wednesday to students in grade 9 to 12. This is a nation-wide survey that Alpha signed up to participate in for three years. The information collected remains anonymous and provides information on various aspects of student life in and out of school in regards to mental health and safety. The school can access the information and use it as input for Healthy School goals.
- The Ministry Student Learning survey for students in grades 10 to 12 will be available until February 22<sup>nd</sup> online. An email with instructions on how to access the survey was sent out to parents for their participation, as well.
- The Alpha survey will be conducted at the end of Quarter 3 with the exact same questions as the survey from December. Using the same questions will allow the administration to see if feelings regarding the school year have changed three quarters of the way through the year.
- Provincial Literacy and Numeracy assessments for grade 10 students took place last week. These assessments are requirements for graduation.
- Course selection starts this week and will be open for approximately four weeks. Most of the course selection process will happen online. Parents are asked to take time to discuss course choices with your students. Counsellors will be in touch with online students in regards to course selection for next year.
- Cross District and Out of District applications will be due at the end of February. Last year, none of these applications were accepted because the school was at capacity and the same may occur this year. This is a District decision making process and not a school based decision.
- Alpha's Virtual Open House will take place on February 11<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. The opening address is at 5:30pm. Capacity is limited to 250 people on any Zoom link at one time.

All presentations will be recorded and put up on the school website for people who are not able to access them at the time they are running.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

- All fundraising activities have been put on hold due to Covid-19 at this time.
- In January, a cheque for \$1059 was issued from the Gaming account to pay for some 2019/20 Teachers Wish List items.
- Ending bank balances as of January 31<sup>st</sup> are: General - \$21,611 Gaming - \$39,189
- General account available balance for PAC use: \$19,364
- Gaming account available balance for PAC use: \$9,981
- The available balances take in to account funds committed to the Teachers Wish List, scholarships, and Dry Grad.
- Please see report for full details.

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

- There has been some interest and discussion from people coming forward to take on the Chair and Secretary positions for next year.

### **VICE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

- Nothing to report

### **CLASS REP REPORTS**

- Grade 8 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 9 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 10 – Nothing the report.
- Grade 11 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 12 – As no Dry Grad will be taking place this year, parents would like to change the name of the Dry Grad Committee to the Grade 12 Grad Parent Committee and organize some kind of event to honour the graduating students once a date is finalized for the School Leaving event.
- Mini school – Has Mini school for grade 10s been cancelled for next year? There was a lack of enrollment so students have been doing some independent studies this year with other courses taking place with the main school. Mini school is still on the course selection list.
- Online school – Not many students are enrolled online but it is working well for those who are. One concern is that families are not getting notification about Quarter turn around days. Students didn't know that there were no classes for two days when the school was transitioning to Quarter 3 classes. It was suggested that families refer to the

school calendar on the school website as a back-up information source, as online school is following the regular school schedule.

## **DPAC**

- The District superintendent, Gina Niccoli Moen, gave a quick review of the Covid-19 exposure notification process.
- Mental Health Literacy – District Vice-Principal, Nick Christofides, presented on the new Health and Wellbeing blog (link to be shared when available). This will be an online resource for parents and students in all age groups and grades. Surveys are still taking place to determine what resources are needed to determine what will be included.

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

Burnaby DPAC contact: [info@burnabydpac.com](mailto: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**

- Nothing to report.

## **COMMUNITY POLICE**

- Gloria is still waiting for confirmation of security clearance to participate in the meetings. There was no meeting in January. Due to Covid-19, the regular meeting schedule has been put on hold. There may be a meeting at the end of February but this is not yet confirmed.

## **OTHER BUSINESS & QUESTIONS from parents**

- Is there still interest in the French Immersion program? Is enrollment low? There are 30-40 grade 8 French Immersion students this year. Mr. Dube has been doing a lot of outreach to feeder schools. There are geographic challenges between French Immersion elementary schools, Burnaby North and Alpha. Mr. Dube has been having students from the French Immersion program at Alpha answering questions from elementary parents and students which is encouraging interest in the program. There has been a lot of positive feedback.

**MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:43pm**

**UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES OF INTEREST**

- February 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> – Quarter turn around days
- February 3<sup>rd</sup> – First day of Quarter 3
- February 9<sup>th</sup> – Quarter 2 Report Cards available online
- February 11<sup>th</sup> – Alpha Virtual Open House, 5:30pm
- February 15<sup>th</sup> – Family Day, school closed
- February 19<sup>th</sup> – I Read Canadian day
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> – Freedom to Read week
- February 26<sup>th</sup> – District Pro-D Day, school closed