

ÉCOLE ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL
PAC MINUTES
Monday, January 11th, 2021

Attendance via Zoom: Mr. Wozney, Melody Eng, Janice Chiem, Susan Fritz, Irene Li, Claude Tani, Anne-Marie Porth, Donna Rae-Yeung, Margo Hrennikoff, Arlene Elliott, Stace Dayment, Raquel Do, Gloria McKale, Melanie Sing, Ashley Sandquist, Stacie Schmechel, Bill Brassington, Maricel dela Cruz, Johanna Kwan, Heidi Fehlauer, Arthur Lin, Kamal Guram, Ella Ho, Connie Leung, Ariel Pavic, Anna Marie da Palma, Aubrey Fox, Kristen Valente, M. Dee, Sousan, Armaan, Nikki, Dimpy, Andrew, EYH, PB

Regrets: Lina Silvestre, Paola Fairey

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- Melody welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- November minutes – motion was made by Melody to approve minutes, Stace seconded, all in favor – motion passed.
- December minutes – motion was made by Melody to approve minutes after editing a detail regarding a fundraising cheque. Stace seconded, all in favor – motion passed.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- The Alpha Open House will be taking place on February 11th online via Zoom. There will be information sessions from the French Immersion program, Mini School and Learning Support Services (LSS), as well as short presentations followed by Q&A by program Department Heads. Parents will be asked to submit their questions ahead of time. As some presentations may be happening at the same time, all sessions will be recorded and available to watch at a later date.
- One major focus of the Open House will be the percentage of student success rates in completing courses in a given school year. From the 2016/17 school year to last year, 2019/20, the percentage of courses successfully completed by students has gone from 96% to 98.5%. This is a number that the staff is very proud of and strives to maintain or exceed.
- The course selection process has begun. Last year's timetable will be torn down and a new timetable will be constructed based on student course choices. As things are still uncertain in terms of Covid-19 and what the new school year will look like, two timetables will be developed. One will be in preparation for an ongoing Quarter system and the other for the possible return to the Semester system. Staff is asking parents to please be involved in the course selection process by asking students about their choices for next year's classes.
- No decision has been made yet regarding this year's graduation celebrations. It is unlikely that Health Ministry guidelines will allow for the traditional graduation ceremony at Bill Copeland so the District is still working on alternate arrangements.

Facilities for the Grad Dinner Dance have been tentatively booked. No fees for graduation have been collected yet but will be coming once plans have been finalized.

- The last day of Quarter 2 will be January 29th. Quarter turn around dates are February 1st and 2nd with no scheduled classes. February 3rd is the first day of Quarter 3.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- In December, the PAC received a fundraising cheque from COBS for \$227 and a grant from SD41 for \$296.
- There were no cheques issued from the General or Gaming accounts.
- Ending bank balances as of December 31st are: General - \$21,611 Gaming - \$40,248
- General account available balance for PAC use: \$19,364
- Gaming account available balance for PAC use: \$11,040
- 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

- 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.

VICE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Nothing to report

CLASS REP REPORTS

- Grade 8 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 9 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 10 – Are classes still running during scheduled Literacy and Numeracy assessments? For the Literacy and Numeracy assessments, classes will be going to the computer labs with their teachers and losing a block of class time to take the assessments. This is being done to avoid mixing learning groups in the labs.
 - Will the school be returning to a regular Semester system in September? This is still unknown. The school is building both a Quarter timetable and a Semester timetable in preparation for either scenario of a continued Quarter system or a return to the Semester system.
- Grade 11 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 12 – What will be happening for this year's graduation? No graduation fees have been collected yet as the District is still deciding what graduation will look like for all the high schools. There will be some type of ceremony with students doing a 'walk across'

to receive a school leaving certificate but there is no decision made as to whether it will be a virtual ceremony or some other kind of event.

- ELL – Nothing to report.
- Mini school – Nothing to report.
- Online school – Nothing to report.

DPAC

- This month's meeting will take place on January 18th. The first part of the meeting will be a mental health presentation and the second part will be small break out groups discussing concerns, questions and ideas for an anti-racism education plan for the District.
- If you have any ideas to contribute to the discussion, please email Donna, donna.yeung@shaw.ca, who will submit them to the DPAC on your behalf.

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

- Melanie Sing and Cindy Cheta will be taking on Fundraising with Claude.
- Fundraising through Encorp Recycling and COBS at Kensington are both ongoing.

DRY GRAD

- Planning for this year's Dry Grad is on hold as the committee is waiting to see what the District is planning for Grad events and what activities will be allowed according to the Provincial Health Authority.

COMMUNITY POLICE

- Gloria McKale will be attending Community Policing meetings. The first meeting of the year will take place on January 28th.

OTHER BUSINESS & QUESTIONS from parents

- After learning about the Covid-19 exposures tied to PE classes at Earl Marriott high school in Surrey, how are PE classes being run in the district and at Alpha? PE classes

are running as normal with two PE classes every block. Classes use outside space or go out in the community when possible. Classes have use of the small gym, big gym and weight room. There are more Active Health lessons. Classes are following established learning group sizes and protocols. Barriers are being used when classes are sharing spaces and there are ample bottles of hand sanitizer and disinfecting products to use in the weight room. To date, there have been only four cases of Covid exposure at school, all have come from community exposure with no spread in school. PE classes will continue as they have and will adjust if this becomes a necessity.

- DPAC will be providing schools with posters regarding basic Covid-19 information and safety protocols. If the school would like more posters, please contact the DPAC executive.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:54pm

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES OF INTEREST

- January 11th-15th – Winter clothing drive
- January 25th-29th – Provincial Assessment week
- January 26th – Core Competencies, Grades 8-10
- January 29th – Last day of Quarter 2