

ÉCOLE ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL

PAC MINUTES

Monday, February 6th, 2023

Attendance via Zoom: Mr. Pare, Ashley Sandquist, Gloria McKale, Janice Chiem, Melanie Sing, Donna Rae-Yeung, Sally Felkai, Terry C, Mark C, Nicole, K, DM, Chi, Arlene phone, Sandy iphone, Brenda, Nota Spencer, Arthur Lin, Anna Maria da Palma, Stace Dayment, Debra, Maria, Cindy, Connie Leung, De Ding, Deigo, Kumiko Yamada, 14388334236, Maureen, Harj, Stig, Johanna Kwan, iphone de Victor Hugo, Olga Zerkal

Regrets: Margo Hrennikoff, Daniel Yang, Amy Tong

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- Ashley welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- January minutes – Cindy made motion to approve minutes, Anna Maria seconded, all in favor – motion passed.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Burnaby school district mentioned there will be about 1000 new students across the district. This is mainly due to work/study permits and an influx of people from Ukraine.
- There are five zones in Burnaby that are under tremendous pressure and Alpha is one of the hottest spots due to new development in the area. There is a public meeting for the Burnaby North zone on February 22nd from 5-8pm at the district office. Everyone in the community can attend the meeting. More information is on the school district's website.
- The school is getting permits to add two portables to the school in September. No details yet on the location of the portables but could be the corner of Alpha and Parker. The portables will be used as academic classrooms.
- There has been a challenge in staffing. There is a shortage of HR, EA, teachers, and finance staff at the district. At Alpha, there is an immediate challenge as school is unable to hire Technology Education teacher. They had to change the position to Business Education teacher in order to find a teacher. Same with French teacher. This is not just affecting our school but other Burnaby schools as well.
- Ms. Lim is working on the school calendar for the next school year. PAC meeting will remain on the first Monday of each month.

VICE-PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- There will be a few surveys coming in the next few weeks. Information gathered is valuable.
 - Student learning survey: this survey is run by the district, and it measures student satisfaction.
 - Pan Canadian Assessment Program (PCAP) measures language arts skill and will assess one class of grade 8 students.
 - There is a Fraser Health survey, and they will select one class from each grade and the survey is on health and wellness.
 - Youth Development Instrument is administered by SFU. It measures social and emotional aspects of student's life. There is a negative consent form if parents want to opt out from the survey.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- General account available balance for PAC use: \$22,770
- Gaming account available balance for PAC use: \$13,829
- Not much to report, a cheque of \$276 was received from Just Mulch Fundraiser.
- Money from gaming grant: PAC has 3 years to use up the funds.
- Please email Melanie Sing for a copy of the full financial report.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- nil

VICE-CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- nil

CLASS REP REPORTS

- Grade 8 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 9 – N/A
- Grade 10 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 11 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 12 – N/A
- Mini school – N/A
- ELL – N/A

- CPF – Nothing to report. There is a French film festival this Friday, Feb 10th at 9:30am. For more information, can speak to Ella for more information.

DPAC

- Donna was able to attend the last DPAC meeting and the minutes are not out yet.
- February DPAC meeting will be on emergency preparedness.
- If anyone has any questions, they can send to Donna (donna.yeung@shaw.ca) and she will bring them up to the meeting.

FUNDRAISING

- N/A

GRAD PARENT COMMITTEE:

- Trivia Night is on March 2nd. Tickets are available for sale on the school's Cash Online. Each ticket (\$25) comes with pizza and chips. There will be a silent auction and a live auction, DJ, and games. For a group of eight, the table is \$160. There are twenty tables and seven has been sold.
- Dry grad tickets for students will be \$60 each and will be on sale on February 21.
- Fundraisers in April/May: Mother's Day Flowers and Glenburn ice-cream
- There will be a Portrait Night as well.
- Total fundraised so far: \$10,612

COMMUNITY POLICE

- Not much was discussed in the January meeting.
- Comments from the school's student rep: concerns about the washrooms have been addressed and there are less students wandering around the hall.

OTHER BUSINESS & QUESTIONS from parents

- A parent asked about the lack of Grade 12 French teacher and that the class is being run by a substitute teacher at the moment. The parent is worried it will impact her child's grade in the class. Mr. Pare said they could not find a Teacher on Call (TOC) for French class so in the meantime, they have an English teacher helping with the class. The

teacher will be fair with the marking and Mr. Pare is working with HR to resolve this issue.

- A parent asked about the lack of PE teacher for grade 8 class. Mr. Pare said a couple of the PE teachers are on medical leave so they have been replaced by a retired PE teacher and a business teacher with extensive soccer coaching experience.
- One parent asked if the school has emergency kits in classrooms for earthquake preparedness. Mr. Pare said they do not have individual classroom emergency kits, but the school does regular drills, and the school has done a seismic upgrade.
- A parent asked about spam emails from school. Mr. Pare said all students and staff must reset their Microsoft 365 password.
- A parent asked about the format for the Students Led Conference. Mr. Pare said the first half of the conference will be done via Zoom and the evening will be in-person.
- One parent asked about cars blocking the horseshoe during after school pick up and if there are any enforcement to keep traffic moving? Mr. Pare said no, it will just be him guiding the parents.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:15 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES OF INTEREST

- Feb 2 – Open House
- Feb 3 – Term 2 Semester 1 report card available online
- Feb 20 – Family Day, school closed.
- Feb 22 – Grade 9 Immunizations
- Feb 24 – Pro D Day, school closed.