

ÉCOLE ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL

PAC MINUTES

Monday, January 9th, 2023

Attendance via Zoom: Mr. Pare, Gloria McKale, Janice Chiem, Melanie Sing, Donna Rae-Yeung, Sally Felkai, Amy Tong, Johanna Kwan, Mark C, Anna Maria da Palma, Ella, K, Nota Spencer, R. Edwards, Terry C, Chi, Stace Dayment, Sandy iPhone, Connie, Arthur Lin, Cynthia, Doreen, iPhone de Victor Hugo Denys, Linden, Norma & Funky, AK, De Ding, Kim, Rhonda Manson, Maureen

Regrets: Ashley Sandquist, Arlene Elliott, Margo Hrennikoff, Daniel Yang

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- Gloria welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- December minutes – Cindy made motion to approve minutes, Janice seconded, all in favor – motion passed.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Parking lot lights and the lights in the horseshoe are not working properly. School is working with Facilities and the lights should turn on from around 4-5pm until midnight, and then on again at 6am when the custodians arrive in the morning.
- Week of Jan 23: alternate week schedule for AP classes or students wanting to catch up on their work
- January 30th: beginning of Semester 2
- Department heads and staff are happy with the PAC Wish List.
- Open house in February: it is mainly for families not in the community and want to know about the school. Families applying for cross-district can attend.
- Course selection for grades 8-11 will start in February. This is important as it has huge implication for staff (staffing and scheduling). Staffing is based on course enrollment.
- A number of staff would be interested in presenting and sharing information such as assessment reporting and course info to PAC. Please let Ben know if PAC is interested.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- General account available balance for PAC use: \$22,494
- Gaming account available balance for PAC use: \$13,829
- Not much activity in December. A couple of cheques were received (COBBS \$205 and annual grant from the district \$312)

- 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 – N/A
- Grade 11 – Nothing to report
- Grade 12 – N/A
- Mini school – N/A
- ELL – N/A
- CPF – Nothing to report

DPAC

- Nothing to update for December, the January meeting is next week.

FUNDRAISING

- N/A

GRAD PARENT COMMITTEE:

- Fundraising is still on-going:
 - Ink Solutions: purchase ink and 20% will go to Dry Grad
 - Heights Coffee: waiting for the company to take credit card online
 - Trivia & silent auction: sending emails and letters to businesses for door prizes. It is going to be on March 2nd in the large gym. Ticket is \$25/person or \$160/table. There will be pizzas and snacks. Committee will be asking for donation items (e.g., gift cards).

- 50/50 raffle: it is now live, Jan 30th is the deadline for tickets. The draw will be on Jan 31st.
- Glenburn ice-cream: this fundraising will start the week before spring break. You buy ice-cream and a percentage will go back to Dry Grad.
- Other fundraising events: Improv Theatre Night (April, Granville Island), Portrait Night (\$25 or \$30 sitting fee and it goes to Dry Grad. If you order the photos, then the money goes to the photographer)
- SPC: contact Cindy directly
- Bottle drive: it was closed since 2017 but just re-opened again. Cindy has the information (what code to put).

COMMUNITY POLICE

- nil

OTHER BUSINESS & QUESTIONS from parents

- A parent asked about language courses, what happens if the language course (such as Japanese) that the student is taking year won't be offered next year due to low enrollment rate? Mr. Pare said they need to have enough students to run a class (about 25 students) and about 27-28 students for the course to run as some might drop out due to conflicting timetable or change of mind. School cannot hire a teacher for just one block, it needs to be at least 2 blocks. It is challenging.
- A parent asked about the cement block on the school property (on the grass field on Parker Street side). Mr. Pare is not aware of it. He will check.
- A parent asked about the staff appreciation event. Organizers and helpers identified at the meeting: Donna S and Rachel are the organizers and Amy and Cindy have volunteered to help.
- A parent asked if there is any update on translating the proficiency scale to letter grades. Mr. Pare said they are working on it, and it takes time. He explained that how students should be assessed has changed so the tool needs to be updated as well. The curriculum sets learning standards. Assessment includes many tools, it emphasizes on instruction, assessment, and communication to be seen as a group. They are tied together. Learning needs to be integrated and assessment/feedback needs to be ongoing.
- A parent asked if this (proficiency scale) would affect university applications to the States and if this is recognized elsewhere. Mr. Pare said the changes only apply to kindergarten to grade 9. Grades 10-12 still has a percentage and letter grade. This is a provincial decision.
- A question was asked about the Teachers Wish List and whether it can be shared with parents. Mr. Pare mentioned some items on the list:

- Activity for BIPOC group
- Mural in the school
- Supplies for Visual Arts Council
- Membership and contest fees for Debate Club
- Enrichment resources for the Home Economics
- Physics Olympics and Science Fair
- Money for athletics uniforms
- Equipment and fees for Robotics (some students might be qualified for the Worlds in Dallas)
- Live performances for students (English and Indigenous drama company)
- Presentation for the Gay Straight Alliance Club
- Supplies for the Environment Club, Math contests, Book Club
- Carving paddles and field trips for Indigenous classes
- Activities for special needs kids

MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:50 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES OF INTEREST

- Jan 3 – School re-opens
- Jan 23-26 – Alternate schedule; Provincial assessment week
- Jan 27 – Semester Turn-around Day
- Jan 30 – First day of Semester 2