

École Alpha Secondary School Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting
Monday, February 5, 2024
7pm, in person, Alpha Library
MINUTES

1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Introductions, Maria F

Present: Maria F, Gloria M, Janice C, Jessica J, Vivien G, Donna Y, Liezel L, Ben Paré (Principal), Nancy N, Melanie W, Sally F, Mark J, Richard M, Amy F, Don E, Daisy L, Jay G, Joanne T, Karen L, Milan, B, Sherri B

Regrets: Chloe P, Arlene E, Stacie S, Amy T

Guests: Ishver Khunguray, Secretary-Treasurer, and Brandon Curr, Assistant Superintendent responsible for Alpha, Burnaby School District

2. Motion to approve the agenda, Maria F

Melanie W motioned to approve the agenda, with the following edits:

7h presented by Melanie W; 7i by Gloria M, 7k by Vivien G, 8b by Vivien G and Donna Y. Seconded by Gloria M, all in favor.

3. Special Guests from the Burnaby School District:

Ishver Khunguray, Secretary-Treasurer, and Brandon Curr, Assistant Superintendent responsible for Alpha

TOPIC: Information Session on Burnaby School District's Plans for the Expansion of Alpha Secondary School

Vivien G introduced the topic of overcapacity and the guests.

Ishver's PowerPoint presentation is attached to these minutes.

PAC had emailed the following two questions to Ishver in advance of the meeting:

Question 1: LRFP (Long Range Facility Planning) Recommendations:

According to DPAC April 17, 2023, meeting minutes; Russell Horswill, Secretary Treasurer had provided some recommendations. Recommendations had brought forward for Alpha secondary school were 18 portables needed and build a new Town Center Secondary school. PAC would like to inquire if Alpha has enough space for 18 portables or will the district plan to build a new wing of classrooms?

Question 2: Alpha's Field

A few parents have been following up on the availability of the outdoor field/space for about 8 years. We would like to inquire if the field can be restored for Alpha students. The field would be for physical education, school sport teams and community events.

Presentation highlights:

- School District capital projects are funded by the BC Ministry of Education and Childcare.
- Alpha seismic upgrade and partial replacement was completed 2017-2018.
- Alpha has had rapid enrolment growth post-COVID.

- Long Range Facility Plan was completed in April 2023. The last one was done in 2017; it was time to renew the plan with growth of the city's population.
- Ministry projects are driven by annual District submissions and Provincial Government budget decisions.
- Historically projects have been approved in March following the Provincial budget publication.
- To respond quicker, a 2nd cycle of approvals for prefabricated units was recently created to happen in September.
- Growth is coming fast, faster than anticipated. It is thought that immigration and the new condo towers going up close by is driving this growth. It used to be a 1-2% yearly population growth. Now it is 5-6% per year, which is triple the growth. It is expected this will continue for the next 3-5 years.
- Provincial government is focused on supporting this rapid growth and are streamlining the approval process and targeting urban school districts.
- Recent project approvals were for expansion at Kitchener Elementary and Brentwood Park Elementary.
- The district capital planning process looks at the next 5 year, and usually once it is approved by the Ministry in June, the District begins work on a project definition report (PDR).
- Alpha expansion is on the district capital plan, and they are starting the PDR now, before the process gets approved, to speed up the process when approved.
- Alpha is number 2 on the current capital plan for expansions. Kitchener Elementary was first and is being addressed with prefabricated units. So Alpha is next and will be first on the list with the new plan.
- Top of the list on the capital plan for new school builds is for Brentwood Town Centre East and West Elementary schools.
- For Alpha, the answer could be prefabricated (quicker) or a permanent build. Timeline for prefab depends on size needed, could be 1.5+ years. Add on another year for new builds.
- Decisions are done as a group – local school, District, and Ministry. Formulas are applied, i.e., this much space vs # of students, # of classrooms per student, per LSS students. Then you add on needs of school.
- Portables come out of District funds; prefab are paid by the Ministry.
- Most likely plan would be to leave the two portables in the front of Alpha and do a build from the school to the portables.
- Want to avoid poor short-term decisions and make better long-term decisions.
- Lot of moving parts in these decisions.
- Re: the field:
 - Owned by City of Burnaby.
 - There were prior discussions with city on school and community needs.
 - These discussions were paused due to potential need for portables for Alpha.
 - Landscaping challenges.

- District is starting discussions again tomorrow with the city as portables have been built in front of Alpha, and future expansion plan looks to also be out front.
- If expansion is built on the field, we lose out on having green space close by.

4. Break, 5 minutes

5. Approval of Minutes from January 15, 2024, Meeting, Maria F

Nancy N motioned to approve the minutes of January 15, 2024, seconded by Gloria M, all in favour.

6. Chairperson's Report, Maria F

Observation that the PAC has a few arms. One, at a high level with the school expansion topic and the updating of the PAC Constitution and Bylaws. Second, the students and the enrichment of their daily lives, i.e., fruit and veg program, keeping in touch with student council and the Athletics lead. If you have any suggestions for day to day, let Maria know.

7. Parent Representative Reports

a) Grade 8, Donna S – no report.

b) Grade 9, Sally F/Johanna K – no report.

c) Grade 10, Amy T – sent regrets, no report.

d) Grade 11, Arlene E – sent regrets, no report.

e) Grade 12, Stacie S sent regrets and this report:

We are set for Alpha Secondary Dry Grad 2024 Spring Fundraiser with Purdy's. Our page says pick-up is the 20th of March but we need to pick up by the 12th so I can get to families before the 15th when students go to spring break.

Please purchase online at <https://fundraising.purdys.com>, deadline to order is Tuesday, March 5th.

Order pick-up will be Thursday, March 14th and Friday, March 15th before and after school at Alpha.

Our campaign number is 64670.

Link to view the catalog:

https://www.purdys.com/media/wysiwyg/GnF/easter2024/SFR-Easter_Catalog_2024-Ver4_pages.pdf

f) English Language Learners (ELL), n/a

g) Mini School, Karen L – no report.

h) Canadian Parents for French (CPF), Ella H away; Melanie W reported:

French film festival coming up at Metrotown, during school hours, grades 9 and 10.

- i) Community Policing - Chloe P sent regrets; Gloria M gave an update:
City of Burnaby crime prevention unit offers free information sessions on ways to stay safe at home and in our community. Stay informed on the latest trends in crime prevention and what to look out for.
New information sessions are added every month and are held at City Hall. Find out more information and register on the City of Burnaby website:
<https://www.burnaby.ca/recreation-and-arts/events/safe-community-series>

The one in February was on graffiti prevention and upcoming sessions include:

Catalytic converter theft prevention and more

March 21, 2024, 6pm to 7pm

Location: City Hall Council Chambers, 4949 Canada Way

Discussions will include top trends in property crimes like mail theft and catalytic converter thefts, and how to proactively secure belonging and work together to create a safer community.

Protecting seniors from elder abuse

May 16, 2024, 6pm to 7pm

Location: City Hall Council Chambers, 4949 Canada Way

Join Seniors First BC as they provide insights to help older adults identify various types of elder abuse. Topics include where you can find services such as legal advocacy, support services in the community and how to report concerns.

- j) Graduation, Donna S – no report
- k) District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC), Vivien G
DPAC January Update:
- Presentation was on treasurer and insurance - slides will be available on DPAC website.
 - Q&A
 - Donation & tax receipts: Families who receive tax receipts, their donations stay on school cash account. PAC can request for reimbursements from school for PAC expenses.
 - A parent inquired if school board offer secure platform for PAC website. School district rep. will need to inquire.
 - School expansion:
Met with Ishver, secretary treasurer, briefly.
Alpha is on the priority list. Ishver offered to provide updates at Alpha PAC meeting.
- DPAC Business:

- Ashley S and Jacqui Z, Alpha's DPAC alternates were not present at DPAC Jan 15th meeting.
- Minutes were taken.
- New executives were motioned in; one rep. for Burnaby South zone and one rep. for Cariboo zone. Ashley's position will be review by the executives.
- Next DPAC meeting Tue Feb. 20 @7pm.

8. Committee Reports

- a) Fundraising, Nancy N - reported \$72.60 for the bottle return fundraiser
- b) School Expansion, Vivien G – we had our special guests today
- c) Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) Revisions, Melanie W
 - Going well. Using old document and comparing it to a new template. Updating language and will reorganize visually.
 - Want to change PAC AGM from June to May. This allows for transition with the outgoing and incoming PAC.
 - Will bring revised C&B to March meeting. There will be a vote to amend the C&B to what is presented.
 - A clean draft to review will be sent out on Friday, February 16, and posted on the PAC webpage, with noticed they will be voted on at March meeting. This is longer than the 14 days' notice required.
 - Committee is Melanie W, Sally F, Maria F, Nancy N
 - Parent reps, please nudge your grades to have a look.
 - Voting on this in March and if approved, it allows for two months' notice for a call for nominations prior to the May AGM.

9. New Business

- a) Parents with local businesses, Vivien G
Inquiring if anyone has a local business who wants to support the PAC gift card fundraiser. Parents should send their business and contact details to the PAC email. Grade 9 parent, Amy, is helping.
- b) Cel phones in the classrooms – new Ministry mandate, Ben
 - School districts each need to discuss what they will do with this mandate.
 - Alpha was already working on using laptops more for learning, and cel phones for social time.
 - Currently it is teachers' choice on the use of cel phones in class.
 - Riverside Secondary in Coquitlam is 5 years ahead with use of devices, and Burnaby District sees Alpha as the Burnaby leader. Ben is organizing a field trip to Riverside for teachers; parents can attend.

- c) Discussion on how to donate funds directly to Alpha.
A portal would be helpful.
If specified to go to a particular thing, allocation can be an issue and might need to go through district.

10. Upcoming Events/Dates of Interest, Gloria M

- Thurs, Feb 8, Grade 9 Immunizations
- Mon, Feb 19, Family Day, School Closed
- Week of Feb 20, Freedom to Read Week and Pride Week
- Tues, Feb 20, Student Learning Conferences online sign up
- Wed, Feb 21, CCC Computing Math Contest
- Thurs, Feb 22, Grade 9 Immunizations
- Wed, Feb 28, Pink Shirt Day
- **NEXT PAC meeting: Monday, March 4, 7pm**

11. Adjourn, Maria F

Meeting ended at 8:58pm

Alpha PAC Meeting

February 5, 2024
Burnaby Board of Education

Questions Posed by the Alpha PAC

Question 1: LRFP (Long Range Facility Planning) Recommendations:

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Background

- School District Capital Projects are funded by the Ministry of Education and Childcare
- Alpha Seismic Upgrade and Partial Replacement completed 2017-18
- Rapid enrolment growth post-COVID
- Long Range Facility Plan Completed April 2023

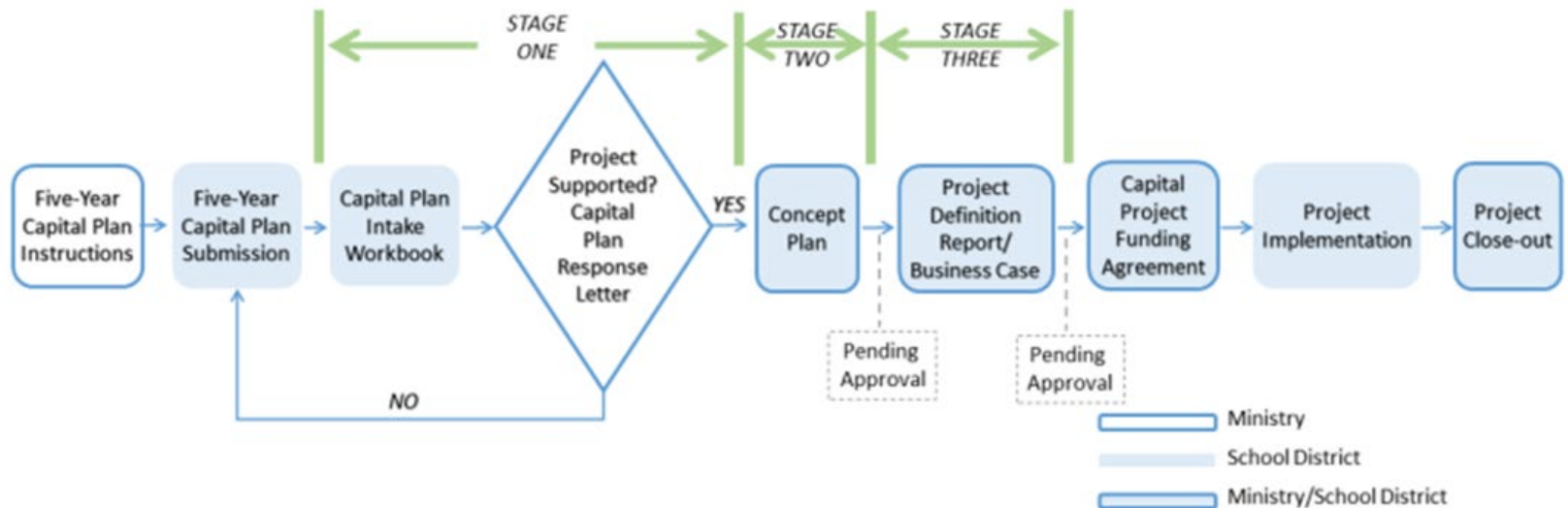
Background

- Projects driven by annual district submissions and Provincial Government budget decisions
- Historically projects have been approved in March following Provincial budget publication
- 2nd cycle of approvals recently created in September for pre-fabricated units

Background

- Provincial government focus on supporting rapid growth
- Streamlining the approval process and targeting areas urban school districts
- Recent project approvals for expansions at Kitchener Elementary and Brentwood Park Elementary

Capital Planning Process



**Source: Ministry of Education and Childcare Capital Plan Instructions*

2023-2024 Capital Plan Submission

ADDITION				
SD Category Rank	Project Number	Facility/Site	Project Type	Project Description
1	150071	Kitchener Elementary	Addition	Addition of 75K/300 from 40K/425E.
2	160249	Alpha Secondary	Addition	School Expansion - add new wing to South-West corner of school. 300 additional
3	150084	Maywood Community Elementary	Addition	Addition of 40K / 150E from 40K / 425E
4	150022	Bumaby Central Secondary	Addition	Addition of 100S from 1300S to 1400S
5	160287	Ecole Seaforth Elementary	Addition	School Addition
6	160251	Moscrop Secondary	Addition	School Expansion
7	150091	Nelson Elementary	Addition	Addition of 20K/130E from 60K/400E
8	150024	Cameron Elementary	Addition	Addition of 0K/100E to 80K/750E. Submission based on current Cameron
9	150125	Stride Avenue Community Elementary	Addition	Addition of 20K/100E from 40K/375E to 60K/475E
				Submission Category Total:
NEW SCHOOL				
SD Category Rank	Project Number	Facility/Site	Project Type	Project Description
1	150163	Brentwood Town Centre - East	New (School)	New 800 Elementary School on newly acquired school site in Brentwood Town
2	160253	Brentwood Town Centre - West	New (School)	New School - West - 50K/425E Capacity
3	160254	Bainbridge Village Elementary School	New (School)	New School
				Submission Category Total:

**As approved by the Board at it's June 2023 Public Meeting*

Alpha Field

- Field is owned by the City of Burnaby
- Prior discussions with City on school community needs
- Landscaping challenges



Thank You