

MEETING MINUTES

Whiteside Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Date: February 17th, 2021
Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Zoom

Attendees: Diana Redman-Robbins (Co-Chair), Erin Mah (Secretary), Brenda Geib, Brandi Snow, Stacey Wong, Jenny Zhang, Jon Snow

Regrets: Jaylene Sandhar (Treasurer), Priya Chawla (Co-Chair), Sandeep Bhullar (Fundraising Co-ordinator), CC Chang

1. **Welcome** - Diana, Co-Chair

2. **Introductions** - Diana

3. **Review and approval of January 2021 Minutes** -

- **Motion:** Motion to approve the January Minutes.

Moved: Brandi; Seconded: Brenda. **Motion carried.**

4. **School Administrators' Report** - Sarah Grant, Vice Principal

- **Outdoor Classroom:** Someone came from the district to look at the site. There is a plan and pricing of things that can happen and things that can't. We have the go ahead and someone will come back to do an official walk-through. After that we'll have an even clearer plan, hopefully by spring break. Rachael was hoping for a covered space but they don't allow it so they are looking at temporary solutions (ie poles where a tent could be put up). The area they are looking at is near the garden, benches and tree grove on the east side of the school.
- **The playground** is a swamp causing the kids to be really muddy. They have ordered new wood chips to help but they aren't sure when it will arrive.
- **Book Fair:** Mme Pollock has received communication from scholastic about having an online book fair. They would charge shipping for items under \$40. She's also worried about another "ask" for families and whether she should promote it. She'd like to know how the PAC feels about it. Sarah suggested that it go forward and families can ship their books to the school. PAC can help sort everything.
- **FSAs** start tomorrow and go to the 26th (Grade 4s and 7s). It will happen gradually a little at a time, not a big test all at once.

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- Saleema Noon: Emails went out recently. There was a link on it to receive login information for the parent work shop. Everyone will be sent the access the week of March 1st. The meeting will be via Zoom. It will be done differently within the classrooms this year as students will stay in their class and Saleema will direct the subject matter to the lowest grade in the division with the exception of the Grade 6s who will join the Grade 7s. Sarah asked if anyone has tried the link as she has heard from some parents that it doesn't work. One parent tried the link and it doesn't work. Sarah advised that she will look into it and make sure it's working for parents.
- Health and Safety: We've had two exposures of COVID at the school since the last PAC meeting. It was our first experience with them. We took our guidance from the District and Vancouver Coastal Health. It went very smoothly because the process has been streamlined since the start of the year. We were pretty confident in how thorough the process was. Part of the process is that deep cleaning happens in spaces where there might have been exposure. This was all taken care of before kids came back to school on Tuesday. Some parents were concerned about whether their child's class was affected. Sarah advised that there are three separate letters that get sent out in these scenarios. There will be one email to the whole school, another to the specific classroom and a third to those who may have been in contact.
- New health guidelines: The new guidelines don't apply to the elementary schools with the exception of increased mask wearing for adults. Increased mask wearing for students is encouraged and new signs are up around the school letting kids know they are allowed to wear them everywhere. Sarah and Ms Johnson reviewed the health guidelines including the checklists provided to be sure the school is doing everything required. They followed this up with extra training and discussions with Teachers. The Admin team is still really confident with how things are being handled in the school.
- Parent Question: The HVAC is being upgraded with the seismic upgrades but in the meantime is there a way for parents to contribute room size HEPA air filters to classrooms. Sarah: They received an email about ventilation in the schools. Sarah will look for it and advise. Sarah thinks the district will say it's unnecessary as windows are open often and that assists with ventilation.

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- Parent question: With the upcoming seismic upgrades is there a chance for the PAC kitchen to get a facelift as well? Sarah will bring this to Rachael. Sarah advised that they have already done some small cosmetic changes to the school like new paint in the office and bathrooms. They won't do everything though as it will all be damaged when the seismic upgrades start. Now that the District has committed to the upgrades Whiteside is starting to get the facelift it has needed for a long time.
- Dance workshop: The school is going forward with it and it will be done via Zoom after spring break. All divisions will do five classes over zoom and a final video will be put together by the company.

5. PAC Exec Reports

Co Chair (Diana):

Masks were dropped off at school to be sold for \$10 each. Students can go to the office to purchase them.

We'd like to give back to the students this year, is there any Spirit Days coming up that PAC can organize something to do for the students. Sarah will talk to Rachael.

Secretary (Erin): No updates.

6. Treasurer Report - Diana (for Jaylene)

- No changes, same as last month.
- How should we pay for Saleema Noon? Sarah will have Sowon send us the request and the invoice.

7. Fundraising - CC / Sandeep, Fundraising Coordinator

- Absent

8. Hot lunch - Diana, Hot lunch Coordinator

- No updates.

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9. **RDPA** - Diana, RDPA Representative

- The RDPA is thinking of paying for BCCPAC memberships for next year if they haven't spent their budget by then.
- They will also pay for someone from each school to take the Food Safe course over Zoom if anyone is interested.

10. **Other:**

- Brandi: What is the plan for Grade 7 Grad? Sarah isn't sure, it hasn't come up at meetings yet. She will talk with the Grade 7 teachers to see what they are thinking.

<p><u>Next PAC Meeting:</u> April 21st, 2021</p>
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