

Date: 8 October 2024	Site: DLG Library	Start Time:	6:00	PM
Co-Chairs: Scally C. / Ashley H.	Recorder: Ajay Pathak	End Time:	7:36	PM

Membership	Role	In Attendance?
Ashley Hansen	Co-chair	Y
Scally Chu	Co-chair	Y
Herman Chan	Treasurer	Y
Kathleen Pathak	Co-Secretary	N
Ajay Pathak	Co-secretary	Y
Shandelle Skaley	Former Co-chair	N
Jonathan Weresch	Principal (Non-voting member)	Y
Susan Worthington	Vice Principal (Non-voting member)	N
Other members or participants	Sign-in sheet was put on table	
Next Meeting	5 November 2024	

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm|Musqueam, Skwxwú7mesh|Squamish Nation & səliłwətaʔ |Tseil-Waututh Nation.

Welcome And Introduction - (Scally / Ashley)

- Advised group that a sign-in sheet was being circulated for required sign in of all attendees.
- Roundtable introductions
- Motion to add an additional role the PAC Executive focused on Digital Communications and update and maintenance of the PAC website. Want to better utilize the PAC website for communications with parents.
 - Motion raised by Scally to add a position to the PAC and voting will take place at the next meeting.
 - Manninagh has put her name forward for the role.
- District PAC update:
 - The DPAC chair (Melanie Cheng) would like to visit our PAC. We will email her a few of our meeting dates and hopefully she will find a time that works for her to come to our school to meet us.
 - Their next DPAC meeting is tomorrow, 8 October 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Approval of June and September Meeting Minutes

- June meeting minutes
 - Ajay made a motion to approve the June minutes.
 - Ashley seconded the motion.
 - Vote to approve the minutes – Approved.
- September meeting minutes
 - Ashley made a motion to approve the September minutes.
 - Ajay seconded the motion.
 - Vote to approve the minutes – Approved.

Principal and Vice Principal Updates

Principal Update – Jonathan Weresch

Vice Principal Update – Susan Worthington – Unable to attend and sends her regrets

5 items to update:

1. Fire Drill
 - September fire drill went very well; actually the best school experience he has had.
2. Meet the Teacher week
 - Hope it went well but have not heard much feedback about it.
 - It wasn't across the board as it appears that some teachers chose not to do it as it is no longer a VSB expectation. It was dependent on the teacher.
 - Teachers do however have the expectation to have conferences with parents (twice a year) and three reports issued with updates (report cards).
 - Suggestion – open house for students to bring their parents to the school and show around the classroom and where they will be learning.
3. Orange shirt day
 - Assembly on Friday afternoon – Trying to have all drills / assemblies on Friday afternoons.
 - Since there's reduced concentration by end of week, we'll be focusing on community building, but also having more community voice.
 - Two videos were played showing the children voices around reconciliation.
4. Terry Fox Run
 - Student led event / assembly as well.
5. Doing something as district (VSB)
 - Professional Learning Community (PLC)- interschool collaboration of teachers. Being partnered with five to six other schools and working with other teachers on projects they are passionate about. Great way for teachers to learn from each other.

Questions:

Q: Assemblies – PAC wanted to take on something for Reconciliation Day, but it became complicated. It is being noted that in the past 5 years at DLG, Indigenous teachers keep rotating though, and not much in the way of teaching cultural heritage or practices was being undertaken. What is there that we can do to further share cultures? We have had issues with racism directed at Indigenous and African Canadian students. How can we work together to change the culture at DLG?

A: When it comes to teaching these subjects, hopefully we will be seeing more teaching as schools are mandated to bring items like indigenous teachings into all of their teachings, in all subjects. Teachers are afraid to talk about it and teach it as they don't want to get it wrong. There is also a shortage of resources and there is a lot of vetted resources (by the specific culture) that we can use to ensure the content is correct. And like to address inappropriate or uninformed behaviour in smaller groups, rather than in a larger assembly or group setting.

There are resources / books that can be used, like books to help explain the issues to younger kids and explains it in a way that the children can better understand the impact of what they are doing or saying.

Financial Update (Herman / Scally)

- Financial reports
 - Open balance - \$9,258
 - Cash in:
 - PAC donation from last year - \$1,180
 - Hot lunch from last year - \$7,582
 - Frozen from last year - \$1,317
 - Shop funds from last year - \$1,000
 - Cash outs:
 - Stop cheque for staff appreciate lunch - \$10
 - Science Fair Poster - \$54.85
 - Movie event pre-purchase - \$260.56
 - Coffee cups - \$5.60
 - Hot lunch – \$538.58
 - Outstanding cheques which have not been deposited yet.
 - Payment for playground plaque.
 - Purchase / donation of a fridge for lunches for
 - Gaming grant closing balance after last year student count came in - \$12,2294
- Teachers' discretionary funds
 - Thinking of doing this now instead of the end of the year:
 - 18 teachers - \$150
 - 4 resource teachers - \$75
 - 2 speciality teachers (only 1 since there is no music teacher yet) - \$75
 - Ashley made a motion to provide the discretionary fund now.
 - Ajay seconded the motion.
 - Vote to approve the minutes – Approved.
- Purchase hand squeeze whistles
 - Electric hand whistles (sanitary) - \$26.99 each and purchased 16 (13 teachers said yes, 2 resource teachers, and 1 for supervision) = \$480. Can be used in the gym for sporting events / classes or outside at recess, and even for field trips.
 - Can using the gaming grant to make this purchase.
 - Herman made a motion to purchase the 16 whistles at \$26.99.
 - Ajay seconded the motion.
 - Vote to approve the minutes – Approved.
- Reimburse Ms. Chow on soccer socks and shin guards and gloves
 - Approximately \$322.29. Equipment will come back to the school again for next year.
 - Can use the gaming grant to make this purchase.
 - Ashley made a motion to provide the reimbursement to Ms. Chow \$322.29.
 - Jen seconded the motion.
 - Vote to approve the minutes – Approved.

Holiday / Winter Fundraisers

Month	Event	Notes/Comments
November	ShopFunds holiday gift cards	Platform is setup and finalizing the dates with PAC and the assembly team. It will then be sent out in the weekly newsletter. Gift cards are being done twice a year.
	Purdy's holiday chocolate	Platform is setup and finalizing the dates with PAC and the assembly team. It will then be sent out in the weekly newsletter. You will go in and register a proper email and then select your classroom (division) and make your order. Purdy's is only being sent over the holidays.
	Mitchell's Soup Co.	Savoury option

Events

Date	Event	Notes/Comments
24 October 2024 @ 5:00 pm Movie starts @ 5:30 pm	Halloween Movie Night	The pre-order form has been sent out – hot dog theme. There will be cookies, chips, and snack. Free event. And parents are to be there with their children. Encanto is being suggested as the movie. If you want to volunteer, happy to come and help.
	School event calendar	Previous listed school events. Need to collaborate with the admins to list the events that are happening on the PAC calendar, so everyone is informed on all events.

Walkie Talkies

Concerns around walkie talkies have come up. Previously support staff who help the students with special needs and other students who need assistance. There have been issues brought up to the PAC regarding the use of walkie talkies. It used to be communicated using private, encrypted WhatsApp chats.

Issues raised include:

- FIPPA (privacy)
- Not encrypted - anyone with a frequency device can use the school channel and hear all communications.
- There are no written records. Should an investigation occur, there is nothing documented. This affects staff protection and information requests from families.
- Walkie Talkies are prone to device malfunctions
- They cause disruption and are hard to hear among the other noise. This also disrupts the rest of the class or can cause unease for siblings.
- Lack of adherence to trauma informed practice. Some students could have come from war torn countries, negative involvement with police or FCSS, and walkie talkies can be a trigger.
- Physical dangers as they can be removed off the support worker and become a danger to the student, worker or others.
- Impact on trust between parents and school.

What has prompted the change and why are reverting to such an open and archaic system?

Suggestion – can we go back to what we had?

- SSA's are not using names or initials, but rather saying that they themselves need support in a specific location, and do not describe the situation. Only time they will describe is if a child leaves / elope the building and then there will be more communication about what is being worn or what they are wearing.
- When a child elopes, children like being chased so it makes it harder. Kids are quite fast. We take the fun away and triangulate and communicate, so that they can stop the child from running away from the school and rather have them run back to the school.
- Had a child flop to the ground on purpose and the support staff had no way of contacting (were a substitute) and didn't know what to do and got worried. Tried to help the child up and got hurt, and now a workers compensation issue. If they had some assistance, they would not have gotten hurt.
- Not all support staff have the phones / watches for communicating.
- Walkie talkies are more effective, and the biggest issue is privacy, and this is being worked on.
- Biggest concern is that others in this neighbourhood can hear / intrude into the communications within the school.

Q: There is a change in practice, has it been changed by the VSB or internal?

A: Not VSB driven but other schools are using this.

Q: is WhatsApp being used on personal devices?

A: That is also an issue that these communications are being sent over personal phones, so are also breaking privacy and is an issue. So, need to come up with a solution that is more secure.

1. Teams has a walkie talkie app. 'Signal' app can be used – it is VSB approved. There are other ways.
2. Secure communication is key. Maybe earpieces?
3. A large concern is that there was no communication to families about the change and no reassurances made.
4. Discussions will continue.

PAC meetings are the first Tuesday of each month

- 2024: 5 November, 3 December
- 2025: 7 January, 4 February, 4 March, 1 April, 6 May, 3 June (Annual General Meeting)

Please feel free to email the PAC at any time at: Pac.dlg@gmail.com.

Adjourn meeting

- Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM