

***We acknowledge that we are on the shared traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples and the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations... and for this we are thankful.***

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*Date:* January 13, 2021

*Location:* Zoom

*\*\*\*Time:* 6:35 - 7:50 pm

*Exec attending:* Ian, Lucy, Michelle, Ryan, Juciane, Ryan *Absent:* Andrea, Holly

\*24 in attendance

### **Direct Appeal**

Ian (chair)

- Goal was \$30,000 to modernize the rest of the classrooms (projector, AppleTV, bluetooth speaker, and some other small tech & installation)
- was a 3 year project starting last year (did 7 classrooms last year)
- **RESULT: RAISED - \$30,300!!!!**
- \$7,000 from PAC moving budget items around
- parent donations - averaged \$20-\$1,000 per family
- Special thank you to parents who own Pacific Blue Storage - donated \$10,000!
- Still were able to do holiday gift cards and cards for all staff from the parents; wrote names on the cards & we distributed to each (\$25 gift card to each 75 staff members)
- hope next year fundraising can be focussed on team building and community events - pandemic vaccine dependent
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### **Budget Overview**

Juciane (treasurer)

- PAC cheque \$7,732 to school for modernization
- Budget for general account has changed a little - at end of year will be left with \$5,500 in cash for the next school year (cover back to school BBQ etc)
- PAC accomplished every goal set this year
- Pizza lunch funds (except refunded amounts) went towards modernization;\*note: no more funds in our account for refunds (thank you to Anna Kim who worked really hard to assist with donations/refunds in addition to bringing pizza day to the school)
- Gaming account is the same as last meeting - waiting for Sean to advise what he wants to do with the funds in this account
- A couple of expenses still question marks in fundraising - eg. Funfest
- See Financial Report on the PAC website

## Support the school by working with the PAC

- Some parents want to help by volunteering
- Invite parents to attend the next PAC Exec meeting set for 7pm on January 26, 2021 on zoom \*if curious/have questions/interested
- Need a new DPAC representative as well as new PAC executive members and members at large
- Lucy joined PAC exec this way this year as vice-chair - started with an interest in active transport petition re: Comox Street
- Ian will send out an invitation (w/out zoom link) and invite parents to reach out if interested in attending

## Principal Q&A

Sean (principal)

- Inside the school looks pretty much like normal
- Sean shared some photos of the inside of the school for our information since we can't go in anymore - showing student art on the walls - so colourful and imaginative

## Staffing

- New special educational assistant and in process of hiring new resource teacher
- Still not enough employees/teachers on call so resource teachers are having to step in to cover absences; used to have a few retired teachers
- District has constraints - not enough people and there is more absent due to quarantine etc. - trying to cover other schools with more distance learning; also trying to keep teachers on call in same quadrant and not mix up due to covid parameters
- Lucy brought up the loss of teachers due to inability to be in person and the need to have all hands on deck to cover absences and resulting lack of special education support
- District funding assisted with this situation? Sean confirms that there is a lack of trained candidates in BC and the hiring process ensures the hiring of the right fit and not just anyone; also teachers on call choose when they work and are not full time available for coverage
- English language learning support is really taking a hit
- Ian wonders what Admin thinks could be helpful regarding advocacy by PAC and parents to assist with this issue - for years principals have had to step in to cover absences even pre-covid with covid highlighting the issue (maybe due to previous contract issue that has since been sorted out)
- Note: teaching is a unionized scenario and hiring is a very sophisticated procedure

## Covid

- There was a Dec 30, 2020 covid exposure letter that was sent as soon as notified
- Earlier decision re: cohorts and materials (shared now after hands washed); now confirmed okay with Ministry of Health
- Big classrooms where kids are distanced and have other rooms smaller and oddly shaped and having to do best with this
- Avoiding seating situations where students are facing each other but some classes are in paired arrangements to allow all students to see the smart board and more students back to in class instruction
- Difficult to decide how much information to give to parents in addition to giving students a clear understanding of why/what
- VCH is reporting very minimal transmission in school between students that are bringing back to homes; root seems to be more into school from community (parents give to student and student attends school) - overall pretty safe environment
- Navigating student needs for connection and covid safety within classrooms and outside at break times
- VCH isn't as concerned about outside stuff being touched/things being shared
- Down to 40 students at home - 580 in class instruction
- Will make one last appeal for students who may want to come back
- Lucy brought up how other province is requiring students from grade 1 up to wear masks and perplexed why not in BC? Sean confirms grade 6 & 7 must wear masks which has taken a bit of work to ensure (library, hallways, outside - but not in classrooms)

## WeChoo\$e winnings

- No progress yet; planning to get a committee set up with older kids asap to decide what to do with the funds
- Need to engage whole school with the committee leading it - many roles for students to take in the process; maybe leadership will come from MYP students (grade 6/7)

## Canopies

- Teachers were signed up but too much
- If parents volunteer need a VSB staff at the same time - working on this so a parent sign up sheet can go out - try to get special ed assistant to assist
- kindergarten students have too little space under the undercover area and could use the canopies

## Photo Day

- District currently under direction to postpone it - no plan for rescheduling at this time
- Likely no individual photos this year but may be able to do a class photo - tbd
- Other districts have gotten individual photos taken so Sean will look into the possibility
- Need someone to take the photo (or camera so no outsider in the school) - a parent volunteered on the meeting - may do them outside
- PAC will ask DPAC how this is being handled in other schools & will assist in any way

Monday is a Pro-D day  
Report Cards are coming out soon

Pick up & Drop off issues

- Lucy brings up the issues are still live due to drivers especially on rainy days - heard from City of Vancouver?
- Sean confirms that it is time to follow up with City now to get momentum going again re: bike lane changes - Lucy to remind Sean to reconnect with the person overseeing this especially as we have indicated a possible solution
- 1 days work with curb extruder machine but likely some consultation needed first
- VPD confirms traffic drop off issues at every school but solving issues on at least one street then great

ADJOURNED at 7:50pm