

***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:* March 10, 2021

*Location:* Zoom

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

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

\*33 in attendance

Guest - Trustee Reddy

### **Chat in Zoom**

Ian - chat is being run differently this meeting - only to Ian (chair), Ryan (co-host) and Andrea (past-chair) - so we can all have one conversation (like in person); audio is still available; if have questions put them in chat and attention will be given to them

### **PAC Updates**

Ian - introduce current PAC Exec

\*note: there is an open position DPAC Rep and always welcome Members at Large

Kindness - difficult conversations and asks that we all encourage kindness

### **Accessibility Win!**

Celebrating Mahtab Mohammadi and Rose!

Mahtab did some amazing work advocating for the change to accessibility on the Roberts playground; so far just allowing wheelchairs access to the playground; still more work to do with accessible equipment; PAC acknowledged this blind spot and ask for parent involvement to assist Mahtab with ongoing changes that could be made to Roberts for students with disabilities

Sean advises that a swing has been ordered - a big swing that is more like a boat so the student can get on with their friends and promotes inclusion; at a District level issue

Roberts has been issues with our indoor stair lifts - issues with changes in structure of grants; now; must apply at the beginning of the year in the budget now and having something fixed during the school year and funded is difficult to navigate; want the education minister to get involved to solve this now province wide issue

## **Budget Vote**

- Budget avail on website
- Great financial position & ensuring that a budget is ready for next year and ensuring that there will be enough funds for all back to school events for the next PAC exec

## MOTION

- Repurpose \$1,500 fun fest budget line moved into merchandise so PAC can purchase all necessary colour shirts for orange, pink and sports day and hoodies
- Ryan prepared a poll
- Amber called for the vote and Lucy seconded it - more than 90 percent - 18 yes, 1 no and 1 abstain - PASSED

## **School Streets Pilot (City of Vancouver pilot project)**

A City of Vancouver pilot project across 5 schools to test and learn in an effort to improve safety at School drop offs and pickups; Roberts chose to participate because over the years parents and community have indicated Comox is not safe; too congested and traffic is terrible; parents would like to walk/cycle but don't feel currently safe for kids

- Pilot will run Apr 12 to May 7 (4 weeks)
- Comox (Bidwell to Cardero closed) 8:30-9:15am and 2:30-3:30pm
- 2 streets bordering the school still available for those that would like to drive - Bidwell and Pendrell
- To park - a block or two away; go to meter parking and permit spots rather than designated areas to allow for those with mobility and time issues to get in and out fast and safe
- PAC will communicate with emails and notices and create an FAQ page linking to City of Vancouver info site and map will be created by CoV and PAC
- CoV is working on a solution for persons with mobility issues in the meantime consider leaving the pick up/drop off zones for those families
- For info, feedback, ideas and to help:
  - PAC - Ian - [chair@lordrobertspac.ca](mailto:chair@lordrobertspac.ca)
  - CoV - [activeschooltravel@vancouver.ca](mailto:activeschooltravel@vancouver.ca)
- PAC does not have capacity to fill volunteer spots long term (4-6 people 2x per day every day school is open) is ultimately interested in safe bike lane
- Volunteers will be coordinated through PAC website - Sandy is working on it

PAC Exec acknowledges our own blind spots and privilege with persons with disabilities and people of colour and other matters not yet in our view; so asked Trustee Reddy to speak due to her deep understanding and research into the issue.

### **Guest - Trustee Jennifer Reddy**

- 3rd year as a trustee;
- Works hard to recognize who is not at the table and who could be better served if they had a voice at the table
- Issue is on the minds of the Vancouver School Board
- Budget process is important to understand - covid has shifted budget planning - eg. outdoor learning spaces; ventilation in classrooms; how covid is affecting students and staff - April 6, 2021 is the next and last time that public can have input into the budget - if you want to contribute must put in name to speak by March 31; note: PAC can have a voice through district pac or school liaison if missed the March 31 deadline;
- Land Sale - accessing legal recourse for VSB to protect land once it's sold to prevent it from being further privatized - add a restrictive covenant;

### **School Liaison Officer Program**

- 2500 petitioners and letters came in asking for removal - students, staff, parents and members of public
- 1st vote was immediate removal of VPD in 17 high schools (and elementary feeder school) and 1 RCMP - did not pass
- 2nd motion to review the process did pass
- The review was just made public last Wednesday
- 2 forums held - speakers spoke after reading the review - personal experiences and general questions/concerns
- Meetings can be viewed at:

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLlwEF7ely9u5TvW\\_i73-7p8tukWfKVfD6](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLlwEF7ely9u5TvW_i73-7p8tukWfKVfD6)

- VSB acknowledges limits in balanced view and votes with current representation holding seats as well and welcomes other perspectives and experiences
- Submissions are closed now but VSB always welcomes input
- \*note: there is one more public committee meeting on April 7, 2021 so if want voice heard contact VSB now and before then
- \*final decision to be made on Monday, April 26, 2021 - agenda will be available and public the Friday before; meeting will be public on youtube in real time;
- Mix of negative experiences with the program directly and the system at large on and off school property - the review though was done with students in school and one negative experience was a student with an SLO
- Reddy is unsure how the decision will be communicated to the public but minutes will be available after the May 7 meeting as the board needs to approve the minutes; Reddy will take this away and attempt to provide more info before the end of May public disclosure
- Reddy will share the link to the actual review and PAC will provide to community

## Q&A

Sean/Amarit

- SLO - currently when an event happens at Roberts a violent event risk assessment is conducted- counsellor, principal and SLO work together through Safer School protocol to assess the threat and how to respond to it
- COVID19 - detailed map of Vancouver shows our area has higher amount; Roberts has had a number of exposure incidents - typically someone in family/relative gets sick and then student is isolated by VCH; if student then falls sick shortly thereafter it is considered time prior could have been infectious and less risks being taken (eg. if anyone was in the exposed class for more than 15 minutes being asked to self-isolate);
- MASS MEETING/MASKS - still hearing from parents about the issue with mass meeting after school and no masks on the school ground - Sean will now send out a message to all parent community and a message on the PA to start
- VIRTUAL VOICES - Two different speech language pathologists on site - 2 non-verbal students currently attending Roberts - came up with virtual voices using devices to communicate with each other and has a positive impact on inclusion and community (uses symbol picture selection or a typing option and the device voices what is being communicated) - 9 students currently using these devices
- WE CHOOSE - in process of recruiting 100 intermediate students that are going to help go through the ideas, proposals and voting processes virtually with student population; this way the students are involved in the whole process
- PHOTOS - do the class photos outdoors - after Spring Break in nicer weather; parents will get a heads up - in May likely - go with low cost developing so we don't have to charge for it;
- GRADE 7 GRAD Ceremony - to look the same as last year - no in person available
- CLASS PHOTOS - in May - outdoors - going with cheaper printing so don't have to charge for them; PAC to assist with the roll out
- PLAYGROUND - can PAC help? The swing Roberts is getting is amazing; need to look into what is possible; PAC can research what could be helpful for the field
- GARDEN PLOTS - bigger garden is used in Edible Education Program with Brent; planters in the front was a class project a few years ago - Amarit will look into if teacher is still there and working on it and planters are falling apart

- DOGS ON GROUNDS - VSB property and not sure what the agreement was and the authorities on enforcing the agreement; school is owned by school board and a shared use agreement in place; signs were put up by Parks Board and previous PAC got involved and ended up in media; note: Animal Control has authority over school grounds
- AMARIT shared photos and is working on a way to extend the photos out to the greater Roberts community

8:10 pm adjourned