

KITSILANO SECONDARY SCHOOL 09/10
 PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) MEETING MINUTES 07

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

13 April 2010

PRESENT:

- Chris Atkinson, Principal
- Executive members:** Lisa Herrera, Mary Chipman, Cathy Goodban, Anne DeWolfe, Andrew Larigakis
- 13 PAC members total** (refer to sign-in book)

Location: 3rd Floor Staff Room, 7:30 pm

	Minutes	Action
7.01	Agenda tabled. Adopted.	Info
7.02	Minutes of last meeting: Item 6.04 from previous meeting carried over. Motion: "PAC to send a letter to the VSB and Provincial Government expressing concern regarding the budget shortfall and its effect on students and staff." -Motion to adopt the Minutes of the last meeting. Seconded. Carried.	Info
7.03	Principal's Report – Chris Atkinson -VSB Preliminary Budget has indicated an \$18.1 million budget shortfall for next year. -all stakeholder groups affected -currently 92% of VSB's budget goes to salaries -93% of funding comes from the Provincial Government. -on Tuesday, April 20th at 7:00 pm there will be an Budget Precess Meeting at Mount Pleasant Elementary to discuss the budget cuts. Parents' voices are listened to and make an impact and parents are encouraged to attend the Open House. -the 2010 /2011 Preliminary Budget Proposals can be viewed at: http://www.vsb.bc.ca/sites/default/files/publication-files/2010-11%20Preliminary%20Budget%20Proposals_Report.pdf -some proposed cuts include: -eliminating band and strings programs in Elementary Schools -reduction (by 11.4) to number of specialist consultants to School Board -reduction to number of student psychologists (from 12 to 10) -reduction to number of teachers (43 non-enrolling teachers to be cut across the District) -reduction (by 4) to number of multi-cultural assistants -reducing instructional supplies -Secondary School Vice-Principles to spend more time in classrooms -reduction to number of department heads -reduction to offerings in Continuing and International Education -reduce transportation costs including for special education -reduce heating -outbuilding closures -suspension of all interior painting for one year -reduce school days by 10 (savings of \$1 million) by: -adding 5 days to spring break -adding 4 four-day weekends -extending Fridays by 80 minutes	Info

	<p>-extending other days by 8 minutes per day new school hours would be:</p> <p>8:35-11:40 morning 11:40-12:25 lunch 12:25-3:07 afternoon</p> <p>-teachers at Kits generally support the proposed schedule (but not the other cuts)</p>	
7.04	<p>-parents suggested that the VSB should look at other modified school years in other places, including other countries like France. -what sort of school calendar makes the most sense from an educational perspective?</p>	Info
7.05	<p>-as per Item 6.04 above, PAC will come up with a letter to the Ministry of Education requesting full funding for schools. A copy of the letter will go out on KitsPAC E-News and a copy will be sent to DPAC.</p>	Mary
7.06	Teacher's Report – no teacher present	Info
7.07	<p>DPAC Report – Anne DeWolfe -Saturday, April 17th is the date for the BCPAC AGM. Changes are being proposed to BCPAC's Constitution and By-laws. Changes include those relating to the election of the Board of Directors, an area where BCPAC has experienced some problems. Anne supports the changes and requests that the Kits PAC endorse a proxy vote for our DPAC representative.</p> <p>Motion: "Kits PAC moves to provide a proxy vote to our DPAC representative for the upcoming BCPAC AGM". Seconded. Carried.</p> <p>-a \$10.00 /year /per class transit pass is being proposed by TripEd for field trips.</p> <p>Motion: "Kits PAC supports in principle the TripEd transit pass proposal." Seconded. Carried.</p>	Info
7.08	<p>Treasurer's Report – Cathy Goodban -approximately \$4,000 remains in Gaming Account. -balance in Admin account is \$12,485.86 -we have raised approximately \$15,000 so far through KitsNOW (including the \$5,000 in earmarked funds)</p>	Info
7.09	<p>-Lisa Herrera has investigated setting up a PayPal account to receive donations to KitsNOW. Found that it is relatively simple to do. PayPal charges a 2.9% transaction fees on accounts of less than \$3000 per month. If PAC can demonstrate that it has status as a non-profit group, we would be eligible for a lower rate.</p> <p>Motion: "KitsPAC moves that we set up a PayPal account as soon as possible to accept donations for KitsNOW." Seconded. Carried.</p>	Info Lisa
7.10	<p>-Mary Chipman is working on setting up a Kits parents Facebook site -Kits students and alumni already have Facebooks sites.</p>	Info
7.11	<p>KSPT Report (School Renewal / Seismic Upgrade) – Jean Gordon -two community representatives have now been added to the KSPT and they will continue to be involved. Their input has been useful and respectful. -the Open House last month was well-attended with about 175 people coming to view the proposals.</p>	Info

	<p>-many people thought the VSB should have a closer look at Option A. -as a result the VSB is costing an option A2 which has a similar layout to Option A but only retains the 1927 façade. -some felt that this was another variation on Option D with the pieces behind the façade simply re-arranged. -Jean stated that in all the school renewal projects she is familiar with in Vancouver, the issue of temporary accommodation for students is highly problematic and not well addressed. Given that so many schools are undergoing this upgrade process, it seems that this issue should be better addressed by the VSB on a district-wide basis. Schools should not be forced to accept less than satisfactory designs because of the failure to properly address these short-term issues.</p> <p>Motion: "Kits PAC moves to support the stated position of the PAC Representatives which is: 'costing of Option A should include the structure (as shown on the drawings). As well they should shift the Gym areas to the West to allow the Tech Wing to be used as swing space to reduce the number of portables and phases (or other creative strategies to reduce phasing) – lets call it Option A-3'. This proposal in no way reflects an approach to the development of outdoor space." Seconded. Carried.</p>	
7.12	<p>Call for PAC Executive nominations -the next PAC meeting, on Wednesday, May 19th, is the AGM. -parents are encouraged to nominate someone or run for a PAC executive position. -at the AGM there will be a presentation relating to upcoming automobile drivers.</p>	Info
7.13	<p>-concern was expressed about the lack again this year of a School Growth Planning Day in which parents could participate. Traditionally at Kits this day took place on April 1st but has not occurred now for two years running. The School Growth Plan is very important to the School and parents wish to be engaged. -the Principal stated that the only day of five professional days available for this event would have the "Principal's Day" and he had found out too late about the Kits approach to incorporate such a day into the calendar. The School Growth Plan is being looked at closely with the parent representatives on the School Planning Council. -the School Planning Council will report to the PAC at the AGM.</p>	Info
7.14	<p>-parents wished to know more about this year's plans for Grad and the Dry AfterGrad. -Charlie Kirkley has again this year volunteered to help organize After Grad.</p>	Info

End of Minutes to meeting of 13 April 2010