

PRESENT:

- School: Alex Grant, Principal; Karen Coflin, teacher
- PAC Executive: James Burton, Jacqueline Stoeckler-Sihvonen, Mary Chipman, Andrew Larigakis,
- PAC Members: Larry A. Bengé, Gwyneth Edgecumbe, Suzanne Pozer, Sharel Akizuki, Randy Sharp, Thomas Winkler, Barbara Parkin, Elene Vanderpas.

Minutes by Andrew Larigakis – PAC Secretary

Location: 3rd Floor Staff Room - Kitsilano Secondary School

	MINUTES	
1.00	Developments over summer discussed	Info
1.01	-James Burton reported that no letter went out to the VSB as was discussed at the PAC AGM in May. Because of ongoing discussions amongst the Kitsilano School Renewal-Seismic Mitigation Committee (KSMC) and a lack of consensus regarding the two proposed alternative options, - 1) retaining the façades of the old classroom block and, 2) re-purposing the old classroom block - no letter went out.	Info
1.02	-James provided some background on the VSB process to parents attending a meeting for the first time, including a discussion of the Phase One Feasibility Report and the “Least Cost Option” process. -James asserted that the Phase One Feasibility Report is done for the purpose of establishing a budget for work to be done and does not represent design options to choose from for the renewal and seismic upgrade of the school. Alex Grant affirmed that this view of the Feasibility Report is essentially correct. -James stated that the KSMC was concerned that the new school would not have all the facilities (eg. Auditorium and adequate gym space), or as much space as we currently have in the school. It was felt that even the current space overall that we have in the school is not adequate.	Info
1.03	-Jacqueline Stoeckler-Sihvonen reported on her recent activities as a member of Committee Two for the District PAC Executive (DPAC). -She suggested that the school can advocate for additional funding on the basis of Kits School being a “Neighbourhood Hub”. Activities such as the ongoing night school and the close connection between the school and Community Centre support this designation. -She noted that there were no Secondary Schools in the recently announced “Pilot Project” by the provincial government. -Jacqueline also noted that there has been a “shift in tone” from the VSB and that there appeared to be more cooperation at DPAC. -she reported that a “Stop Order” has been placed on the “swapping of lands” and that there would not be any transfer of provincial school lands until further notice. -Jacqueline reported that DPAC had been informed that there may be re-costing of some proposals in light of new developments in seismic upgrade techniques that utilize a new polymer. -Gwyneth Edgecumbe questioned whether this did not then make	Info

	previous costing and the Feasibility Report obsolete.	
1.04	-Alex Grant reported that Chris Kelly had stated that the VSB is preparing an Educational Facilities Review (EFR) for the whole remaining areas of the city (not including west of Dunbar – in previous EFR) and that there would be no second, third and fourth EFRs addressing different areas of town. -Alex did not feel that the EFR would delay the plan for school renewal – seismic mitigation in the works for Kits.	Info
2.00	Preparation for the Open House discussed	Info
2.01	-it was agreed that a handout needed to be prepared for parents and others summarizing the process to date. No volunteers were designated to undertake this task. -James to delegate this task	Info James
2.02	-Larry Benge suggested that the Open House might be run by the PAC with the VSB presentation being one component. He did not feel that the Open House format as he knows it allows for sufficient discussion. - Alex felt that the VSB would not accede to this proposal since the PAC holds no responsibility for the final project.	Info
2.03	-Alex also stated that the budgetary process could be changing and that the Pilot Project may affect area calculations.	Info
2.04	-Karen Coflin stated that she understood that the VSB would present us with a budget based on the Least Cost Option.	Info
2.05	-Jacqueline felt it was important to know the distance (in cost) between what we want and the Least Cost Option.	Info
2.06	-Alex stated that the normal process is that the Province puts up money, and that money is supplemented to a greater or lesser extent by other sources like the School District.	Info
2.07	-Alex stated that with the current funding formula we have now, we could potentially have an auditorium but that the space for it would have to come out of allocations for other spaces including the size of classrooms. This was not viewed as a satisfactory trade-off. -Kits can make the argument that other schools in the Pilot Project have made regarding the additional services that the school buildings provide, ie. Night School, Community School, connection to Community Centre, Neighbourhood Hub, etc. in our petition for floor space beyond the current Ministry standards.	Info
2.08	-it was agreed that a meeting would take place between Alex and some PAC representatives to review current area allocations. Larry requested to be in attendance.	Alex/ Larry/ James
2.09	-Andrew Larigakis asked for examples of what Kitsilano could be designated a “hub” for with respect to the policy of “Neighbourhoods of Learning”.	Info
2.10	-Suzanne Pozer suggested French Immersion as one example and Alex cited “Healthy Lifestyles”, including athletic programs, as another. -Alex said that some schools have special music programs but he thought all schools should have a good music program.	Info
2.11	-Jacqueline and Gwyneth suggested that Kits could become a hub for academic excellence. -Gwyneth also stated that she hoped all employees of the education system involved in these decisions would ask themselves if the community hub/expanded mandate directives favoured quality in education, and would	Info

	<p>speaking up against the concepts if they didn't.</p>	
2.12	<p>-Andrew felt that all schools should be and probably were aiming for academic excellence.</p> <p>-Gwyneth stated that our community would continue to expect that academic standards compatible with university prep be maintained.</p>	Info
2.13	<p>-Gwyneth suggested that Kits could have an International Baccalaureate (IB) Program.</p> <p>-She has observed that we lose some strong students to IB programmes.</p>	Info
2.14	<p>-Karen felt she represented the teachers views in stating that their desire was that Kitsilano be geared to providing a good quality "Comprehensive" education.</p>	Info
3.01	<p>-it was generally agreed that a meeting with the VSB be requested to discuss the format of the Open House and arrange for PAC participation. Alex offered to call and arrange for this meeting.</p>	Alex
3.02	<p>-it was stated that time was required for advertising and notification for the Open House.</p> <p>-Jacqueline noted that we have not received a specific date for the Open House but that the VSB has said it will likely be around October 23rd.</p> <p>-Gwyneth noted that scheduling issues can sometimes derail this type of initiative. Her suggestion was that the VSB be asked, in preparation for an Open House, how the event would be publicized and when/how would parents whose children attend feeder schools and neighbourhood pre-schools be notified.</p>	Info Action (Jacqueline?)

End of Minutes to meeting of September 25th, 2008