



**Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2016**

Meeting Highlights: *We discussed parent education; budget cuts and PAC advocacy; seismic upgrades; and PAC expenditures. Major funding projects from last year include the new library furniture and this month's front hallway mural project. Proposed projects for this year were introduced, including iPads, music class supplies, and school-wide lessons like Hip-Hop.*

Welcome

Round of introductions.

September 2016 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve September 2016 minutes: Cara. Seconded: Parisa. Approved.

Co-Chair report - Judy and Andrew

Parent Education: This was a parent priority put forth at the September meeting. Selena Noon's team (discussing sexual health) is booked for a parent night on February 21 at 6:30 to 8pm. If you can speak to parents, or know someone who could, please research preliminary information (topic, availability, cost) and then let PAC know. Potential topics of interest could include child development, psychology, or social media. VPD does free presentations; Michelle planned to follow up. BCTF also has a list of speakers. PAC can also continue to coordinate with other nearby PACs to advertise/share costs.

Library: The meeting was held in the library to view the new furniture, which PAC funded last year. Students love it. Library access hours have been extended compared to last year. There are not currently any preschool- or community-based programs using the library; any such programs would have to be organized by someone other than school staff.

Lunchtime Programs: The gym is now open at lunch, and possibly available for fee-based programs such as yoga or martial arts. Anyone who has a program idea and would like to organize it can contact the PAC.

Mural Project: The front hallway mural is happening this month. Children have been introduced to the artists (same artists from the Tupper mural) and will start painting October 13. All classes have scheduled times, and children are welcome to come at lunch and after school. Judy has sourced four red cedar benches and two tables for entryway furniture. The mural will have a seasons theme with local animals and nature. There will be a community gathering in the new year to celebrate the mural and our multicultural school (including media, neighbours, etc.).

Seismic Upgrade: Livingstone is officially on VSB's plan for upgrades and is #18 on the list. In the VSB capital plan, we are scheduled to begin the process in 2018-2019. However, timing will depend on Provincial approval and funding, and is still subject to change.

Advocacy: PAC executive has been supporting local groups (e.g. PAN Parent Advocacy Network <http://www.panvancouver.ca/>) that advocate for stable and secure funding of public education. If parents would like PAC to do more, a sub-committee could take this on. Class reps will send out the link to a survey by the Select Standing Committee on Finance, which helps direct spending priorities for the provincial government. Attendees at the District PAC seminar on Advocacy 101 will report back to PAC next month.

Class Reps: We are still seeking a class rep for division 2. Reps send emails to parents from the PAC, and from teachers who are not online.

Expenditures: The PAC has approximately \$16,000 available to spend (\$10,000 in the general account, and \$6,200 in the Gaming Grant). Teacher requests (as vetted by Mr. Mitzel) to date:

- ten iPad Air 2: \$6,500
- desktop computer replacements for Library: up to \$1,000
- aboriginal supplies (e.g. drums): up to \$1,000
- science supplies: \$500
- microscopes: \$1,500
- music class supplies: \$2,500
- Hip Hop: \$1,600 to \$3,200 from Gaming Grant
- week long lessons (e.g. tennis, ballet, gymnastics, martial arts): up to \$3,000 from Gaming Grant

The items were discussed and met with a favourable response. A formal vote was deferred to November.

Treasurer's Report - Helena

Lennie reviewed the Treasurer's report dated October 2016. The balance in the general account was \$56,580.96 (much of this is already committed). The Gaming Grant balance was \$1,998.64.

Motion to approve treasurer's report: Cara. Seconded: Jessica. Approved.

Motion to approve adding Vanessa Lobel, Judy McLaren, and Jodie Siu as cheque signatories for PAC general account: Cara. Seconded: Jessica. Approved.

Principal's Report – Darren

Team Sports: Cross country team has their final next week. Volleyball will be next.

Rainy Day Plan: On rainy day lunchtimes, games will be in the gym rather than in the hallways this year. Older kids will volunteer to help younger kids.

Office 365: Every student has their own Office 365 account (for access to Word, Powerpoint, Excel, etc.). Microsoft now has a server in Canada to alleviate privacy concerns. Each student has a six digit code to login at www.vsb.bc.ca. This works on all devices in school and from home.

Budget Cuts: The school budget was cut 20% last year, and more cuts are coming. One impact involves make-up prep. Teachers are given 100 minutes a week to do prep work. If their prep time falls on a holiday or ProD day, they have to make it up on another day. There is no longer a budget to hire teachers on call to supervise classes while teachers do prep work, so Mr. Mitzel is doing it. He is trying to make it educational!

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm. Next meeting: November 9, 2016 in staff room.