

ÉCOLE ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL
PAC MINUTES
Monday, November 7th, 2016

Attendance: Mr. Brandt, Mr. Genge, Melody Eng, Terry Vincelli, Laura Lovison-Perkins, Tony Wong, Janice Chiem, Lina Basso, Elizabeth Cheung, Dan Funaro, Sherry Zhao and a few more new faces (we apologize, we didn't get your names)

Regrets: Giselle Patella, Angela Dasovic, Laura Curran-Burdan, Lina Silvestre, Ivana Gauw, Jillian Chateaufneuf

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- Melody welcomed everyone to the meeting followed by round the table introductions.
- October Minutes – motion was made by Melody to approve minutes, Dan seconded, all in favour - motion passed.
- November Agenda - motion was made by Melody to approve the agenda, Terry seconded, all in favour – motion passed.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Kevin

- Kevin welcomed everyone.
- Construction update:
 - New school is emerging
 - Excavator arrived at school today
 - Asbestos being removed (different components separated and some will be used as a fill for parking lot).
 - Will bring plans to next PAC meeting
 - Will be getting a second computer lab (powerful computer lab – CAD, video, etc. Working with the District to make it happen).
 - Looking at prospect of updating field
 - Staff and students have been adaptable during renovations.
- Visited all elementary schools in catchment. All are very excited.
- Will be doing literacy assessments for kids in spring.
- Meeting with Tech Ed teachers from BCIT. BCIT Teachers in training require 130 hours experience. Looking at partnering up with them.
- VEX IQ robots.
- Want to make Alpha the school students want to go to, events and activities.
- Mr. Genge was looking for feedback on Parent Teacher night:
 - Chi wasn't aware that you could book multiple teachers at one time.
 - Janice mentioned that some parents (grade 8 in particular) were not aware of the parent teacher interview format. Maybe this can be communicated for the next time.

- Elizabeth said it was a bit confusing as to where the teachers were (i.e., gym, cafeteria). If parents were offered their location at time of booking appointments (parents could better navigate their bookings).
- Signage could be improved by having directional signage at all entrance points.
- Lina said that the student greeters were great, very helpful.
- Junior Boys Soccer team is going to regional finals.
- Sports are underway.
- Report cards coming home on November 22nd.
- Very saddened by event that took place at Abbotsford high school. Spoke with staff and students about the importance of being vigilant. Procedures are in place to keep students safe (upcoming fire drill & lockdown drill)
- Spanish teacher needs to be hired. Mrs. DiNunzio will be moving in to LSS position.
- CNCE router and Laser cutter have been ordered for Tech Ed department.
- Cafeteria Caters have had a positive response. Good quality for relatively good price. Lots of healthy options available. Sherry asked if allergies have been taking into account. Kevin wasn't 100% sure but felt items would be clearly labelled.

TREASURER' S REPORT

- Treasurer's Report was emailed in advance of meeting. See report for financial details.
- \$20,430.00 was received from the Gaming Grant.
- SPC Fundraiser brought in \$110.00 net
- November 27th is the deadline for Purdy's Chocolate orders. Tony needs a couple of volunteers to help sort out orders prior to 3pm pickup.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Melody shared the open PAC positions with us: ELL Rep, Vice Chairperson & Fundraising.
- Asked what the school policy is on drugs and DIP (chewing Tabaco), smoking VAPs
 - Kevin hasn't noticed it as a problem but would watch for it. Seems to be a decrease in the number of kids that smoke.
- Asked about Collab time. Are students being supervised? Some students feel that there are discrepancies and some classes are not being offered the same experiences as others.
 - Kevin said yes they are being supervised. His expectation is that there would be consistency amongst the classes. He said they would look into this. Deb Rizzo handles the Peer tutors.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Nothing to report.

CLASS REP REPORTS

- Grade 8 – Sherry said there is a group of grade 8 students who show interest in wanting to join the Robotics club. She understands that this group is for students in grade 10 thru 12. What can they do to create a junior group?
 - Kevin will look into this and see what can be done.
- Grade 9 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 10 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 11 – Nothing to report.
- Grade 12 – Nothing to report.

DPAC

- Nothing to report at this time.

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR DPAC FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DPAC, SD41 AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Burnaby DPAC Contact: info@burnabydpac.com

Burnaby DPAC Website: <http://www.burnabydpac.com/>

Burnaby DPAC Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BurnabyDPAC>

SPC (School Planning Council)

- SPC is no longer. However, working on developing school goals to present to PAC.
- Maybe 1 goal for next month.
- Literacy, Social & Emotional and Numeracy
- Will be conducting a survey re: social and emotional then put a plan in place.
- Important to have accountable items
- Critical to work with students who are disengaged.

FUNDRAISING

- Other fundraisers will be Purdy's Chocolates at Christmas and ongoing Return It Bottle Recycling at Kitchener location.

DRY GRAD

- Venue has been booked at "The Metro" in New Westminster to follow the Grad dinner dance. 72% in favour of this venue.
- Raffle will be held in New Year.
- Committee looking to break even. Surpluses vary year to year.

COMMUNITY POLICE

- Angela was not able to make tonight's PAC meeting. She will update us at the next meeting.
- If you have any concerns, or you see something that's not right or suspicious, please report it to the community office or call 911 (always report, staffing is based around this).

OTHER BUSINESS

- Possible Presentation ideas:
 - Darren Laur, a former Police officer discusses online safety. There has been an increase in online incidents. Presentation is a full day broken into a two-hour presentation for 3 groups (gr 8-9, gr 10-12 and for parents). It's been well received at other schools. Cost is approximately \$2000.00. Looking at dates in the New Year. Will come back to PAC and see if they want to be involved.
 - Human Library was suggested as well. Alpha held this a few years ago and students really enjoyed themselves. Colleen Alstad (retired Alpha librarian) brought this to Alpha.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:02 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES OF INTEREST

- November 8th – Term 1 ends
- November 9th – Term 2 starts
 - Collab Day
- November 10th – Remembrance Day Assembly
- November 11th – Remembrance Day (no classes)
- November 15th – Post Secondary Information Night 6-8:00pm
- November 16th – Collab Day
- November 17th – 11:30am SFU
- November 22nd – Term 1 Report Cards Issued
- November 23rd – Collab Day
- November 25th – District Pro-D Day (no classes)

NEXT PAC EXECUTIVE MEETING:

Monday, December 5th, 6:00 PM in the Conference Room near the Counsellors area