

DRAFT - Norma Rose Point PAC Meeting Minutes

Date: November 7, 2017

Location: NRP Library

AGENDA

Approval of October 2017 PAC AGM Minutes

PAC Chair Report

Financial Report

Committee Reports

Staff Report

Guest Speaker: Joash Johannes Gambarage

PAC Executive in attendance: Sharon Yu (Chair), Kelli Kadokawa (Co-Secretary), Wendy Yip (Co-Secretary), Donghong Liu (Volunteer Coordinator); Julie Wang (Communication Chair); Rachel Wu (VSB DPAC Representative); Ray Duan (Co-Treasurer)

PAC members in attendance: Marilena K., Derek P., Csilla T., Angie D., Julia H., Tom W., Melanie H., Congru R.

School Admin & Staff in Attendance:

Rosa Fazio (Principal), Karen Noel-Bentley (Vice Principal), Pamela Hansen (Salish Sea, Grade 8)

Call to Order: 6:34pm

Greetings and acknowledgement that we live and work on the traditional lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Coast Salish People.

Approval of Oct AGM minutes

<p>Motion: Rachel Wu moved to approve the minutes from the October AGM. Csilla seconded. All in favor, motion passed.</p>
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PAC Chair Report - Sharon

- A big thank you to all the parents who contributed to the Staff Lunch last month. There was food for days!
- Book Drive: NRP is still in need of books for students age 7-12 in particular.
 - Magazines are also fine
 - Qijuning posted on the UNA website so the whole community knows.
- PAC website has had some updates, including new tabs
 - The “Join Us” tab is where you can sign up to volunteer. There are several opportunities, including Lunch Volunteer, helping to organize the Lost & Found, to helping in the NRP Library. You can also volunteer to serve on a PAC committee, including the Social Events Committee and the Parent Education Committee.
 - The “Parent Resources” tab has links to BC’s Curriculum, the school calendar, and other useful parent links. A handy FAQ section for the BC Curriculum will be added shortly.
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Financial Report - Sharon

- The PAC Executive is working on a more transparent reporting system and will

have a full financial update in December.

- The PAC reached its goal (\$25,000) for the Direct Appeal and raised \$25, 135.
- We received the Gaming Grant, \$15,000, which can only be spent on extracurricular items.

Motion: To “borrow” \$10,000 from the general account for direct appeal purchases. Funds will be put back to the general account once PAC receives Direct Appeal check from the VSB. Csilla moved to approve. Rachel seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Motion: To approve the proposed Gaming Grant expenses of \$15,000. Julie moved to approve. Angie seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Sports Jerseys	\$1,400.00
Table clothes for board games	\$200.00
Rainy day board games	\$2,300.00
Clubs/Competitions	\$1,500.00
School Flags/Branding	\$2,000.00
Sports Equipment	\$2,000.00
Graduation Ceremony	\$1,000.00
Gr. 8 Game Referees	\$1,000.00
Playground maintenance	\$3,600.00
	\$15,000.00

Lunch Committee - Sharon

- December hot lunch ordering opens November 12.

Parent Education Committee - Julie

- The Parent Education Committee is working on 3 projects:
 - Parent Resource tab on the PAC website
 - Parent Conversation Group
 - Parent Book Group - parents gather to read children’s literature so they are able to talk with their children about topics including cultural identity, bullying, and anxiety.

Social Events

- Multicultural Day is coming up in February. This is an event for K-5 students to explore. The grade 6-8 students will participate by volunteering.

Action: Parents are encouraged to volunteer and share their culture at Multicultural Day. Sign up under the “Join Us” tab on the PAC website: <https://nrppac.wordpress.com/>

Staff Report - Rosa and Karen

- Assembly on anti-bullying
 - Discussion included different types of conflict and standing up for what is right.
 - Burger King video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mnKPEsbTo9s>
- NRP App
 - You can now receive community notifications
 - Contacts > choose your child's community > choose your child's community again > click on the "bell" icon located on the right bottom corner > toggle to receive notifications.
- Kindergarten Info Night, November 15, a "Ready, Set, Learn" event.
- Using Devices effectively
 - Middle school students are encouraged to bring their own device. Preferably a tablet or laptop.
 - There are limited tablets available per community and throughout the school
 - For example, for the Grade 8 community, there are over 100 students but only 24 iPads.
 - One parent does not wish to send her child to school with a device.
 - This is optional, and the school will provide a device for students who do not bring one.
- Grade 8 teachers are using Fresh Grade with students. The next step is to invite parents to join. Fresh Grade is a well-established program and free.
- Grade 8 reading: Pam said they just finished a set of historical fantasy books and will move on to issues-related books and dystopia-themed novels.
- PAC viewed the NRP promotional video.
- Curriculum questions were raised after the last PAC meeting and during the Parent Education Committee meeting including:
 - How can parents know what is being taught - challenges with communicating with parents as we no longer have Edsby.
 - Inquiry based learning
 - Parent info sessions
 - Core competencies - in the older grades, it is easier to integrate core competencies - guided reading groups aren't necessary for this age group.
 - Individualized learning - Rosa pointed out that individualized learning focuses only on the level of ability and groups only on that. Rather, NRP personalizes learning, and allows for passion projects.
- Report cards are not required for application to mini schools.
- Rosa is happy to answer questions at a Friday Parent session - to be scheduled.

Guest Speaker: Joash Johannes Gambarage

Joash is a PhD student at UBC in the linguistics department. He comes from Tanzania and is here with his family while he pursues graduate studies. Joash joined us to share his story about the Mugeta Children's School and the "Friends of Mugeta" relationship NRP has been in for the last 5 years.

Joash helped to start the Mugeta Children's School in Tanzania in Eastern Africa as a way to give back to the community where he grew up. Mugeta started out with 15 children back in 2012, but in 5 years has grown to over 200 children, 10 teachers, a cook, and an accountant. They started out in a small one-room building but have been able to expand into larger facilities with proper washrooms. In the beginning, children were enticed to join the school with sweet porridge.

Since 2012, NRP School has raised over \$4000 for Mugeta. There is a need for teaching resources and school supplies, including backpacks, water bottles, pencils and crayons. The NRP Staff is organizing a babysitting night to raise money. It is their goal to GO BIG and be able to send adequate teaching resources by December and a backpack for every child by March.

The best part of the story is that of the 15 original students, 10 went on to complete the national grade 7 exam - they all passed with A's and B's, which means they can continue on to government-funded schooling, and two were even accepted into special programs. (Five of the 15 had moved away before exams.)

Meeting adjourned: 8:12pm

Next PAC meeting: Tuesday, December 5, 6:30 - 7:30pm. All are welcome, babysitting will be provided.