

Norma Rose Point PAC Meeting Minutes

Date: January 16, 2018

Location: NRP Library

AGENDA

Approval of December 2017 PAC Minutes

PAC Chair Report

Committee Reports

Financial Report

Staff Report

New Items

PAC Executive in attendance: Sharon Yu (Chair), Kelli Kadokawa (Co-Secretary), Julie Wang (Communication Chair); Beth Krisciunas (Lunch Committee Chair), Wendy Yip (Co-Secretary), Rob Peregoodoff (Member at Large)

Parents in attendance: Csilla Tamas, Ivy Guo, Lily Li, Julia Han, Qiuning Wang, Sathish Gopalakrishnan, Fariba Hafezi

School Admin & Staff in attendance:

Rosa Fazio (Principal), Sarah Welton (School Counsellor)

Call to Order: 6:36pm

Greetings and acknowledgement that we live and work on the traditional lands of the Musqueam People.

Approval of December PAC meeting minutes

<p>Motion: To approve the minutes from the December PAC meeting. Rob P. moved to approve, Beth K. seconded. All in favor, motion passed.</p>

PAC Chair Report - Sharon

- Lunch Policy is on the PAC website, and will be sent to parents.

Committee Reports

- Lunch committee update
 - Ordering for February lunches will be available starting January 25.
 - Beth is working on a new mechanism to deal with lunches ordered when the student will be away on a field trip.
 - Beth will ask to send a note to students regarding instances when the student has not ordered a lunch but is expecting one. Teachers will be asked to add this reminder to the students' agendas.
- Parent Conversation Group will meet on February 2 with a focus on bullying. Pink Shirt Day is February 28.
- Events committee update
 - 11 booths are confirmed for Multicultural Day
 - The K-5 students will attend and the middle school students will volunteer. Each class will have 40 minutes to explore the booths.
 - Dance teams participating: Korean dancers will perform in the morning, Chinese dancers will perform twice in the afternoon.

- Spring Fair is scheduled for May 11. Four large rides/games have been ordered, and handmade games will be organized.

Financial Report

- Bank Balance: \$64,780 in general acct
 - Payable to Lunch Vendor: \$28,060
 - Gaming Grant: \$4,375/\$15,000 spent
 - Direct Appeal: \$8,224/\$25,000 spent
 - PAC Exec. Discretionary Exp: \$403/\$2,500 spent
 - Other Budgeted Items: \$3,410/\$11,770 spent
- Fundraising at NRP is kept to a minimum with initiatives like Helping Hands, the Direct Appeal, and the hot lunch program (10% profit). Sharon thanked all the parents and volunteers for their generosity. NRP is very fortunate; there are other schools that don't have the means to fundraise.
- Pac2Pac Fund
 - Rob Peregoodoff, DPAC Chair and NRP PAC Member at Large, discussed the idea of the Pac2Pac Fund whereby the PAC donate funds from a discretionary funds account (non-gaming) direct to the Vancouver School Board Finance Officer for dispersal to a school PAC within the VSB that is determined by the administration of the school and the VSB to be in need of assistance.

First Motion to approve: Norma Rose Point Parent Advisory Council (PAC) will transfer funds from a discretionary funds account (non-gaming fund) direct to the Vancouver School Board Financial Officer for dispersal to a school PAC within the VSB that is determined by the administration of the school and the VSB to be in need of assistance. Beth K. moved to approve, Sathish G. seconded. All in favor, motioned passed.

- Conditions
 1. funds must be accepted by a functioning PAC (as evidenced by 1. elected officers 2. published minutes of previous meeting 3. published financial statement)
 - 1.1 in the case of a school selected not having a functioning PAC, VSB DPAC will support the establishment of the basic criteria. Failure to meet the basic criteria will result in another school being selected. Funds cannot be given to any school administration directly
 2. funds are to be utilized at the sole discretion of the receiving PAC in collaboration (ideally but not required) with school administration and teachers
 3. only the VSB and DPAC table officers will be aware of both the donating and recipient schools
 4. the DPAC chair will receive the summary of how the monies were spent, and is accountable to the donating schools after anonymizing pertinent information

Second Motion to approve: For the 2017/2018 school year, NRP PAC will donate \$1000 to the VSB/DPAC Pac2Pac Fund. Csilla T. moved to approve, Sathish G. seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

- Rationale: Public education is a system, and as a system is only as

strong as the weakest schools. It is also a system that is in need of change and innovation. In many cases changes and innovation are hampered by the realization that needed changes are not viable because not all of the schools within the VSB have the means of support, in many cases this comes in the form of PAC fundraising. By creating the Pac2Pac Fund, those school PACs that are not as fortunate in their ability to raise funds will be given some means of engaging and participating in the future that we all know is coming, and that public education is such a vital foundation for. A second rationale is to also create greater engagement at all of our schools by parents. It is hoped that this Pac2Pac Fund will be the spark that some school communities need to establish a PAC as per the school act.

- Where are the funds coming from? This year, funds will come from the discretionary funds account (non-gaming, non-direct appeal), which would be funds from the lunch program.
- Will the receiving PAC have to apply for this money? Money will be allocated via a lottery system.
- NRP PAC supports this initiative, but future NRP PACs do not need to continue this initiative. If they choose to continue, the amount donated/transferred can be changed at the discretion of the PAC.

Staff Report - Rosa and Sarah

- Rosa talked about bullying to the grade 5-8 communities and to some of the primary grades. There was also an assembly on bullying.
- Students said that they needed a way to share/get information without any overreaction.
 - A Tip Line for students is now available on the NRP app. Five tips have been received.
 - Concerns are not just about bullying. One tip: “I wish you would talk about depression, gender identity, self-acceptance and self-harming.”
 - Sarah mentioned that based on the students she is seeing, questions being asked on the tip line, mostly from the middle schoolers, the following topics are at the forefront:
 - Drugs and substance abuse
 - Sexuality and health
 - Gender identity / self-acceptance
 - Suicidal thoughts
 - Anxiety
 - Sarah is considering the best way to address these issues - outside experts, teachers.
 - There are different programs to address anxiety, feelings for younger kids, healthy relationships, consent over one’s own body...
 - Parents can choose whether to teach sexual health at home instead of kids being taught at school.
 - SOGI (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity) is currently a mandatory part of the BC curriculum. Parents do not have the right to withdraw kids from that topic. This is a BC Ministry mandate and must be taught in all schools, whether public or private.

- A lot of the curriculum is based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, which requires a certain cognitive level in older kids, but exposure at younger ages is also good to familiarize them.
- Ivan Coyote, who identifies as “they”, is a good storyteller. They spoke with the middle schoolers last year and has been asked back to speak again.
- Digital Citizenship
 - Sarah and Karen Noel Bentley went to first-level training on what kids are doing in social media. They are thinking about how to share and support parents in addressing this.
 - Ex.: There is an absence of restrictions for YouTube - how do we address this?
- As a counselor, Sarah has to tread carefully on how she can talk to a child if they come to see her with a problem. She can chat as a teacher, but if it veers into a counseling area, then she has to get parental consent (verbally to start is ok, but ultimately a signed form is required).
 - She asked for feedback on the idea of sending home a consent form for parents in September: the form would be sent in if the parents wanted to opt-out of having their child see Sarah as a counselor.

Meeting adjourned: 7:52pm

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