



Norma Rose Point PAC

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 08, 2021

Format: Zoom Meeting

Total Participants: 70 parents

School Admin & Staff in Attendance: Henry Peters (Principal) & Shannon Burke

1 - CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

2 - ADOPTION OF THIS AGENDA

Special meeting to address a Q&A with Mr. Peters about COVID-19 safety measures

3 - STAFF REPORT

Mr. Peters:

Some of the things that are different this year are perhaps more in what direction to go ahead with. it doesn't mean that we will implement things right away.

Some of the things that are the same, like:

- as we enter the school, we don't have staggered entry times, but we still have students coming in from outside at different locations,
- we still will practice hand washing, we will still have the same set of sanitization stations
- we will limit or try to limit traffic in the hallways
- One change for this year is we do not have students and learning cohorts or bubbles, but they are still in their communities (a structure of the school that has been successful for learning but also really successful for safety).
- examples of things that that the provincial health officer and the district have said, are okay to have conversations about moving forward:
- Big one for Pac would be something like hot lunch. So our district has not said no, that we can't do it. But it has said, have conversations with staff and your community as to possibilities for how that would look like. What would traffic look like in providing lunches.
- We still have strict requirements for all visitors entering the buildings are whether that parents and guardians or whether that's visitors such as dances, Directors and sports instructors there's still really strict and all staff will be wearing masks.
- All staff need to do a personal health check.
- we don't question people about vaccinations, but there are requirements for when you come into the building, you will need to sign in and you will something that's new as you will need to leave your phone number, which probably is for contact tracing, but we will keep that number for 45 days.
- the subtle difference is we can bring people in. That being said, we're practicing strict protocols and when those people come in what they can do.

- We are not still having large gatherings like whole school assemblies or even half school assemblies.
- We can start doing extracurricular sports, but we cannot have spectators.
- We can't have audiences for performances or assemblies.

6 – Q&A

Q: Update on how ventilation system has been improved:

A: NRP is a very new facility has a very up to date ventilation system | ventilation had minimal impact on whether it was better or worse | district reviewed 1000s of ventilation units | replaced in the 1000s of filters | Our school being new has a different kind of system | We have, we have large doors that open in every community to the outside | Our facilities person did talk about how the filters they talked about MERV 12 and Merv 13 | they went through all those specifics | key thing is that we recommend not bringing in non VSB equipment. | if people come to you with specific questions I could certainly ask facilities or operations about things | we're lucky that we have garage doors in every community, and when, for example three classes in a community open up their garage doors, we are able to spread out students throughout that space so that's an added bonus of this structure of this building and also we are still encouraged to be outside and to use outside as much as possible | ventilation is from the district and from a public health officer perspective | is low in the risk category as far as transmission of the virus | our ventilation system is started up every morning, two hours before anyone's in the building before students come in and that supposedly allows enough time to, to have an exchange of air throughout all the buildings | for parents information there the specific website page and VSB website, so about ventilation

Q: Would be good to find out how many times air exchanges per hour. In hospitals, but office setting, it has to be 3-5 times per hour.

A: I can ask | Herman who is our main engineer or head engineer | the settings for normal rose point are district settings which means he has minimal control

Q: Parent asked school to reconsider purchase of additional equipment on air quality, given it is being adopted by other schools (New West, Toronto etc.) – that could potentially be funded by parents

A: I am open to hearing what you have to say | another avenue that parents always have is go through PAC to our trustee | we could even have someone from facilities come out to, to talk to the parent group | I don't make decisions about, so many of these things are done at district level with, you know the spectrum of buildings | I will gladly pass on that information | idea to organize a r it's a PAC meeting or a special meeting

Shared articles about ventilation:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/COVID-19/updates/Pages/Ventilation.aspx>

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(21\)00869-2/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(21)00869-2/fulltext)

Q: Will there be any Grade 3/4 combined classes? If so, will masks be required in these classes?

A: Yes, there is a three, four, combined class. We encourage students in K to three where math, so perhaps in the conversation in that three four class, as, as a consensus the class may decide together with the teacher that they would all like to wear masks.

Q: Is there any way to request a transfer into a class only where masks is required.

A: Do we have the flexibility to move students, especially this week I couldn't answer that because we are still working on organizing the school in a sense that there has been a really large increase district wide of new students so we were told from the district and just be cautious and moving students to their this year's classes so from an organizational point. It may not be possible. From the COVID and parent concern point of view, I would absolutely consider it. I'm just not going to promise because I'm not sure what our numbers are quite yet.

Q: Do you have plans to guide children's activities in the classroom while keeping physical distance among them?

A: this year physical distancing is not a requirement. Teachers will be very aware of, of how to leave more space in their classrooms and to minimize physical contact, but physical distancing is a change from last year to this year so that not using that language this year

Q: Big talk how will physical education classes, be handled in particular with respect to mask requirements distancing in indoor slash outdoor activities.

A: So once again, physical activity. There aren't specifics but there were constantly rigorous activities. Dance as an example, they will be asked to wear masks and that as far as distant distancing. | I'm thinking PE and gym activities will look very similar to what they did last year. There, you will still see combinations of students wearing masks and not wearing masks. | We were told that the health considerations, from a breathing, and managing your oxygen intake over would override the the COVID concern so in some cases, you have to ensure that children are able to breathe as well. | When you're doing PE and rigorous activities you also have to monitor students well being as far as heat, and being able to breathe and taking breaks and taking water drinks.

Q: Could you please speak to how contact tracing/exposure notifications work in the event there's a confirmed covid case at the school if children from across grades are interacting on the playground or in other areas of the school?

We would reach out to the district because I can't give you an answer. Last year, as a school we were not contacted by Vancouver coastal health once about either COVID confirmed cases and or doing contact tracing. We would follow the district procedures and following up at school, and communicating that out to our parent community. We would follow a protocol of how we communicate then.

Q: One more question, I understand, there are no more school level notifications of exposure, being issued

A: there is a specific protocol to be followed if it happens, which involves communication.

Q: I was late for the meeting. Please forgive me if this question had been asked. I just wonder, are NRP teachers and staff required to provide their vaccine record (e.g., done with 2 shots, 1 shot)? How about the students (12 years old)who are eligible for getting the vaccine?

A: We do not have specific information about that | No, they're not required to provide their vaccine record. | the only language was our district health and safety meeting was the recommendation to get vaccinated, but there was, there was no language about being required to provide record or documentation.

Q: Are there going to be vaccine clinics this year for grade 6? Not COVID, other vaccines

A: As soon as we have information on it, we'll send it out.

Q: Could you speak to how the kindergarten children be encouraged to wear masks?

A: I am not I am not sure what conversations will happen or when or how they will look. | I would encourage the parent group to reach out to the trustees as well | I'm not sure how that conversation is occurring in kindergarten classes, but I'll keep my ears open to see how it is being talked about. Okay.

Q: Will there be music class for grades 2, 6 & 7?

A: Yes. My answer would be yes but it may be from now till December, or it may be from January to June.

Q: How student-to-teacher assignment is done for G1? Is there a district/VSB protocol that you follow?

A: Yeah, there are specific numbers | So we have to look at the profile of students, and the number of students, some real basic numbers in kindergarten, the maximum number is 20 grades 123 It's 24. | Those are guiding numbers and then we, depending on whether it's a combined class, the numbers are smaller, or intermediate if you have a combined class, the maximum can be eight.

Q: Can you please speak to how substitute/on-call teachers will be used this year? (Cohort model)?

A: We are still trying to limit support teachers, and prep teachers and how many different communities that teacher would be exposed to. But yeah, as a district that cohort model is issued an on call staff member could go.

Q: what does itinerant staff mean?

Ms Burke: Itinerant are District staff who support the school. Speech Language Pathologists, SWIS workers and translators, special needs support teachers etc. There are a number of types who support our classes.

Q: Is there any club running this term?

A: We're going to new will begin slowly and cautiously, we did talk to staff about having the opportunity to do that this year. But as of right now, we, we haven't started anything so if you were thinking like a fine arts club or a or a, after school cross country club.

Q: Does Grade 1 have a morning snack time? Or is it now rolled into recess and up to the child to manage their own time for recess/snack?

A: It really is dependent on the kids in the community. Grade 1 mainly learning how to manage their snack time.

Q: I think we PAC have purchased some large tents, do you have plans using them to have classes outside even in wet weather?

A: I think that's a good idea. I haven't specifically planned it | your teachers have I know the kindergartens talk about it because it helps them as they expand their classes right outside to the area.

Q: And if they want to come back to school, in the middle of the year, what would happen.

A: It depends on which choice they make. | if they were to choose the homeschooling option, then it's dependent on space. | if they wanted to switch from homeschool to coming to school, they would enquire and see if there's space in the grade. If they choose VLN as an option that's, that's for the year. So, they aren't able to come back, mid year but they're there in our enrollment for the following year.

Q: We have a question here. Is there a standardized communication mode, between teachers to parent for feedback.

A: the main communication can be made via the NRP APP, although each teacher adopts its own method as well (differs across communities). In cases where parent cannot install the App in their mobile there is a desktop version as well.

Q: Will the contact info (i.e.,)of NRP teacher/staff be available online for parents to reach out when needed?

A: It's under "Staff Directory" on the app

Final comments from Mr Peters (highlights):

- We want school to be meaningful
- focus on what is the things that are important
- We want them to come home saying: I like being with people I like problem solving
- sometimes we have to work through challenging conversations
- that's part of working together with you for your children's success
- I hope that you always feel that we are open to you
- but I just want you to know that we do want to work with you
- We want school to be a positive place
- we do care about all of your children and obviously we do care about all of you

7 – KEY ACTIONS REQUIRED FROM THIS MEETING

7.1 – School encourages Parents to address some district related concerns about COVID (like ventilation standards) directly to the Trustee. PAC can help to organize and facilitate such communication

7.2 – School is open to specific meetings to talk in more detail about Ventilation on its premises, also facilitated by the PAC.

8 - TERMINATION AND NEXT MEETING

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.
- The next PAC Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 21st September, 2021 @ 6:30am.