

**École Dr. Charles Best Secondary School
PAC Meeting Minutes
May 6th, 2024 7:00 pm**

In Attendance:

Graeme Illman
Kirby Ransom
Niloo Fowler
Heather Murphy
Pamela Chan

David White
Laila Atkins
Will Davis
Rosemary Brodt

Welcome & Introductions

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Niloo; seconded by Rosemary. Carried

Approval of Minutes from Previous PAC Meeting– March 4th, 2024

Moved by Laila; seconded by David. Carried

School Administration Update from Principal Heather Murphy:

Library alterations not started yet. It is supposed to be done this summer. Enrollment is the same as last year—1640 students. No out-of-catchment students, no new international students (only 12 still in the school). ELL (English Language Learners) are up: 90 this year. There will be two retirements, including Heather herself. A few temporary positions and leave of absences. There are not many postings as there are not many teachers available.

Europe trip – 36 students travelled to London, Paris, Rome & Barcelona over 13 days. Apart from a few problems, all went well and everyone had a good time. Next year's trip will be to Greece and Italy, open to Grade 11 & 12 students. Cost is approximately \$6800.

Athletics – Girls Rugby has finished, boys will be soon. Tennis players are doing well. June 4th will be the Awards Dinner. The music concert was very good; next one is June 12th.

Graduation is June 15th. The electronic sign, after 6 years, will (hopefully) be installed this summer.

June 21st is the last day of classes. It is the food truck day and Teacher Appreciation Lunch.

Questions regarding Grad and the dinner and dance, book club possibility.

This is Heather's last PAC meeting after her 6 years as Principal of Dr. Charles Best School. The PAC wishes to express their great appreciation of Heather's efforts especially during the difficult time of the COVID pandemic. After 39 years as a teacher, vice-principal and principal

of three high schools, Heather is finally retiring. She will be very much missed and all the present members of the PAC have expressed their great appreciation for all she has done for the school and its staff, parents and students.

PAC Finances (Niloo Fowler)

Gaming account: Balance is \$22,230. After we fulfill the remaining budget of \$16k, we will have \$6k available. \$33,000 grant is expected in the Gaming Account for next year.

General Fund: \$4k to be paid in scholarships.

DPAC (David White)

April 3rd, 2024 via Zoom

Only 3 secondary schools present. Special guests: Dave Sands, Principal of Technology Implementation SD43, Shannon Davies of Westcoast Family Centres.

Dave Sands spoke on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts & Mathematics) in the District. Program launched in October 2023 – STEAM team and Indigenous Education SD43. Emphasis on 4 competencies—critical and creative thinking, problem solving, collaborative working together. Kits delivered to schools, mainly for elementary, but some secondary schools have used them too.

Shannon Davies spoke on support for families and children and their community.

Programs: Family Preservation and Reunification Services, Parent Quest Program, Healthy Babies Program and Children with Special Needs Program. Also a program for young parents (25 years and younger with children 0-6 years).

April 24th, 2024 in the Education Learning Centre, 1080 Winslow Avenue, Coquitlam (adjacent to the Winslow Gallery Room).

Special Guest: Wendy Yu, District Principal on Anti-Racism.

Fairly new role, since July 1st. Visiting many schools, 26 teachers signed up with anti-racism learning. Diverse people encouraged to join district, training re: bias in hiring.

Family Learning Series May 9th. Next year a book club, student voice. Different thoughts and ideas about anti-racism. Wendy Yu can be invited to PAC meetings.

Proposed amendments to Constitution & Bylaws votes held.

Next meeting: AGM May 29th Elections for Executive. Nomination papers on the DPAC website.

After-event Report: 2024 Grade 11 Parent Dance Committee (Rosemary Brodt – chair)

Over \$11,000 was raised in the Parent Dinner Dance, including \$5000 in the silent auction. Parents needed for Grade 11 Dance next year. Newsletter suggested.

Grade 12 Parent After Grad Committee - looking good. Things are well organized.

New Business

Teacher Appreciation Lunch is set for Thursday, June 27th.

Next meeting in September. Date to be announced.

Motion to Adjourn made by Niloo; seconded by David.