

PAC MEETING MINUTES – Dr. CHARLES BEST SECONDARY

GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2021

7:30pm – ZOOM

In Attendance:

Chair: Will Davis

Vice Chair: Michele Danielov

Treasurer: Upasna Sharma

Heather Murphy (Principal)

Meg Torres

David Preddy

Lee Carswell

Ljiljana Oljaca

Melda Okucu

Miao Sun

Patrick Wang

Exec Member-at-large: Karen Heinrich

Exec Member-at-large: Graeme Illman

Secretary: Rhiannon Morris

Jennifer Bell-Irving

Karen Illman

Claire Wheeler

Patricia Navarro

Iyad Ataia

Alicia ?

Dongnan

7:55 pm Meeting called to order.

Introductions

Parents, PAC Executive, Principal Murphy

Adoption of March 15th, 2021 General PAC meeting minutes

Moved – David Preddy, 2nd – Graeme Illman. All in favour. Carried.

Adoption of April Agenda

Moved – Karen Heinrich, 2nd – David Preddy. All in favour. Carried

Principal's Report (Heather Murphy)

- There was a fire alarm situation last week. There was no immediate reason why the fire alarm went off, as there was no smoke and no fire. The control panel indicated that it was a pulled fire alarm but there were none that had been pulled. The fire department deduced it must have been a student who had pulled the alarm and returned it to its original state. After the fire department left, the maintenance staff discovered a system module which had shorted.
- There was also a fire in Mundy park on April 19th, unconfirmed reports say it was started by school kids.
- There has been an increase in garbage on the road around the school; the city comes to clean it up and the school may get charged for that. The neighbour that has reported it says it's not getting better. Garbage cans can't stay out because of bears, so the school is working on improving that situation.
- The students continue to try to do fundraising for various causes, including the food bank, autism, Gordon House, shelter for dogs, but it has been very difficult during Covid. HM comments on how impressed she is with the persistence of the students to keep trying.
- Charles Best took 40 international students in 2020/21 and is projected to have 60 international students next year, depending on covid.
- Course selection and schedule planning for next year is underway. The number of teachers will probably stay the same, except for four retirements.

- There was one exposure last week of Covid. The delay in contact tracing and notification causes issues, for example one student tested positive after an exposure on April 6th but a delay in official notification resulted in the letter requesting two weeks of self monitoring being sent out one day before the self monitoring period should end. HM reiterated that if kids don't feel well, they should simply stay at home, and if they feel unwell, they should be tested. HM asked Fraser Health if schools might be closed, but the response was no, because students aren't being infected at school, it is more usual that they are infected in the outside community.
- The recent Rogers system failure resulted in issues including no phone connections, leading to a delay in reaching people for contact tracing.
- Karen H mentioned an educational program she has come across, which teaches students aspects of drug management and how to administer naloxone. It hasn't been brought to HM's attention, so she doesn't know exactly what it is, but assumes it would be an online course.
- David P spoke to the DPAC chair regarding the future funding model going forward. There had been fears that the structure for schools receiving funding for courses was going to be changed. David P confirmed that the structure will not change so there won't be a reduction in any of the peripheral programs. The number of Charles Best student participants in arts programs has increased indicating there is strong support for the arts. Thanks to David P for pursuing this matter.
- WD asks is the new classroom module complete? HM says they are still fixing small items that were outstanding, but it is basically done.
- HM talked about paving and landscaping the outside areas; some areas are restricted as to what can be done because of potential runoff to natural waterways. Will D has suggestions around creating sustainable spaces where the grass doesn't grow but the ground can't be covered with asphalt because of the watershed. He suggests there are innovative solutions that can be applied to keep the watershed clean and conserve water for plants. Ideas will be shared.
- Every year the school retires old computers that are no longer functional and must invest in new equipment. HM is happy to report that the new replacement computers have arrived 😊

DPAC Report (Pilar Suarez Bastias)

- Pilar unable to join tonight. The AGM is coming up for DPAC where positions will be available.
- Pilar S has stated to the PAC that she will not be able to be the District PAC representative again next year.

Treasurer's Report (Upasna Sharma)

- No Treasurer's report was presented since there was no activity except \$40 donation to school account.
- Upasna S asked Heather M if the school intends to use the \$5,000 assigned for the Gym Floor cover. The covering would cost approximately \$20K and there are various logistical issues related to the installation and maintenance, including where to store it. The floor cover comes on big rollers which have to be situated on either side of the gym, and there isn't room. Discussion of other methods of storage but safety restrictions mean it's not possible. With so many considerations, the order hasn't been placed yet. Further, every eight years the floor can be torn up and replaced by the district, so every 3 years they could do a \$6,000 refinish instead of paying for the cover.
- Michelle D suggests that part of the \$5,000 gets used in this school year and part gets carried forward. Thus every year if \$2,000 is accumulated then a refinish can be done in the 3rd year.
- Heather M is not sure yet but will update the PAC exec near the end of June 2021 if she wishes the funds to be rolled over to the new school year.

- Heather M mentioned that the school sign has stopped working. Graeme I and Upasna S think that if HM can let PAC know the cost of repairing or replacing the sign, then PAC may be able to help.
- The Bank Balance on April 19 2021 is the following : PAC General Funds - \$15,078.18, PAC Gaming Funds - \$33,753.09
- Upasna S asked Heather M if she can start thinking about the wish list for the new school year as we approach the end of this school year. HM mentions the librarian is retiring and she has been instrumental in creating the wish lists and inspiring ideas in teachers to add to the wish list.

New Business

Grad 2022 Parent Committee – A Subcommittee of the PAC (Karen Heinrich).

- The spring flower fundraiser is going well but delivery may be delayed one week which would mean the pick-up date would be after Mothers’ Day.
- The 50/50 draw has been approved and is ready to launch.
- The golf event has sadly been cancelled by the golf course due to covid.
- Intercity food fundraiser will be in June.

Grad 2021 Parent Committee – A Subcommittee of the PAC (Will Davis and Karen Illman)

- The Sub-committee has been working well together. The survey has helped to direct the ideas.
- There will be a virtual grad which is being promoted well by students, including prizes etc. There will be a swag bag put together by HM supported by the sub-committee. There will be photo ops for students.
- A \$50 donation has been requested from grade 12 parents which is voluntary, in order to supplement the activities. There has been no cost of senior sail or dinner dance tickets, so the sub-committee is hoping this is successful.
- HM says this year they have designed a hoodie, but the kids were divided down the middle on which of two designs to use. They decided to use both designs, and they will also offer crew necks so there will be a big choice.
- The lawn signs are all underway after making sure that all the names and details are correct.

Other Business

- “Save Teens Lives” course asked about by Karen H will be looked into.
- The PAC needs to advertise next year’s PAC positions to be chosen at the AGM. Every position is available for nominations. A notice will be sent out to ask for volunteers for next year. Will and Michele are happy to continue, along with Upasna and Rhiannon. Pilar will be stepping down from the position of DPAC rep.
- The date for the AGM will be June 14th at 7:30pm

Next meeting May 17th 7:30pm

Motion to adjourn: Moved – Rhiannon, 2nd – Heather Murphy. All in favour. Carried.

9:10 pm Meeting adjourned.