

PAC Meeting – Fleetwood Park

Monday, April 24, 2023

Call to order: 7:04 pm by Rosie Pooni

In attendance:

Executive	
(To be filled)	Chair
Rosie Pooni	Vice Chair
Ken Hignel	Principal
Min Kim	Secretary
	Treasurer
Liang Yao	DPAC Rep
Esther Williams	Scholarship Liaison
Keri Gill	Dry Grad Liaison
Parents/Guardians	
Dashminder K. Shergill	
Sarbjee Sarai	
Ruta Kamat	
Rajesh Kamat	

Regrets: Devesh Dhangana

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the last PAC Meeting for February 2023 was distributed prior to the meeting. Esther motioned to approve the minutes and 2nd by Sarbjee.

Principal's Report:

<March>

- Held a Anti-racism school-wide virtual assembly at the beginning of March.
- Held a Spring Parent/Teacher Conference, using the Online booking system.
- Had a Locker clean up before Spring Break.
- Had a couple of weeks of Spring Break.
- Completed Interim report cards.

<April>

- Senior Math students had written the Euclid Math Challenge Exam.
- 2nd round of Mock Interviews; CLC G12 students interviewing CLE G10 students.
 - It was the first opportunity to develop some interview skills for many G10 students, also good skills for G12 students to develop around interviewing.
 - Set up in the Plaza, dressed up, prepared questions
- Had an interesting opportunity to meet with the architects in the project planning team about the future addition to FPPS.
 - Not at the planning blueprint stages yet, which means no final funding has been approved yet, but we were relieved to see the planning is moving forward – architects hired, initial thinking about where the addition would go, how many students would be accommodated, what that addition would contain.
 - Hoping for funding approval next year, then another 1~2 years of planning, 1~2 more years of construction are ahead.
- Continued articulation process with G7 parents with Tea & Tours; small group of 12 parents, informal chat. One more session coming up.
- Post COVID talk: how to renew important traditions and activities, re-establish the sense of connection in community, reintroduce wonderful traditions.
 - Career Education Department hosted a 2-day G9 Conference last week. Got excellent feedback from the students and presenters. (Delivering the G9 Careers curriculum has always been a challenge as it is not a Careers class, so this is a great way for doing that.)
 - Modern Language Department is going to be hosting DELF exams – International credential for languages. Students can use it for post-secondary all around the world.

<Upcoming Events>

- May 5, 2023 Non-Instructional day
- May 10, Humanities 8 Religions/Temple tour, in Social Studies curriculum
- Spring Musical Production starting from May 17, “Mean Girls”, first Canadian school to produce and perform
- May 26, Unveiling ceremony for the Welcome Post with Indigenous guests
 - May 13, Installation of the Post, then the Post will be covered until May 26
- May 29, Graduation Dinner & Dance, followed by Dry Grad

<Vice Principals>

- Ms. Kasha Duff: 4th year at Fleetwood Park Secondary (FPS), dream was to watch a group graduate, happy to watch a group of G8 grow up and get to know a core group of kids. A huge change having 3 Vice Principals from 2. Working with kids whose last name starts with Q to Z.
- Ms. Depinder Brar-Sidhu: Working with kids whose last name starts with A to E. 7th month at FPS as a VP. Started in 2009 in BASES Department, was a LST, and took a roll as an acting VP.
- Mr. Robert Dewinetz: The newest member at FPS, was a VP at Semiahmoo for 4 years. FPS has been very welcoming, and has been impressed by the way staff support for students.

<Planning Updates for next year>

- Expecting continued increased enrollment and growth over the summer. Our Best guess-estimate is around 1700+. We are around 1640~1650, so 50 more.

- Will have 4 more portables, not sure where.
- 2 goals in building the Timetable: avoid going to an extended schedule for 1 more year and not to divert any students. (FPS has a great reputation and the community is growing, so the enrollment pressure continues for us.)
- Mr. Hignell to be transferred to Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary after 6 years at FPS, with gratitudes from FPS families.
- New incoming principal, Ms. Jody Perry from Queen Elizabeth (currently VP), we hope to invite her to the next PAC meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

- PAC General Account \$ 2,823.31; a cheque from Surrey School recently deposited with the amount of \$396.00
- Gaming Account \$32,519.53; few cheques have been given out that are not cashed yet.
- Dry Grad Account : \$18,238.14
- Devesh wants to resign, but we hope for him to stay for one more month.

DPAC Report:

- Regular DPAC meeting is to be held this coming Wednesday.
- SOGI (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity) DPAC meeting attended by Esther
 - To promote acceptance of students of all types in the schools.
 - The presentation was generally natured.
 - Quite a few of the parents felt negatively about some aspects of the SOGI curriculum.
 - Unfortunately, it wasn't a productive meeting; Presenters not knowing enough specifics of the curriculum to answer the questions from parents, disappointments for parents, DPAC organizers, and the presenters as well.
 - It was a Zoom meeting and they couldn't get to the questions as there were so many of them, didn't cover any of pre-submitted questions. Those questions were to be covered by email, not done yet.
 - There are aspects of the SOGI curriculum that the dissenting parents would agree or disagree with, so it would be helpful to get parents who have concerns involved in examining the material so that they can get the feedback.
 - SOGI curriculum is embedded in every class and promoted around school, causing students to embrace diverse sexual/gender identities that they would not otherwise choose and encouraging them to choose non-traditional sexual/gender identities.
 - It is teaching that all sexual/gender identities are equally healthy and good to choose, not teaching any advantages of traditional marriages of identifying with their biological gender.
 - Some parents thought it should be taught at home as it is contrary to the values taught at home.
 - Most parents agreed that SOGI needs to teach that all people equally deserve respect regardless of their sexual choices and gender identity choices, but omitting the consequences of the choices is to mislead our children and harm them.
 - SOGI is for K to G12. It is very confusing in elementary schools.
- The chat was overwhelmingly vocal with not supporting parents.

- Principal's notes: It is a complicated, controversial subject with two very different points of view. SOGI is not a curriculum but a guide that supports our curriculum, has been developed by the Ministry, in our system at least 5 years, close to 10 years. The goal is to recognize the importance of safe, inclusive, welcoming environments for a LGBTQ community. It is delivered in both curricular and extracurricular activities such as Pride Week, bringing guest speakers, and highlights safety and inclusion for all. FPS is following the Ministry guidelines. We have a GSA club that helps to coordinate these initiatives and is supported by the school, District, and the Ministry. Acutely aware that this topic needs to be addressed with great care and deliberation. Open communication, answering questions, and highlighting the safety of all is a critical piece of our schooling.

Dry Grad Report:

- Survey shows 90% of students want to cover the cost of tickets instead of gifts.
- They still need to be aware of the fact that they should contribute the cost.
- Charging portion, at least half, otherwise there won't be accountability
- Have been cutting all the frills, but there are still going to be prizes to reward students for going for Dry Grad.
- Honda is not giving vehicles after 17 years, no dealerships are doing it anymore.
- We came to terms last year with the fact that we don't have to have a 30,000~40,000 budget.
- Admin is still working on when to sell the Dinner & Dance tickets. Most likely, will sell them at the same time.
- Gather at 4 pm, get ready (take pictures, etc.) by 4:30 pm, leave by 5 pm, get to the venue by 6 pm.
- Buses need to be booked well ahead.

Scholarship Report:

- \$1500 available (3 x\$500)
- Devesh to check if there are any cheques that have expired/not redeemed from last year.
- Esther will contact Peter Johal for his words for matching the scholarship amount.
- This is the last year PAC can give scholarships with Gaming funds as they don't allow it anymore as an expense.

Comments:

- It has been difficult for Rosie as she is the Chair for Dry Grad AND Vice Chair for PAC without a Chair.
- It is the last year for Rosie and Esther (Rosie can help next year's Dry Grad).
- FPS has a good reputation for the Principal, Vice Principals, LST teams. It is important to form a bond with teachers by approaching and introducing our kids.
- Teachers and admins are very helpful and supportive especially with struggling students/situations.
- The narrative of FPS is not about overcrowding and overcapacity, is about a kind, caring school that fosters excellence in all means of learning.
- Fantastic Music department, Athletics department, Math, Robotics, etc.

- Bringing Punjabi classes was an idea, but language teachers are hard to come by these days.
- We felt more the impact of the teacher shortages this year, often 0 candidates on posted out jobs.
- Curriculum is set by the Ministry.
- School should reflect the needs of the community.
- BAAE courses - speciality courses in particular areas such as coding, lab technologies.
- Graduate evolution courses are offered either locally developed or provincially authorised, needs to have student demands and teacher/school capacity.
- New G8 parents, the Kamats, introduced themselves and offered volunteering at PAC for next year which was welcomed.

Q&A / Suggestions: N/A

Meeting Adjourned: 7:48 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday June 6, 2023 at 7 pm in the Library / Learning Commons