



# Semiahmoo Trail Parent Advisory Council

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## PAC General Meeting Minutes Thursday December 21, 2023

**Attendees:** Sara Block, Rachael Marples, Vagmi Dholakia-Baxi, Fiona Fu, Sheri Hardcastle, Heather Neilson, Nina Hemmes, Karen Fadum, Katie Clark, Hye Seon Chang, Maulik Baxi, Megan Bane, Grace Kim, Zita Wang

**Meeting called to order at 9:05am**

### **Motion to Approve Agenda**

- 🌱 Motion Approved by 2: Nina Hemmes, Rachael Marples

### **Motion to Approve Previous Month's Meeting Minutes**

- 🌱 Motion Approved by 2: Sheri Hardcastle, Vagmi Baxi

## **Principal's Report and Updates - Karen Fadum**

### **🌱 Enrolment & Staffing**

- 459 Students
- Rachel Berry to teach Music/Primary Arts Education in January, will be good to have someone consistent
- New VP & IST - Jamie Lyn Hugh - Starts Jan. 8 - from South Surrey area
- Thanks and Goodbye to Ms. Clark - Going to Vancouver School District

### **🌱 Technology Use at School**

- Parents please reach out to teachers if you have concerns about tech use.
- Should be connected to curriculum when being used
- Teachers should be circulating to see screens when in use
- Guidelines (in Staff Handbook) for device use being checked up on
- Device should be assigned to specific student - traceable content for follow up if needed.

### **🌱 Snap Chat/Social Media - Technology at Home**

- Parents need to monitor/restrict/have open dialogue with their children about tech usage, educate themselves on the dangers of specific apps. ie. Snapchat/ Discord. Remind children that they control their digital space. Delete, unfriend or block are options that should be used in unhealthy conversations.

- Consistent conversations necessary as kids grow and have more access to social media. Group chats can be highly dangerous and out of control. Online predators can add themselves to chat threads and pose as kids using names that sound familiar.
- Kids don't understand the implications of certain emojis or photo sharing
- Digital Responsibility becoming very important - BCCPAC has a lot of resources [Raising Digitally Responsible Youth - A Parent's Guide](#)
- Sheri will share her key points PDF with Karen from ERASE workshop - info on Digital Tattoos/Snapchat/Instagram
- Parent should have an open dialogue with other parents about this topic, pass on any information/share resources that can help protect our children - Learn/know the platforms and how to navigate them
- Outside sources have come in to speak to higher grades (RCMP and SAFE SCHOOLS) about online safety, look into having them come again, perhaps speak to all students?
- Look into having the RCMP do a parent session, our Constable has a background as a childcare worker and has an understanding of relating to kids
- Fraser Health and Canadian Pediatric Society offer workshops on Mental Health and the link to addictions starting with social media. Process addiction starts with "likes" on social media - can lead to future addiction. 3M Model - Model, Monitor, Manage (Maulik)
- Research showing that 'Reels' potentially re-wiring young brains to need constant stimulation, affecting impulsivity, lowering attention spans (Nina)

#### **Crosswalk**

- Teachers are no longer allowed to monitor crosswalk, admin will go out as much as possible and continue to look for solutions
- Emails to the city have not been returned
- Supervisors not allowed to work off school property or outside school hours
- Look for Volunteers/Community Members? Nina will add to her neighbourhood chat.
- 8:10-8:40 am and 2:27-2:45pm

#### **Art Card Fundraiser**

- \$1600 Raised - Students surveyed for the spend - Outdoor Play Equipment
- Gaga Ball Pit being looked into, these can cost around \$10,000

#### **Construction**

- No Crane will be used, there was concern around that - Lift plan in place
- Updates posted on website
- Safety Education for students in planning stage - early January

- Examples of daily site hazard assessment reports and two week look ahead will be added to SWAY




### **Sports & Clubs**

- Lacrosse starts Jan. 8th for all classes
- Basketball for Gr. 7 starts in January
- Lunch Clubs - Students show of interest Jan 8-12, Hope to start Jan. 12
- Students may be invited to one lunch club per week, parents please inform Karen if your child could benefit from being in a club
- Club topics include: Drawing, Spatial awareness, Minecraft, Lego, Board Games & Social justice


### **PAC Funds 2024/2025**

- Wishlist for funds raised this year: Year two tech upgrade - 8 MacBook laptops (original upgrade year two included more iPad cases, but we have decided to purchase those with school funds so the full cart has keyboard cases)
- Gaga Ball Pit (approx \$10,000)
- Our site can accommodate more than one gaga ball pit, more details about cost/process in Jan/Feb, but hopefully we can get one in the Spring - Potentially one for primary and one for intermediate, they can be booked out for use like the field
- Looking for opportunities to use expiring gaming funds - potentially use for new Basketball Jerseys, more ideas welcome

## **Treasurer's Report - Vagmi Dholakia-Baxi**

-  **General Assets: \$74,254.18**
-  **Gaming: \$26,834.95**
-  **Total Assets: \$46,117.06**

## **DPAC Report - Sheri Hardcastle**

-  Nothing to report - no December meeting

## **Old Business**

### **Fall/Winter Fundraisers**

- Purdys did well
- Spirit Wear Distributed - Could add a second order in February for those that would like the opportunity to purchase

🌱 **Movie Night**

- Went very well, had a learning experience, potentially do again in Spring or next year

🌱 **Lunar New Year**

- February 2, 2024 - Zita co-ordinating - Volunteer sign-up send out in January

**New Business**

🌱 **2024 Jog-a-thon**

- Looking for spend ideas
  - Gaga Ball Pit? Ask Teachers for input
- Will get started planning right away in the new year - finding sponsors, making t-shirts

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:53am**

**Next Meeting  
January 18, 2024**

Respectfully submitted by Heather Neilson