

**Elgin Park Secondary
PAC Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2019**



Present: Natasha Netschay Davies (Chair)
Jodi Soheili (Co-chair-elect) and Susie Lang-Gould (Co-chair-elect)
Sara Bass (Secretary)
Holly Hao (Translator)

Guests: Jeff Johnstone (Principal)
Vice-principals (Ms. Beck & Ms. Varghese) and counselling team (Ms. Gill, Ms. Hundal, Ms. Kim and Ms. Miki)

Parents in Attendance: See sign-in sheet

1. Welcome

- Natasha Netschay Davies, PAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
- Motion for Minutes of the meeting held on May 15, 2019 to be approved and Agenda for today's meeting be approved as circulated.
Motion to Approve: Tami Hanson; Second: Lisa Castle. Motion Carried.

Executive Election

- Natasha reviewed the PAC Executive roles available – Co-Chair, Treasurer. She explained that the school has to have a PAC executive to receive the Government Gaming Grant.
- Jodi Soheili and Susie-Lang-Gould have volunteered to be the new PAC co-chairs.
- Vote held to approve Jodi Soheili 29/36. Motion Carried
- Vote held to approve Susie Lang-Gould 34/36. Motion Carried.
- Simon Padgett has volunteered for position of Treasurer. Vote will be held at the next meeting when he can attend.

- Natasha reminded each family that they can donate online to the PAC.

2. Treasurer's Report - Natasha (Treasurer absent)

- The BC government allocates \$20/student which amounts to around \$28 000 for EPS. The PAC is responsible for dispensing these funds. There is currently around \$11 000 that will be spent on school scholarships, and to go toward a school legacy gift that Jeff Johnstone will explain at the next meeting.
- There is a projected balance of around \$2000
- PAC is waiting for requests from teachers for funding

3. Principal's Report

- Introductions to EPS administration and counseling staff
- Jeff explained the various methods of communication at the school including the Orca News App,

MyEdBC portal, contacting the office, email etc.

- Vice-Principal Beck is responsible for students with last names starting L-Z and Ms. Varghese is A-K
- Ms. Miki is the International Students counselor
- Counseling staff includes Ms. Kim (A-Hi), Ms. Hundal (Ho-P) and Ms. Gill (Q-Z)
- the Youth Care Worker is Sandy Lacroix
- Safe Schools Liaison is Lindsay Henderson
- Mrs. Gill (Counselor) explained the role of counselors from timetabling and course selection to supporting peer relations etc. Call or email the counseling department to connect with them.
- Grade 8 classes will be having visits with counselors starting soon
- October 3 is Post-Secondary Information Night.
- Opening Day Stats: EPS currently at 1320 students with grade 8s being the largest of the grades
- Population expected to continue increasing next year as 2 more schools will be included in EPS catchment (Semiahmoo Trail and Pacific Heights)
- the new portables are in place and operational
- Students are encouraged to get involved in school activities/clubs etc.
- EPS has FLEX time after 1st block each day except Wednesdays for teachers to use as extended lesson time or to support students with homework etc.
- Grade 8 Pancake Breakfast is Friday, September 20. Soft start for Friday
- See \orca \news App for all events at EPS
- Parents are encouraged to help students with good attendance, scheduling vacations outside of school days, arriving on time, using the student and parent portals and encouraging students to get involved.
- Call the office for help managing student/parent portal access
- Traffic - Terrible! Please try to find alternative drop-off arrangements to reduce congestions in front of the school and obey school parking signs

4. DPAC (Natasha)

- Jane Dong is our school District PAC representative
- DPAC supports all schools and all parents are invited and encouraged to attend. Meetings are monthly at school board office.

5. Dry Grad (Jodi Soheli)

- Class of 2019 held a successful Dry Grad and the class of 2020 is looking for volunteers for the Dry Grad Committee
- Last year the committee raised about \$30 000 for the night, the majority being raised in one night at a fundraising event
- There will be a meeting soon and grade 11 parents are encouraged to attend to shadow this year's parents to prepare for next year.

6. Adjournment - Natasha Netschay-Davies adjourned the meeting at 9:40am

Next PAC Meeting: October 16, 2019 in the Learning Commons at 9:00am-10:00am

Please contact your PAC with any ideas, comment or concerns; we would love to hear from you.

E-mail your PAC Co-Chairs- Jodi Soheli and Susie Lang-Gould at elginpac@gmail.com.