

# PAC Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

ONLINE: [Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 626 9604 3520

Passcode: 119027

## PAC Executive

Caitlin Adam (CA), Co-Chair

Emily Lefebvre (EL), to be appointed Co-Chair

Julie Cole (JC), Treasurer

Sara Hyde (SH), DPAC Rep

Sara Osenton (SO), Co-Vice Chair

Tiffany Muller Myrdahl (TM), Co-Vice Chair

Megan Atkinson (MA), Secretary

Marlene Cummings (MC), AOWG Rep

Taryn Hayes (TH), Past CoChair

## School Representatives

Jason Eng (JE), Principal

ITEM	LEAD	TIME
1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Introductions (1 min) Beautiful acknowledgement done by Caitlin.	CA	6:30-6:31
2. Additions and Approval of Agenda (1 min)  No additions to the agenda Tiffany - motion to accept the agenda all in favour	CA	6:31-6:32
3. Appointment of New Co-Chair (1 min)  Motion to appoint Emily Lefebvre as Co-Chair for the remainder of the school year.	CA	6:32-6:33

<p>Taryn - motion to appoint Emily as co-chair all in favour</p>		
<p>3. Treasurer Report (2 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- See attached</li> <li>- PAC has raised \$23K this year so far - the budget is in excellent shape, and we are likely to be under budget toward the end of the year</li> <li>- Not a lot of spending since the last PAC meeting, six teachers have used the stipend, hopefully more will take advantage in the coming months</li> </ul>	JC	6:33-6:35
<p>4. DPAC update (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No DPAC meeting since last PAC mtg, the next one is next week</li> <li>• DPAC Slack channel (quite active!): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ comments regarding not enough EAs in schools</li> <li>◦ concern around length of time to complete psych evaluations</li> <li>◦ Strathcona PAC has initiated a survey for parents about the demand for student support workers in schools.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	SH	6:35-6:40
<p>5. Garden Committee Update (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upcoming Fundraiser: West Coast Seeds happening February 1-19. the money goes to support Garden Club initiatives</li> <li>• The Garden Club has a new member! Abeer Abdulhay is a wonderful addition to the club, bringing her knowledge and love of great food and drink to garden club sessions.</li> <li>• We continue to hold class sessions in the garden. These will continue to the end of the year, approximately one per month, more frequently as the weather gets warmer.</li> <li>• The last garden session was in December. We did a garden clean up, drank delicious cinnamon mint tea and made winter wreaths out of greenery and dried flowers.</li> <li>• The next garden session is planned for January. We will be inside building seed starter trays, setting up grow lights and making bird seed feeders.</li> <li>• We have been awarded a few external grants and we will use this money to build more planter boxes and some other infrastructure (more on that in the future).</li> <li>• The school admin (Jason and Tim) are very supportive of the school garden and we are so appreciative of their help. Jason has connected with VSB grounds and is working through the process to get more planters built. Tim is assisting the club get connected with teachers, facilitating the set up of gardening sessions.</li> </ul>	MA	6:40-6:45

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are always looking for more parent members, so please reach out if you are interested. No experience required. Email <a href="mailto:meganatkinson33@yahoo.com">meganatkinson33@yahoo.com</a>.</li> </ul>		
<p>6. AOWG Update (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AOWG statement - getting signatures from other PACs and DPAC</li> <li>Black Excellence Day - another great table was set up with books and resources in the school foyer.</li> <li>AOWG has booked a Black History Matters speaker in February</li> <li>Ethos Lab - Grade 5 STEM workshops has been organized by AOWG. Check out this podcast for more info: <a href="https://soundcloud.com/sfu_voice/btr-episode-114-anthonia-ogundele">https://soundcloud.com/sfu_voice/btr-episode-114-anthonia-ogundele</a></li> <li>AOWG held planning meeting today - discussed Pride and some future events</li> <li>Ms Brenda leads a Pride student club - AOWG &amp; PAC can support. One idea was buying a button-maker (as per students' request) for future events. Everyone loves the idea and loves buttons.</li> </ul>	MC	6:45-6:50
<p>7. Principal's Report (15 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jason's update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jason appreciates the collaboration, community connectivity and the interest from the students, staff and parent community that he has found at Nelson</li> <li>Social media literacy workshop with Shift Education has been very valuable time spent</li> <li>Black Excellence - each classroom participated in their own way. The teachers did a great job of finding meaningful ways for kids to connect with the topic of racism</li> <li>Ethos Lab - 4 week (1.5 hours per week) hands-on STEM workshop, targeting grade 5 cohort (including the Gr 5-6 split). This was funded by the PAC. This is something admin would like to do annually, always targeting grade 5 cohort</li> <li>Grade 7s will do a field trip to Hogan's Alley. This will be a powerful learning opportunity.</li> <li>Winter Concert - great response from the parents, lots of positive feedback</li> <li>Spring Carnival - planning is underway</li> <li>Opportunity for the Principal and school to support families in a variety of ways including food support, clothing, activity subsidies. This has been happening over the past few months. This is done very confidentially but we want to make sure that everyone knows about the options and possibilities. PAC sometimes makes referrals to admin for this.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Tim's update</li> </ul>	JE	6:50-7:05

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Basketball season is January to March (Grade 6 &amp; 7), 4 teams with 5-6 teacher/parents volunteers</li> <li>○ There will be a basketball tournament towards the end of the season - Grade 7</li> <li>○ Badminton will start after the spring break</li> </ul>		
<p>8. Communications / Other items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Upcoming online event, Wednesday, February 7th, 4pm: <a href="#">Mobilizing Fear and Misinformation: Anti-SOGI and 'Parent's Rights' Movements</a>.</li> <li>● Can there be some communication from the PAC about anti-SOGI with some basic facts sheet to be more inclusive of the wider school population. Potentially could be in connection with May 17 (against trans, homo, bi-phobias) - short answer YES.</li> <li>● Question about adding more vegetation/trees to the school ground and more shade for the summer time. Garden Club (Megan) and Jason to connect about ideas.</li> <li>● PAC is in the process of confirming a neurodiversity speaker in April for autism month</li> <li>● March - neurodiversity week over the spring break, <a href="https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/">https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/</a> Can we add a neurodiversity element to the AOWG or have a separate committee on this topic. There is support for this from the PAC, interested parents can and should organize and reach out for how the PAC can support.</li> <li>● Spring Carnival - Dillon Adams has volunteered to take the lead. He envisions a similar event to what was held last year. Please connect with Dilon or the PAC if you are interested in helping make this happen. Thank you Dillon!</li> </ul>	EL	7:05-740