

# Gladstone Secondary School - PAC Meeting

Tuesday January 21, 2019– 6:30 PM @ Gladstone Library

Present: Krista Bones, Sharon D, Emma J, Student Council reps, Adrienne N, Alexander A, Ian Weniger, Roxanne Bean, Hentry L, Yang Z.

## Welcome & Introductions

Krista Bones–PAC Chair

Vin Dhaliwal-PAC Secretary (regrets)

Amy Cheung–PAC Treasurer (regrets)

## 1. Student Council Report

6:30-6:45

-CANley Cup was very successful. Original goal was to raise equivalent of 5,000 cans. Once that was quickly raised the goal was increased to 10,000. In the end Gladstone raised 11,200! This was done as a class competition and there was great school spirit around the event.

-Winter Week featured events like Santa Spot with seasonal foods, class and locker door decorating contests, pictures with Santa

-Term 2 plans include Valentines Day singing telegrams, chocolates, roses and Cupid's Spot -seasonal food for sale.

-G Factor is coming up, in the past it has been a singing competition but will be expanded to include other talents.

-“Student Forums” will be coming up: Group student discussions led by student council with prompts and discussion themes. The feedback will be used to inform student council decisions and goals. Date TBA

-One area of concern is the new assessments. Students have concerns about switching grading systems and may want more information. Mr. Parker clarified that while grade 8 & 9s will have a 4 point grading system for grading, gr 10-12 will continue to have percentage marks. (Note that grade 8 report cards will be on a 4 pt scale beginning September 2020 and grade 9 beginning September 2021.) It was also clarified that although the Numeracy and Literacy exams use a four point system they do not count towards marks. Krista wondered if perhaps in future there could be a session or other way to communicate details of new system to students once it has been finalized.

## 2. DPAC Update

Adrienne Neill

6:45-6:55

-Adrienne gave parents a brief overview of the DPAC (district-wide PAC) and its role. Some areas in which the DPAC has functioned as advocate: Facilities Plan and school closures, food issues, anti-racism, renaming of schools, support for diverse learners

-There are many upcoming workshops that all VSB parents are invited to:

- **Tuesday, Jan 28, 7PM** – [Connecting with Youth About Vaping](#) (SACY event)
- **Thursday, Jan 30, 6:30PM** – [Parenting in a Digital World](#) (Safer Schools Together/VSB event)
- **Feb 26 - SACY Adult Toolkit:** Join SACY and SACY STEP facilitators for a non-judgmental, interactive evening to increase your health literacy in adolescent development and substance use (cannabis, vaping, alcohol and others.) Come to add knowledge and evidence-based approaches to your parenting toolkit. ([poster](#)) **Sir Charles Tupper Secondary,**

**6:30-8:30pm** Limited seating! Please register at:

[www.sacy.eventbrite.com](http://www.sacy.eventbrite.com)

-We recommend signing up for the DPAC newsletter, not only does it keep you in touch with what is happening in the VSB but it offers a wealth of resources and links to articles and programs. Their website is also a good resource.

**3. Teacher's Report**

Ms. Roxanne Bean  
6:55 -7:05

-Roxanne updated us from VSTA's point of view: That there is a BC-wide teacher shortage. BC is having recruitment and retention problems. Special needs kids are under-supported and being sent home in some cases because there is inadequate staff to help them. There is a recent ad campaign out addressing this issue and a recent report that can be viewed at their website.  
-There are some instances where teachers have not been found to fill positions, this is called "failure to fill", in Vancouver there are 21 unfilled positions (which is not bad compared to other districts in the province).  
-Ian Weniger came to observe the teacher role on PAC

**4. Principal's Report**

Mr. Chris Parker  
7:05-7:30

-Pep rally in December: includes presentation of all competitive teams including clubs, sports teams, robotics and dance team. Dance team performed  
-Dance Shows in second week of Dec: elementary feeder schools come to see the show and the dance club and teams perform 5-6 shows. Dance is open to all, grade 8s with no previous dance experience are welcomed to join  
-Music performance in Dec was a great success  
-Fergus McCallion created a Christmas movie in the school with the students that was featured at the Winter Assembly  
-Athletics: Wrestling and Basketball are currently running. There is still more room for students on the wrestling team, there are currently 3-4 team members.  
-Ms Dixon the Athletics Director recruits coaches for teams, many of them are Gladstone alumni.  
-Students fill the ref and score keeping functions  
-Fitness and weight room continues to operate 4-5 days a week. It is a free drop in and all students are welcome. The room is supervised by trained staff. It is open 3:15-4:30 most days  
-Badminton club is being run by Terry Johnson, a Selkirk teacher. There are currently 60-80 kids every Friday. Eventually a competitive team of about 12 students will be created (later in the season).  
-Health Canada did a vaping presentation to PE Classes on Day 1. They also had a presentation set up in the cafeteria for students to visit over lunch and after school. It consisted of a maze with facilitators. The display got good feedback from students. It was a well-received educational tool although seasoned vapors felt there was not new information.

-For more information regarding vaping and drug mis-use look to SACY as a great resource for parents and families. Their approach: to live a thoughtful and deliberate life.

-gr. 10 literacy exams were Jan 20, numeracy exams Jan 21. Many students found the numeracy exam to be somewhat a social science exam with a lot of reading and high-level english. The test is meant to be a snapshot and give the district an assessment tool. The math department considers the math in the numeracy exam to be about grade 8 level.

-Enchanted Ball; gr 12 semi-formal dinner is happening Jan 23

-Grad will be in Burnaby at the Imperial Ballroom, the location has been approved by the grad committee who toured a number of venues and chose this one. Tickets will be able to be only \$45/person as opposed to \$135/person last year at a hotel.

-Occasionally guests who are not in gr 12 at Gladstone are allowed at the discretion of the administration, there is an application process that begins in April and spots are limited. See Mr Parker for more information.

**5. Treasurer's Report  
Secretary Report  
7:30-7:40**

-Both Vin and Amy were away, presented by Krista

-November minutes were approved

-Current financials:

**Gladstone Secondary School PAC Bank Account Balances**

As of December 31, 2019

**Gaming Account @ Vancity as of Nov 1st 2019**

\$22,382.11

Credits: monthly interests from Nov & Dec

\$3.74

**Balance as of Dec 31 2019**

**\$22,385.85**

**General Account @ Vancity as of Nov 1 2019**

\$815.95

Credits: monthly interests from Nov & Dec

0.02

**Balance as of Dec 31 2019**

**\$815.97**

**6. PAC Business**

-we have lost a member at large and will be looking for more members for the executive. Keep in mind: AGM is in MAY and we have many outgoing parents. New parents are welcome!

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**NEXT PAC MEETING: Tues February 18, 2020 @ 6:30pm in the school library**

