

Gladstone Secondary School - PAC Minutes

Tuesday February 18, 2019– 6:30 PM @ Gladstone Library

In attendance:

Krista Bones–PAC Chair
Adrienne Neil - Member at Large
Henry Liu - Member at Large
Chris Parker - Principal
Roxanne Bean - Teacher rep
Student council reps
Jeya K-parent
Karla G-parent
Gabriel D-parent

1. Student Council Report

-Glad clothing- for those who preordered it has arrived: Grade 8-10s can come pick up on Feb 18 and Grade 11-12s on Feb 19.

If you miss your day, want to exchange your item, or buy extra clothing, please come on Feb 20

Distribution will happen in room A102 (the breakfast club room)

-Topics are being finalized for the student forums, discussion groups led by the student council

-The call-out is coming soon for student council nominations. They would like to have elections earlier this year, (April or May) so that the incoming positions will have more time for position shadowing to help with the transition to the new student council.

-Valentines week events were successful. Cupid's Spot (a special menu at the Rock), singing telegrams, chocolates and roses were a hit. They also did a gam: the Dollar Valentine survey to find out the people who are most compatible with you from school, most popular with the older grades.

-G-Factor talent contest auditions begin shortly. This year they are expanding from singing and dancing and including other talents. G-Factor takes place Mar 11 in the evening. This year rather than a judge panel the audience will vote. Auditions will be happening right after school on:

Monday, February 24th

Tuesday, February 25th

They will be held in the Breakfast Club room (A102) directly across from the Gym.

Link to sign-up and further information:

<https://forms.gle/zJV5dq8f5RNJxW8A7>

2. DPAC Update

Adrienne Neill

- The DPAC is a great resource for parents in the VSB. We recommend signing up for their newsletter, they have a lot of informative events for parents: <http://vancouverdpac.org/>
- Krista and Adrienne attended the recent DPAC Summit. It was the first of its kind and approx 60 schools from the VSB were represented by PAC members. There was a discussion of issues pertinent to PACs. One interesting discussion was economic disparity in fundraising across Vancouver schools, especially east to west. Some PACs with surpluses are interested in helping PACs with fewer funds.
- There are multiple committees for which the DPAC is looking for parent volunteers: Seismic Committee, Renaming of schools, VSB Policy and Procedures, Foods, Childcare, Long Range Facilities Plan. DPAC has a voice in the prevalence funding discussion and we recommend researching to find out more.
- Check out DPAC's website for upcoming events. Some included are an anti-bullying workshop, and Feb 24 Moose Hide Campaign Day. There is some confusion about the date of the upcoming Pink Shirt Day, Feb 26/27? The VSB doesn't seem to be following the National Pink Shirt Day date? An email from the school will be coming to confirm.
- of note from the DPAC bulletin: The City of Vancouver has started a multi-year engagement process to determine a road-map for a "**Vancouver Plan**." They currently have a survey open to understand who you are and what Vancouver means to you with the intention to use this information to create a plan that reflects the aspirations, hopes and dreams of all who live, work and play here.

3. PAC Business

Krista Bones

- new membership: We are pleased to introduce 2 new members at large: Adrienne Neill and Henry Liu. As Vin and Mark stepped down during the year DPAC confirmed that we could assign interim positions to serve until our next AGM in May. Please note that we are currently without a secretary and would be happy for anyone to fill the vacancy.
- we have been offered a community liaison position as the PAC for the new temporary modular housing development, (Naomi Place - 3598 Copley St). There will also be reps invited from Beaconsfield and Selkirk PACs as well as someone from the VSB, someone from Gladstone administration may also participate. Is there a volunteer who wants to be part of the process? The commitment is one meeting/month for the first 6 months then bi-monthly meetings afterwards. It will be a committee of 19 community members and will be moderated by an independent facilitator. Deadline to apply is Feb 21, at this point no current PAC member is available to participate.
- we discussed fundraising ideas as there is only \$800 (approx) left in our general fund. We have decided to start with a direct funding letter for voluntary donations, Adrienne and Krista will work on a draft to share with the executive.

-teacher's breakfast is coming in May. Chris and Roxanne confirmed that is appreciated and that morning works well for teachers (before school). Adrienne and Krista will head up the breakfast committee. Chris will look at the ACT day schedule in May, that might be a good day to do it on. ***If you are a parent and would like to come to the teacher appreciation breakfast and/or help set up please email Gladstone.PAC@gmail.com***

4. Teacher's Report

Ms. Roxanne Bean

- There is a new Indigenous room next to the counselling area. The Indigenous liaison can have meetings with students here and it is an open drop in for students who identify as Indigenous and would like to connect with the liaison.
- The Code of Conduct for school conduct and culture is being reviewed and being changed based on Martin Brokenleg's Circle of Courage. (see Principal's report for more)
- the drama department will be performing the Drowsy Chaperone in June. Parents are invited to the evening performances June 11 & 12.
- We discussed the new assessment format: "The Ministry of Education direction is for teachers to adopt the new proficiency index for assessment. The core competencies are the overarching goals for all students. That began 3 years ago and students complete a self-assessment at the end of each term for each course to communicate how they believe they are doing in areas such as thinking, personal responsibility, social responsibility, and critical thinking, etc.

The new framework is about assessing students not using percentages or letter grades.

The new format is a scale of 1-4 and the VBE has adopted the four terms to describe student achievement: **Emerging, Developing, Proficiency (applying) and Extending**. Teachers are still working and developing rubrics with their colleagues to figure out how to fit all this into a rubric for each subject area which will be used solely for the grade 8's next Fall.

It places more emphasis on objectifying performance as opposed to the teacher subjectively making decisions on student performance."

- Mr. Parker noted that education is moving away from memorization which is considered a lower form of learning/thinking
- Hilary Montroy popped in to introduce all of the new library furniture at Gladstone. She is thrilled with it and demonstrated how versatile it is by moving some pieces around. Ideally there are a few more pieces that would be great additions to the library, perhaps future fundraising could fund it.

5. Principal's Report

Mr. Chris Parker

- Caroline Dixon hosted the Spirit Relays

- Winter sports: Wrestling and Basketball, The Jr. Basketball Finals were hosted at Gladstone on Friday. Even though it was a Pro-D day there was a great fan turnout.
- There are a lot of great clubs currently and students are encouraged to join extra-curricular activities and be part of the community. (D&D was highlighted- about 40 students on a given day)
- there were 211 grade 7s for the Gladtourrific day.
- grade 8-11s are choosing their courses for next year, should be done by end of February. Most students are expected to choose 8 courses/semester, gr 12s can have a study block. How and where courses are taken vary, students can have a personalized and flexible schedule.
- Difficulty accessing MyEd and was brought up by a parent. Mr Parker let them know they are always welcome to call the school office for help. It was suggested by Krista that if you know your child's student ID number and the email used you can always use the "forgot my password" button to reset the password and access the account. If a parent or student wants a paper copy of the report card they can request it from the school office.
- Staff are reviewing the Code of Conduct. The school wants to honour students beyond academic achievement (eg honour roll and principal's list). This will allow the school to formally recognize the students who volunteer and invest in the community or show other honorable character traits.
- There are many upcoming events: Feb 20: Out in Schools- SOGI Presentation, Feb 21 Black History Month-Overture of the Arts Presentation, Feb 25 Math Contest, Mar 2-3 Student Self-reporting, Mar 11- G-Factor, Mar 12- Report Cards, Mar 16-27 Spring Break
- A parent asked what events they can attend. Parents are welcome to any performance or event outside of the school day (3pm onward).
- For more information on school events please see the Gladstone VSB website and calendar:

- It was also noted that @GSSUpdates on Facebook is an excellent place for students to keep up on what's happening in the school. Also Food Studies has an Instagram account where they post some of the food they make at @GSScooks

Meeting adjourned 7:45pm

NEXT PAC MEETING: Tues April 21, 2020 @ 6:30pm in the school library