

Westwind PAC Meeting Minutes
Wednesday November 25th, 6:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

1. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting in October. Motion by Jenn. Seconded by Lisa. T

2. Chair's Report:

Flip Give Program: Great Opportunity for fundraising with Black Friday and Christmas coming up. You start by going to the Flip Give site and then by choosing retailers who offer a percentage return to our School's account. Right now, retailers are offering high percentage back to us. Great weekend to start using the program with Black Friday deals and high rebates being offered by Flip Give. Find the link on our Facebook page.

3. Treasurer's Report:

In October we received the gaming grant for \$7K that we can use for any extra-curricular activities for the students. The donation ask letter went out a couple of weeks ago now. The donations will start showing up in the November numbers. We are at \$2K with around 10-11 donations received. They have been mostly e-transfer donations. Also, we received \$1000 from Coast Capital Savings! A huge thank you to them. On the expenses side teachers have been buying items for the classroom, primarily literacy support items.

4. Committee & Clubs:

1. Playground Committee – Lisa, Jamie, Janna, Chelsea, Monika

They have set up an email account to handle all communications in a central location. There is \$15,000 earmarked already from PAC last year. Waiting for contact from Sandra Nixon, school Trustee. We want to expand the current footprint of the playground. It might be small for our school's student population. Also, can we put nets in the hockey boxes?

Sara Lai contacted the school board and our school is unique, the playground is on the City's land, not the School District's land. The next step is to meet with the city and head of maintenance for school board. It's a partnership between the City and

School. Westwind is not on the list of schools for a new playground in the next five years.

Carolyn mentions that different schools have achieved their playground replacements in various ways. We are not a priority. PACs often held to fund the playground. Parents can help to build under supervision of the company supplying and a district person. Districts can do mulch and fencing. This is the route we can take. As to whether we can have nets in the hockey box, she says this question has been asked before and she cannot remember why we do not have them. It might be on City property. Monika says that she would like to help with the playground committee and mentions that we need more swings. There are four or five swings and they are always occupied with a queue.

Jamie asks what is the scope of the playground build & goal of the committee. Are we replacing or adding to the playground equipment? Suggests a community consultation piece, parent and kids. Carolyn agrees.

Lisa confirms that we need a larger play space, not tearing down and replacing, but rather adding to the existing equipment. She asks about working directly with Mirium. Carolyn says that our committee can work directly with Mirium from the city.

Carolyn suggests setting us a Zoom call. Ours is a city playground on city land. They agree on that.

Sarah asks if they we can expand the footprint. Mentions that the hill behind the playground limits us. Carolyn believes a call with Mirium would be the next step.

Drew – Garmy says that kids love the monkey bars, we could use more and longer monkey bars.

Meeting with city first and consultation with Westwind Families is agreed is a good order.

Maybe we can get some nets while we work on the playground.

2. Fundraising

Kristi – Winter Bundle pick up set for Saturday 10-noon, drive thru. Pick up with purpose, move quickly. In total there are five vendors, \$1850 profit! Yay!

3. Gr. 7 Grad – Jenn.

Awesome fundraiser coming up after Christmas break, at the end of Jan into February. Thank you, Sara, for ordering the hoodies and masks. They should be

arriving before the holiday. Gr. 7 Fundraiser will go toward paying for hoodies and masks. Not fundraising right now for the end of the year. They do plan to do something exciting for Gr. 7's at the end of the year, they will not be forgotten. Thank you to all of the parents who have reached out Jenn and Shauna to offer their help with the Gr. 7 Year End.

4. Dance Committee – Drew reports. What can and what can we not do. Westwind has been blessed with a liquor license. History has been that the way we keep it is by using it once a year, which is going to be difficult or impossible to do this school year. Working to maintain it.
5. Book Fair – Drew reports on behalf of committee. It looks like some kind of virtual book fair is in store from our committee and Scholastic. Discussion as to how and when.
6. Parent Education- Drew reports. Laura G. has done an amazing job for many years. This is her final year with a student at the school. We need someone to fill her shoes to arrange the awesome programs like we have in the past such as, Saleem Noon. Please let us know if you would like to help.
7. Jump Rope for Heart – Drew reports. Chelsea has done it for the past couple years. She is now involved in the playground committee and is stepping down from JRFH. It was an event coordinated at the school. We need new leadership going forward. He looked at the website to see how it might be done this year in the COVID-19 environment, possible outside or virtually from home. If this is something that interests you, please volunteer.
8. Other Business

Lorri – will there be music next term? No, we will not. Carolyn explains that we had a music teacher for one term for entire school, while normally we would have the teacher all year but it would only be for the older grades. She mentions that have a virtual drumming session coming. Sara explains its Virtual Taiko Zoom drumming session. Teaching to drum with various materials. Also, as far as the Arts go, we also have a drama performance coming in. Five performances, one for each cohort.

Monika suggests a Gr. 7 Zoom Dance Party, prizes and interactive. She has heard of another school who has hired a DJ who offers this. She also mentions it would be nice to have some holiday magic to replace the concert this year. Does anyone have any thoughts? Drew mentions its hard to plan anything with any degree of certainty

because its difficult to know what we can and cannot do safely. The desire is there to be festive and spread Christmas magic but its very difficult.

Lisa T. mentions that neighbours in WW are planning a neighbourhood walk to look at Christmas lights and take in the season.

Gina asks if most classrooms will have PJ and movie day on the final day. She suggests goodie bags for Christmas like we did for Halloween. Carolyn confirms that the last day is pajama day. They might also do a holiday video, similar to the Remembrance Day. Each classroom does a performance and have it put together. Staff is working on it.

Monika suggests classroom art projects displayed in windows and PAC offering hot chocolate. Carolyn agrees on the art projects in the windows. Carolyn will bring ideas to staff, but wants us know that with new protocol and higher cases things in school are getting tough. Only six people allowed in staffroom, although, they are troopers. Sarah mentions that we need to keep a balance. Holiday magic is important but we as parents can show support for the staff as well, but not grouping and socializing outside of the school.

Drew mentions that the Remembrance Video was great. He wanted to acknowledge what an amazing video it was. We thoroughly enjoyed it! Thank you to the teachers and staff!

9. Administrative Report – Here at Westwind we have not had a confirmed COVID case but she would like to share with us what would happen if and when we do. For instance, someone could contact office and say someone in our family has COVID. The school would then call Donna Matheson from the district. They would determine close contacts of the child. Its in the hands of VCH to determine who needs to self isolate. VCH would tell district admin, and who need to receive exposure letters. There is a protocol in place, just received Nov. 20. Other schools in Richmond have had cases, not us, but its quite likely that we will eventually, hopefully not. Monika thanks Carolyn for the transparency. She has received a letter from her child at Mc Match and wishes there was more details about who the contact was. Carolyn points out it's a privacy issue. If you don't get a phone call, just a letter, its not a super close contact. We trust in the Vancouver Coastal Health system.

Sara explains that there is no eating in the staffroom, there is a full-time custodian who is constantly continually cleaning. We are very thankful to Anthony.

How quickly would families be notified. Carolyn says email comes out the same day. Shizuka adds you will receive a phone call within 30 minutes of the email if you need

to self isolate. Jamie mentions it can be more complicated with a long lag depending in the situation and the layers of contacts involved.

Sara reports that we have the virtual Taiko Drumming coming in January. Different teachers are trying diff things. Six classes involved in the gardening program. They had purchased some gazebos to protect students in the garden, however the wind made short work of them. Kids are enjoying the mud-slide. Teachers and staff try not to discourage. Its dirty but part of playing and free exploration and unguided play. Its pure joy for the kids.

Reach to Teach program in the past, often some of the Gr.7 do, they do art projects and dance. This year only one class can participate, they are dancing and doing Tik Tok videos. Mr. Ridell's class is doing it via Zoom with Arts Connection.

Carolyn - Communicated student learning in a way diff from traditional report cards, through e portfolios has been going in the district for 10 years now. This year WW is getting on board, with three divisions. It's meant to make learning more meaningful for students, to take ownership of their learning. Students can post samples of their work. It can be a photo of a piece of work or a video. So not using the traditional report cards, there will be a progress report in January for these students. It will not include letter grades, but will have input from student and the teacher. Exceeding, Meeting, where they can improve. Its interactive between parent, teacher, student so its like an ongoing parent teacher interview. The goal is to do away with letter grades all the way to grade 10. The more that students talk about their work, evaluate it and talk about how and why they have done it the more they are learning. Its not just memorizing and regurgitating the material. CSL= Communicating Student Learning. Not everyone is getting a report card on last day in December. The three CSL student classes will receive something from teachers at the end of January.

Drew asks if there are funds available for the Christmas goodie bags. Gina had a question in the comments. Sarah says we do have some discretionary funds left. If its under \$500 we can approve the expense as an exec and not at a meeting.

Next PAC Meeting is preliminary scheduled for January 13th if that date works for admin. Motion to Adjourn Jamie. Seconded by Shizuka.

Adjourn 7:45.