

Westwind PAC September Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2024 @ 6:30pm via Teams

Meeting called to order: 6:35pm

Welcome!

1. Approval of the minutes from the last PAC Meeting ([June 2024](#)): motion to approve moved Joe, seconded Zach, PASSED.
2. Chair's Report
 - Welcome from our new PAC Chair, Jordan R. 😊
 - PAC Executive Vice-Chairs for 2024/2025 are Desy C. & Natalie B. - thank you!
 - Other volunteer position updates:
 - still looking for a Parent Education Coordinator (email Jordan if interested - rudekteacher@gmail.com)
 - still looking for a Grade 7 Yearbook Pages Coordinator
3. Treasurer's Report
 - Presentation of [June financial report](#) & [August financial report](#)
 - We made more revenue last year than we budgeted for/spent, so we have a surplus! This surplus was reallocated into the budget for this year, restoring funding to categories that had been reduced based on our original forecasting. This surplus will also cover the proposed budget deficit, or any additional items requested.
 - Presentation of updated [2024/2025 budget](#)
 - We are budgeted to run a deficit of \$3,734, but given our surplus of over \$16,000, this will work out fine.
4. Committee & Coordinator Reports
 - Fundraising

Westwind Spirit Wear Upcycling (Lindsay & Sarah B.): if you have used Westwind t-shirts, sweatshirts, pants, etc. that you no longer need, please donate them to the school. We will clean it & have it for sale at a discounted rate, with proceeds going back to PAC. Items can be dropped off at the office now.

Last year's fundraising team (Gina, Joe, Kristy M. & others) committed to getting things started this year, with a goal of raising \$3000. They are planning the following fundraising events:

- **Parent Pub Night** October 5th, 6:30-9:30pm @ Steveston Built, tickets are \$35, available on Munch-a-Lunch. Only 19 tickets left, so get yours today!
- **Snack days** will happen periodically, organized by Joe.
- **Winter Bundle** will include Purdy's chocolates & winter plants.

This is run by Kristy M. & ordering will be open from November 4-18th, with order pick-up Dec. 5th.

Kids Halloween Dance (Christie E., Tasha, Shelley & Meghan H.) happening October 17th, tickets \$10 until October 1st, then \$12 after. The dance will be hosted by Rock & Beau - super fun! **Looking for a photographer** if anyone is interested in capturing this memorable event.

The new **fundraising committee for 2024/2025** will start January 1st (Tasha, Christie E. & Joe - thank you!). Current ideas include a potential market night & adult pickleball tournament.

- Munch-a-Lunch (Jessica C.): vendors and dates are being finalized, then the ordering info will be shared. We are trying to alternate Tuesday one week, Friday the next. On delivery days, we pack lunches an hour before lunch time & Grade 6/7 students help deliver orders to classrooms. **Volunteers are needed!** Please reach out to Jordan or Jessica if you can commit to helping with our hot lunches!
 - Grade 6/7 Outdoor Education Pizza Day fundraising: Jessica C. will organize again this year, but this is a lot given that she runs the hot lunch program! **Any parents interested in learning the ropes, please volunteer this year to learn what it's all about so that Jessica can hand it off to a new volunteer.**
 - Grade 7 Farewell Committee: 5 parents are currently on the committee (sorry, I didn't catch names), but if you are a Grade 7 parent and you would like to participate in organizing end-of-year activities, please reach out to Jordan and he'll connect you with the committee! Work will begin later in the school year.
 - Parent Dance (Meghan B., Alanna, Tasha): last year's team is looking at potential venues & dates in May. If you want to help, connect with the team or email Jordan.
 - Yearbook Committee (Christine M., Meghan H. & others): this committee work will start later in the school year. **If you are a Grade 7 parent and would like to coordinate the Grade 7 specific yearbook pages, please email Jordan!**
5. Other Business:
- Sylvia Miles, WW School Counsellor - Free Play afternoons
 - based on research about the impact of cell phones on children, Sylvia proposes an idea for creating a **Westwind Family Hangout** inviting families to stay after school at the playground & play with some equipment put out by the school (encouraging screen-free time)
 - looking for PAC to sponsor snacks & beverages for families to entice families to stay for one afternoon every couple of weeks (30 minutes after school).
6. Administrative Report:
- **Enrollment** is 455 students, 19 divisions

- **New staff**
 - **Vice-Principal:** Ellen Reid
 - **Classroom teachers:** Mr. Rollins, Ms. Whitelaw, Ms. Moorehead, Ms. R. Hansen & Ms. Wilshire
 - **Educational-Assistant:** Mr. Dhollivar
 - **ELL/Resource:** Ms. Nasim
- **Terry Fox Run** happened last week with an ambassador visit - great event!
- Lots of info gathering meetings happening between teachers & the resource team to ensure emerging needs are addressed.
- **District Updates**
 - **Affordability Fund:** continuing this year to support families that need financial support
 - **Feeding Futures:** food support funded by the district for students
 - **Pillars of literacy & numeracy:** Richmond students do well overall, but there are some gaps, particularly post-pandemic, so this is a district & school focus moving forward.
 - **New cell phone policy:** elementary students should not bring digital devices to school, but if students have them they should remain in their backpacks. Social media sites are restricted on school property so that students can focus on learning.
- **Upcoming dates**
 - Sept. 26 individual photo day
 - Sept. 27 Orange Shirt Day
 - Sept. 30 Truth & Reconciliation Day (school closed)
 - Oct. 1 - Nov. 1: Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) for Grade 4 & 7 students
 - October 9 - 11: Outdoor Education @ Camp Jubilee for Grade 6/7 students - parents will be receiving information via email. There will be a backpack check before going to ensure everyone is prepared.
- **Hot Topics:**
 - The **classroom placement process** is complex & includes many different considerations. The process starts in the spring and involves teachers, the resource team, EAs & administration. The school wants to balance class groupings, taking into account academic & social/emotional needs & equitable class size & composition as set out in the Collective Agreement. These are thoughtful conversations over a long timeline. So far, it seems that students & teachers are settling in well in their groupings, which is great.
 - Looking for volunteers to help with new **Westwind Spirit Wear** orders - please reach out to Ms. Spence or the WW email address if you can help! 4-6 parents is ideal, and 2 have already committed.

7. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn moved Jamie, seconded Gina, PASSED.

Thanks everyone!

Meeting adjourned: 7:35pm.

Next meeting: Monday, October 21st @6:30pm via TEAMS