

Westwind PAC January Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2025 @ 6:30pm via Teams

Meeting called to order: 6:34pm

Welcome!

1. Approval of the minutes from the last PAC Meeting ([November 2024](#)): moved Jamie, seconded Christie, PASSED.

2. Chair's Report
 - The winter concert was great - thanks to staff for bringing it all together.
 - Lots of illness for families in December - hoping for a healthier January.
 - Looking forward to spring & turning our attention to exploring how PAC can support the rejuvenation of Westwind's outdoor spaces.
 - Huge thanks to all the parents who have volunteered, donated, supported PAC initiatives so far this year - it's appreciated!
 - Still looking for a Parent Education Coordinator and a Grade 7 Yearbook Pages Coordinator - please reach out to Jordan at rudekteacher@gmail.com if you can volunteer.

3. Treasurer's Report
 - Presentation of [December Financial Report](#)
 - Revenue is looking good thanks to such a successful Halloween Dance & a great response to our December donation ask letter.
 - There's a discrepancy between food days vs. pizza days income - Thomas will clarify with Jessica as needed to make sure the numbers are accurate, but this was also the case last year due to rising costs of hot lunch options vs. pizza days.

4. Committee and Club Reports
 - Fundraising:
 - November snack day - success! Thanks to all the volunteers.
 - Holiday Raffle - success! Thanks to Drew for organizing, and to all families who donated or bought tickets.
 - Munch-a-Lunch: no updates
 - Grade 6/7 Outdoor Education & Farewell Fundraising (Pizza Days): no updates
 - Grade 7 Farewell Committee: no updates
 - Parent Dance (Meghan & Alanna):
 - a **venue** plan was in place but fell through, though Steveston Hub is reserved if needed. Meghan & Alanna will be looking at another possible venue this week that's better aligned with the theme.
 - First **planning meeting** is set for **Feb. 5th** - please reach out to Meghan or Alanna if you would like to attend and be a part of the planning crew.
 - **Call for donations:** if you have anything you can contribute to the silent auction, please let the committee know. The ask letter for donations from families and businesses is forthcoming - please reach out to businesses

you know to see what they can donate to this fundraiser.

- Yearbook Committee: no updates

5. Other business: DPAC's position on SOGI education (discussion)

- In December, the office of the superintendent sent out a statement to parents and school district staff reiterating the district's support of [Policy 106](#) - Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity (SOGI). Curious about where this was coming from, Jamie reached out to a colleague who sits on the district SOGI Advisory Committee to learn more. The Richmond District Parent Association (RDPA) is a stakeholder group with representation on the District SOGI Advisory Committee. It seems that the RDPA is using this platform to advocate *against* SOGI education in Richmond. Given that this body represents all Richmond School District parents & guardians, the Westwind PAC Executive Committee is concerned about being represented in this way.

Jordan plans to send a letter to the DPAC chair to clarify their position and reinforce our support of SOGI education as part of ensuring an inclusive environment in Richmond schools.

Meeting attendees voiced support for sending a letter & suggested that it would also be good to reach out to other school PACs to encourage them to send letters and/or have them sign on to our letter.

6. Other business: none

7. Administrative Report

Susan:

- Winter concert: so fun! Video links were sent to parents for most presentations, so hopefully families that missed the performances were still able to enjoy them.
- Thanks to Drew for organizing the Holiday Raffle. The Leadership Club will be donating 50% of the profits to the charity of their choice.
- [MDI \(middles years development index\)](#): this is a survey administered at school for all Grade 5's to provide information about how students are feeling/doing in school. Data is collectively submitted (not individually) and reported to districts. If you don't want your child to participate in the survey, let the school know. Students can also decide not to participate.
- [Student Learning Survey](#) (formerly the 'student satisfaction survey'): a survey conducted by the Ministry of Education with the goal of getting feedback about school programs and education. The survey is administered at school, and is now open for parents/guardians to participate.
- The DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program is happening now for all classes with Grade 5 students. The program takes place on Mondays and is led by the RCMP. Once students have completed the program, they will get a certificate of completion.
- More outdoor play equipment is now available at play time thanks to the new storage shed and the addition of some nets. Students are enjoying it!
- SLSS is phasing out the SPECTRUM program: there will be an info meeting coming, but the news is out already. Families that may have been considering applying to this program will no longer be able to do so.

- A Grade 6 WW student is currently undergoing chemotherapy, so the Grade 6/7 team is working with the BC Cancer Association to do some education for 6/7 students, leading toward a fundraiser in support of that organization. There will be fun rewards for hitting specific fundraising targets (ie. teachers shaving heads and/or donating hair to Wigs for Kids). Donation info will be posted on the school website and sent home via a school newsletter soon.

Ellen:

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) - the district is engaging with how AI can/should be incorporated into education, including investigating which platforms will be used within the district. More info will be coming soon.
- Westwind will be piloting a new booking platform for signing up for parent-teacher conferences in February. Please let the school know if you have any issues with the new system.

Upcoming dates:

Jan. 22 - SLSS Gr. 7 Parent Info Night

Jan. 27 - Pro-D

Feb. 12 & 13 - Early Dismissal at 1:45 pm

Feb. 14 - Pro-D

Feb. 17 - Family Day Holiday

8. Adjournment: moved Thomas, seconded Amelia, PASSED.

Thanks everyone!

Meeting adjourned: 7:20pm.

Next meeting: Monday, February 24th @6:30pm via TEAMS