



# Bayview PAC Minutes

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**Date:** Wednesday, October 21, 2020 6:30 – 8:00pm

**Location:** Virtual Meeting via TEAMS

**In Attendance:** Birgitte Biorn, Teri Taylor, Joss Taylor, Emilia Doro, Sarah-Jane Damiani, Jessica Ellis, Linda McCue, Sarah Shneiderman, Brie Lunn, May Dalgliesh, Anna Friedlander, Delia Jane Ramsbotham, Itzia Paz, Geoffrey Metropolit, Michael Rossi

## Agenda Items

### 1. Introduction/call for additional agenda items

- Minutes of the last meeting – Adopted as presented

### 2. Teachers' Update: Teri Taylor

- Div. 1: Ms. B loves her class and Bayview. Her class is working on STEM projects and a biodiversity unit.
- Div. 2: Mr. T. is doing a study of indigenous history and a poetry unit.
- Div. 3: Ms. Montagano is doing a unit on government and democracy, and her class will be holding a student vote tomorrow; they invited the candidates to present to them, but only David Eby has attended.
- Div. 4: Mr. A is doing a lot on the election, and is also doing voting in class tomorrow.
- Div. 6: Gina is studying Canadian Black history through a novel based in Nova Scotia; the class is working very hard.
- Div. 7: Ms. Linton's class went on a field trip to the bog with two representatives from Metro Parks, funded in part by PAC. Her class is also focusing on social-emotional learning.
- Div. 8: Ms. Taylor's class is working on getting back to nature: life cycles of corn, garlic, sunflower, chestnut; lots of observations outside and enjoying nature, but she is missing parents, so she is taking lots of pictures and posting them on her blog.
- Div. 9: Kaarina Duncan will be leaving soon (moving to North Van), and is feeling guilty about it and sad to leave; she will be missed. She has prepared her students well to transition to a new teacher.
- Div. 10: Susan Jung is enjoying her grade 1 class. They did a virtual field trip with Douglas College—30 minutes online, followed by 30 minutes hands-on outdoors—along with Ms. Taylor's class. They are learning about nutrition and healthy food choices.
- All the teachers send love to the parents and miss them.
- Today was "take me outside" day. All classes did some type of special outdoor activities: hikes, building leaf figures, climbing trees, looking at mushrooms, etc.

### 3. Principal's update: Birgitte Biorn

- The playground planning committee has been formed with four staff members, Tyler from JKC, and four parents.
  - Barb Hinds had the kids vote on the existing playground equipment, which is in storage. The primary playground area will be a bit narrower, so will have to be reconfigured. The playground committee will figure out what to keep, what to reconfigure, where to leave more open space, etc.
- Ms. Duncan's last day will be November 6. We have a teacher who has accepted the position -- Katrina Larue – but she can't join until January, because she is currently at a different school. The resource and



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support teachers assigned to her class will remain the same throughout the two transitions with the temporary teacher, to provide some continuity.

- Ms. Whitelaw is on leave until December; **Xozia Cassey** is filling in.
- Leanne (SSA) will also be away until December. Svetlana will stay on to fill in until she's back.
- The meet-the-staff video was great. Some teachers did more narration and detail about what is in the classroom, and that was really nice [Joss's comment]. Maybe next time we could do a separate video by each teacher, for that teacher's class? Also, a short intro would be nice [Delia-Jane's comment].
- Federal COVID funding (\$10 per student) will partly go toward outdoor learning; some of this could go toward the outdoor sitting pads
  - Schools have been asked to apply for additional money from the pot of federal funds; a covered play structure is one of the things that could be applied for. Birgitte asked for a covered walkway, or, as second choice, a covered play area.
- Emilia is now one of our noon-hour supervisors (both of our supervisors are now Bayview parents!).
- Daniel from Rhythm Resource is working on virtual options for a drumming workshop; he got in touch with Ebru Montagano. He did a proposal for a 2-week virtual session, but it was very expensive (about \$7000 for the two weeks). Birgitte wonders if he could do a sample session with just one class, to see how it goes. We could get a \$500 Art Starts grant from the district for this.
- Student/parent conferences will be next week, online or by phone. We'll see how it goes!
  - Lynch bus lines will be reminded several times about the early dismissals.
- The K classes got their bus lineup perfect this afternoon, for the first time!
- Question from Joss: you were going to order playground play equipment? [Answer:] The balls and skipping ropes have arrived, and Emilia has seen some of them in action. Once all are labeled, they will go out, probably tomorrow. The kids are enjoying them.

#### **4. New School: Michael Rossi** [joined the meeting at this point]

- There are no particular updates right now, beyond last meeting's updates from Kent. If there are any questions, Michael will try to answer to find answers for them.
- Reminder: be sure to keep Birgitte CC-ed on any emails we send to Michael, so that she knows what's up when Michael consults with her.
- We need to prioritize items on the new-school wish list.
  - for deciding this, we need to figure out what needs to have money available right away (e.g., we had to have the kiln vent money in advance of construction).
  - Playground surfacing and equipment should be prioritized because they need to go in right away.
  - Leave learning-commons furniture for later: we can use the school without it, and the teachers want to live in the space for a bit first anyway.
- David Richardson donated \$5000. and is also running a challenge to other real estate agents to match funds for interior furniture "to make Bayview feel like home."
- The wiring for short-throw projectors will be in place in every room, so we don't have to procure projectors before building completion.
- Sound system and scoreboard in the auditorium: Michael will ask Kent if that wiring will be in place even if we haven't yet secured the funding for the equipment.
- The kiln vent has now been funded, by a grant from the Wayne Ngan foundation.



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### - Playing field:

- If we were to find funding for artificial turf, would VSB maintain it? Michael has a query in regarding this, and will forward the answer to Birgitte when it comes (in the next day or two).
- Michael notes that when dogs are on artificial turf, there will be lots of pee on it, and a couple of parents noted that artificial turf gets very stinky when dog pee is on it.
- A query came to Kelly from a parent: how about having a portion of the field with rubber on it, for stuff like hopscotch, etc. But this type of change could necessitate a change order, which would slow things down considerably. And would we want to cut down the overall size of the field, for activities such as soccer?
- How about real grass? It would likely turn into a mud pit, but that is still better than gravel. It would cost about \$32K additional, and the money would be needed next February.
  - There are grants out there for greening spaces.

### - The committee for outdoor planning has been formed.

### **Fundraising Update:** Kelly Ryan

- Kelly needed numbers/dimensions from plans for the new school and grounds in order to fill out some of the grant applications; she received them today—thank you!
- Is there a specific provider of rubberized playground surfaces preferred by VSB? Habitat (playground company) seems to be willing to help a lot with grant writing, but they need to know first if they would be picked as the provider. Michael will ask the grounds department head about this.
  - Per Kelly's research, Marathon seems to be the main provider of poured rubber surfaces in the area (they are used, e.g., by Habitat playgrounds).
  - There are lots of grants for the rubber surfacing, because it's made of recycled tires—the Habitat contact says the grants are pretty easy to get.
  - \$16-20 per square foot, but with grants, it could be feasible.
  - It's a chicken-and-egg problem: in order to get numbers from providers, you have to commit to them.
  - Michael says: Marathon is used by VSB (being used at Nelson Elementary), so that should be ok.
  - for grant writing, we need to decide how much of the surface to be rubber, how much not.
- Birgitte asks: can we get a better estimate of the cost of the tech equipment and installation? The number that Nelson Elementary gave Birgitte sounded like a huge amount. VSB requires a specific type of projector, so they need to give us that info and estimate.
- Some of the new schools are using their multipurpose room as their performance/assembly space, but we will probably use the gym, so the sound system would go in there
- Brick Campaign update: \$4,750 so far, and we have a match from a donor, so we're at \$9500.
- Thank you, Michael, for joining our meeting.

### **5. Treasurer's Update:** Emilia Doro

- Regular account balance: \$ 26,427.63
- Term deposits: 3-year term \$ 15,375; cashable \$10,000 (for the kiln), annual nonredeemable \$15,000
- Gaming account: \$ 6,535.71

### **6. Events:**

- **Halloween Events/Orders:** Emilia Doro



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- There will be no pumpkin carving, but some teachers are doing their own activities.
- We are having a sale of pumpkins, gourds, and candy necklaces; 54 necklaces, 28 pumpkins sold so far.
- Joss has set up an ordering platform on the PAC website.
- Necklaces will be distributed on October 30.
- Thank you, Emilia, for organizing this and giving some festive options in the absence of events!

### - **Holiday Market/Orders:** Emilia Doro

- No in-person craft market this year, but we will do all our usual orders for tea, coffee, chocolates, Okanagan Wine Shop, wreaths, Xmas trees, poinsettias, etc.
- We will send out an order form and have online ordering
- We're not sure yet how to distribute the items.
- We will see if we can put together a virtual market with the craft vendors who have attended the market in the past.
- Emilia would love to have volunteers for coordinating, especially any with younger children, who could provide continuity for the market once Emilia's kids have graduated.

### **7. Holiday Support for Hastings School:** Joss Taylor

- Hastings is our sister school, and we historically have provided holiday gift hampers to families, to support those in need.
- Last year, we bought and distributed gift cards to various businesses, as per preferences of the families at Hastings School (almost \$3000 worth). They were very grateful.
- We should coordinate this more in advance than last year. Joss will start working on it.

### **8. Bayview Spirit Wear and Merchandise Sale Update:** Joss Taylor

- The first sale was masks only, then we held another sale with a wide variety of spirit wear. New this year: athletic "dry-fit" t-shirts, and toques; both were popular. We made a total profit of \$1,232.
- The new provider, Market Branding, has been great to deal with—excellent service and assistance on all levels.
  - T-shirt costs were a bit higher, but everything else was lower-cost than with past providers.
- Several parents have inquired about doing another sale in November. We would need to meet order minimum requirements, so we could end up with surplus stock.

### **9. Open PAC roles:**

- Class reps: the online form for opting in to PAC emails includes a call for class reps.
- Each teacher needs a parent to serve as liaison with that class's parents. The main role of the class rep ends up being to organize holiday and end-of-year gifts for the teachers. Depending on the teacher, the other duties vary.

### **10. New Business**

- Joss: people want resources on talking to kids about technology. "Screenagers" – a movie about dealing with teenagers and technology—has been made available to the public for free during the pandemic.



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