



WGSS PAC Meeting Minutes
DRAFT

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

7:00 – 7:52 PM
WGSS LIBRARY

- PAC Executive Anuschka Brhelle (President), Julie Croft (Treasurer - Recorder), Kristen Faulkner (DPAC), Stephen Northrup (Vice President)
- Parents Ming Zhan, Xianpeng Gao, Amy, Iaroslava Khrystina, Stacey Mehchuk, Natalie Wise, Amy Liu, Sarmanjit Bhaff, Karen Roeck, Amy Flint, Cindy Gus, Aniko Frano, Jashan Dhaliwal, Renee Trudeau, Zoe Zhou, Jia W, Dorothy Jia, Yan Lei, Laurel Klager, Wilkins Kurok, Kristin Brown, Jana Li, Aaron Wei, Peter Ahn, Harpreet Grewal, Xueman Li, Sufang Ye, Chantal Bergen, Richard Zhang, Jennifer Smith, Mei Chen, Zhang Yin, Heather McNeill, Zinay van Royen, Helen Chen, Irene Weg, Marianne Cunnold, Zuobin Xie, Thomas Wang, Zuri Scrivens, Priti Flanagan, plus 2 illegible names.
- Staff Mr. Jeremy Lyndon (WGSS Principal), Neil Powell (WGSS Vice Principal I-P)

1 Call to Order

1.1 Call to Order

A Brhelle called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, welcomed parents and staff. Introductions and quorum determined. A Brhelle gave the territorial acknowledgement and introduced the 2023/2024 PAC executive.

1.2 Regrets

None.

2 Approval Items

2.1 Agenda – Tuesday, September 12, 2023

MOTION	TO approve the Tuesday, September-12-2023 WGSS PAC meeting agenda
CARRIED	K Faulkner / S Northrup

2.2 Minutes – Tuesday, June 13, 2023

MOTION	TO approve the Tuesday, June-13-2023 WGSS PAC meeting minutes
CARRIED	S Northrup / K Roeck

3 Reports

3.1 Administration

WGSS has welcomed many new students to the school this year. There are approximately 2,100 kids and all classrooms are being used, which impacts space for teacher prep time. WGSS has 48 new or returning staff for an approximate total of 185 staff. Neil Powell from Langley Fundamental Christian School has joined the WGSS community as Vice Principal to replace Lori Burnham who has moved to another school. The first couple of weeks have been very busy with course changes, new students, and assemblies. The Spain study tour students arrived September 12th. WGSS has a full complement of counsellors this year, as two additional counsellors have been hired, for a total of eight.

The Grad ceremony is scheduled for June 17, 2024, with the banquet on June 24, 2024. WGSS was hoping to transition to a new venue this year, the Langley Event Centre, but unfortunately is not able to. The ceremony will still be held at Chandos this year and space will be very tight as over 400 students are expected to graduate. WGSS is working with Mountain Secondary to coordinate the ceremonies with the LEC for 2025 and forward.

Hub Days have been scheduled again for this year. Club time and sports teams will meet outside of Hub time. Meet the Teacher Night is scheduled for September 21st.

Questions from parents: How do students start a new club? There is more information on this on the WGSS website. Students who want to start a club need to present to Student Council, and if approved, the proposal is then reviewed by Mr. Powell for final approval. Dry Grad Committee: parents are needed to form a new committee for this year. If you are interested, please contact Mr. Lyndon. Status on parking lot painting: still TBC. It is being contracted out and the District is coordinating with several schools, weather will need to be considered as well. Textbooks: not all classes have textbooks, other sources are used often. If you have questions about resources, please contact your child's teacher. Seat/desk upgrades: not many classrooms still have the old, attached desk/chair combos. The cost of upgrading a classroom is approximately \$10,000.

3.2 President

A Bhrhelle thanked the Dry Grad President and Vice President from 2022/2023 for the donation of \$1500 to the PAC after a refund they had received. The position of Secretary is still open, please contact the PAC if you are interested. Training will be provided.

3.3 Vice President

S Northrup thanked the parents for a great turnout for our first PAC meeting of the 2023/2024 year.

3.4 Treasurer

J Croft reviewed the statements, fiscal year end, and when we anticipate receiving the Gaming Grant. We are still waiting for the final invoices from gaming funds to be received for 2022/2023. We are also waiting for the PST rebate cheques; these are processed by the Accounting team at the District office.

3.5 DPAC

K Faulker provided a summary of what DPAC is and what is often presented at meetings. Information is posted on the DPAC Facebook page. The DPAC is looking for new executive members and are hoping for more diversity in the members.

4 Old Business

4.1 Staff Appreciation Lunch

We typically hold the lunch in June; however, June is a very busy time for staff and volunteers. We would like to move it to April on a Design & Assessment Day. A Brhelle will work with Mr. Lyndon to identify a date.

5 New Business

5.1 PAC Website

The PAC website is still a work in progress. It will be basic with contact information and meeting schedules at this time. We are hoping that it will be up and running by the October PAC meeting.

5.2 Funding Requests

A review of gaming grant info was provided. We receive approximately \$20 per child which equals approximately \$40,000 each year. Funds are received in October. The PAC executive, in consultation with parents, disburse the funds based on the applications we receive. The funds can only be used for extracurricular activities and

cannot support curricular activities (e.g. not related to the classroom). Funding applications can be submitted by any teacher or club are received and sent to the PAC for review. Those that meet the funding guidelines are then brought forward to the PAC meeting for a vote, typically in November. Funding request forms are due by October 11th this year, and a fillable PDF will be sent to Mr. Lyndon for distribution.

Going forward, all invoices for the 2023/2024 fiscal year for the gaming grant will need to be received by the WGSS office by May 1st, so that they may be processed by the PAC prior to our fiscal year end. No invoices after that date will be reimbursed as funds should be spent in the year in which they are granted.

5.3 Questions from Parents

Does anyone from WGSS monitor the Walnut Grove community groups on Facebook? It is not a PAC mandate to comment in any way. People have the right to express their opinion. WGSS does not monitor either. On occasion the principal will be forwarded a post, however, people have the right to express their opinion. Why was my child not scheduled in classes with their friend? WGSS has 2,100 students and it is impossible to register students based on friend groups, which is information that is not collected. For example, there are 16 sections of EN9. A parent commented that it is a great opportunity for students to meet new people and make new friendships. Friends who are not in the same classes, can still spend time together at lunch or outside of school.

6 Correspondence

6.1 PAC Facebook Page

@WGSS PAC – The PAC posted on the WG Community page for parents to join the PAC FB page.

7 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm.

MOTION	THAT the WGSS PAC meeting be adjourned
CARRIED	S Northrup / K Faulkner

Next meeting: October 10, 2023