

Parent Volunteer Group

AT FRASER ACADEMY

PVG MEETING NOTES

PVG Meeting Friday October 4th, 8:00am 5th Floor of Fraser Academy

Attendance:

Debbie Heeps, Kirsti Hardy, Jill Elliott, Brock Martland, Andrea Potter, Belinda Curyer, Vivian Cantas, Judy Van Halst, Kim Handley, Lesa Dawson, Klaus Hermodsson Susie Stewart, Doug Paul, Aranda Broderick, Nori MacGowan, Laurena Fraser, Belinda Boyson, Anand Rampersaud, Brandy Hughes, Kiley Lundin, Karen Seder, Zanna Downes

Andrea Potter, PVG Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:07 am.

Sign in and welcome - Andrea Potter

Ms. Potter opened by asking everyone in the room to introduce themselves; we were happy to see many new parents present; faculty members present include:

- Head of School, Maureen Steltman
- Deputy Head of School, Tasso Kanavos
- Assistant Head of School, Bryson Norrish
- Director of Advancement, Neil Johnston
- Executive Assistant, Natalie Glover

Welcome and update from Head of School Maureen Steltman

Mrs. Steltman, Mr. Kanavos, Mr. Norrish and Mr. Johnston spoke briefly about the successful start to the school year, described their roles, as well as the ongoing changes, development and faculty collaboration occurring within the school.

Traffic

A big point of discussion was the removal of the traffic circle at West 10th and Vine by the City of Vancouver. Unanimously it was agreed that the implementation of a one-way street on 10th has been confusing, and the lack of stop signs is proving to be hectic and dangerous. Mrs. Steltman informed the group that she has been in continuous discussion with the City and hopefully it will be resolved in the near future.

Class parents & socials - Belinda Curyer

Ms. Curyer spoke to the roles of class parents, who are liaisons between parents in each grade and the PVG. They are instrumental in organizing socials both for parents and for students, and there have been a number of successful events already this year. Every class parent role has been filled, for which Ms. Curyer thanked the group.

Ms. Potter informed the group that prior to the beginning of the school year, the PVG emailed out a survey to the parent community at Fraser Academy, and 19 surveys were completed. The goal going forward will be to further engage the parents in the school community.

Financial update - Brandy Hughes

Ms. Hughes discussed the financial standing of the group, and announced that the PVG would be receiving another \$5k gaming grant this academic year to be used for extra items around the school.

Ms. Hughes presented the financial standing to the group:

General account	\$68,952
Gaming	\$5,980
Total	\$74,932

The group unanimously decided to utilize the remainder of last year’s gaming grant to complete the front of school landscaping project, which includes putting in outdoor furniture: 2 picnic tables, 2 benches, a round table and a garbage/recycling bin. The group also discussed the maintenance of the garden in front of the school, and the possibility of parents getting involved over the summer. Mrs. Steltman noted that faculty member Catriona Gordon is organizing a student group to do some gardening around the school, and the PVG actioned that they would get in touch with her regarding collaboration.

Andrea Potter: Holiday Baking

Andrea moved on to discuss the Holiday Baking event; the PVG is looking for someone to take the lead on this. The role involves setting up the event at the school and coordinating volunteers to run baked goods from the cars up to the 5th Floor. The group also requested a volunteer to take the lead on the annual Holiday Baking Event. Kirsti Hardie volunteered to lead this event, with the assistance of a few other members of the PVG.

Andrea Potter: Purdy’s Fundraiser

This has been a successful fundraiser and funds can be considered to complete the landscaping furniture purchases. Donna Williams has graduated out of Fraser Academy, so a new team lead was requested. Kiley Lundin has volunteered for team lead with assistance from Vivian, Brandy and Susie S. Kiley will organize the process and further details will be announced.

Debbie Heeps: Used Uniforms

Ms. Heeps discussed organizing the used uniform closet in the lobby to make it easier for students and parents to find correct sizes. Kim and Joe offered to help organize the uniform drawer. With regards to having students’ names remain on their FA jackets, Administration will make the ultimate decision and report back to the PVG. The group will review to add a used uniform sale date at the end of August before school starts.

Action item: the PVG offered to prepare a write up requesting clothing donations from the previous grad class, and Mrs. Steltman agreed that our Marketing & Communications Manager, Jessica Gibson would distribute in an email. People who volunteered to help with the sorting and organizing of used uniform: Kim, Jill, Lisa, Caroline, Amanda and Christine offered to do this.

New Business

Mrs. Steltman announced that Board Member, Wendy Reifel, has offered to host a coffee social for the Board and the PVG at her home in late October or early November; confirmation of a date will be decided in the following days.

Some parents expressed concern over the drop off zone out front of the school; the City has been issuing tickets, claiming the area is a no-stop zone, instead of a no-parking zone. Mrs. Steltman is aware of the situation and suggested to the group that they park somewhere nearby, such as the Kitsilano Community Centre, and walk to the school to collect their child, rather than run the risk of being ticketed in residential parking zones.

Another parent voiced concern over the Pro-D Days not aligning with the Vancouver School Board dates, making it difficult to plan for their child being out of school. Mrs. Steltman acknowledged this, but stated that the faculty plans the In-service and Pro-D Days strategically to meet the school's needs throughout the academic year. She noted that FA's holidays are mostly in alignment with that of the VSB.

With regards to Jr Grandparents Day, the question of parking arose; Mrs. Steltman stated that a newsletter addressing parking alternatives would be sent out that day. Another parent noted that the name Grandparents Day is having an adverse effect on their child who recently lost a grandparent. There was a suggestion to re-brand Grandparents Day as special Guest Day.

Next meeting is November 15, 2019 at 8am.

With no further business being presented, Andrea Potter adjourned the meeting at 9:18 am.

Reminder please fill out the [PVG parent survey!](#)