

Blueridge Parent Advisory Counsel (BPAC)

General Meeting : October 28, 2021, 7:00PM

Location: Blueridge Elementary School Library

Present: Rachel Harper, Jennifer Dickson, Katie Garrett, Amanda Guest, Kim Cairns, Bianca Bujan, Davi Moore, Elham Nasseri, Sarah Grant, Ayesha Hirjii, Natalie Drolet, Cheryl Sauve, Harlan Clark, Sanaz Kashani, Maryn Quarless (Teacher rep), Cathy Jefferson (Vice- Principal) , Susan Teegan (Principal)

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING BELOW

1. Welcome

Rachel Harper opened the meeting as Chair at 7:02, Katie Garrett was the Recording Secretary.

2. Approval of Agenda/Minutes - Minutes from previous meeting appr

The Chair convened the Meeting by welcoming the members and thanking them for attending the Meeting. Round table introduction

3. Outside Guests None

4. Principal/ Vice Principal Report - Began by acknowledging the lands that we are on. Giving thanks to the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwu7mesh Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation upon whose unceded traditional territory Blueridge resides.

Overview of what's happening at Blueridge:

a) continuation of CARES, featuring an animal each month that relates to indigenous studies. October was the Bear, symbolizing bravery and strength, November is Orca - symbolizing unity, kindness, and compassion; helps people in need; "noble navigator"; guardian of the sea; song is considered by some to be voices of ancestors

b) ***Lunch supervisors***- current group of grade 7. Go into the classrooms with masks on to help with the younger grades. Primarily help with donning outerwear and hand sanitization. Very popular with the older grades.

c) ***3 key goals*** monthly update: (for more details please visit the Blueridge elementary website via the NVSD www.sd44.ca0)

1) ***Inclusivity/social emotional learning***- second step, "caught ya", grade specific activities going up around the school. Resources thanks to money raised through PAC fundraisers.

2) ***Literacy***- majority of teachers participated in the Adrienne Gear reading series from K-7. Book resources supplied by PAC fundraiser. Currently, looking at building reading strategies and comprehension (Term1) . Pro-D on Nov 1 is literacy focused.

3) ***Honouring a community that promotes the First Peoples Principles of Learning*** - Sept focus went well with Orange Shirt Day, and Truth and Reconciliation day. District gifted a banner that is being displayed in hallway. Dallas (indigenous support workers) attended today to help with the music program. The focus this month is: Learning is embedded in memory, history and story.

- 4) Introduction of the new NCTR Symbol representing the Journey of Truth and Reconciliation. <https://nctr.ca/about/about-the-nctr/nctr-logo/>
- d) **Grade 7 Basketball**- has started, intra-murals Gr. 7 only this year, format due to COVID Ms. D'sa is the teacher supervisor for this. Mr. Davis helps support game scrimmage (held on Weds). E) music- again thank you to the PAC for the support.
- f) **Saleema Noon-Human Body Science** - All classes were visited virtually this week general consensus was that it went very well. Hoping to make it a regular yearly event. Thanks to PAC fundraising and to the teachers/faculty for the accommodating and scheduling.
- g) **GRIT** program is booked for December and January for Grades 4-7social emotional resiliency program. Focus on anxiety, self advocacy.
www.gritvancouver.com

5. Play First Lunch Program presentation- Ayesha Hirjii - addendum- adding more time (20 minutes from 15 minutes) onto current eating time. - See attached power point.

Discussion ensued- Thank you to Ayesha for taking the time to bring this very important topic forward

Comments by faculty: Up until this was brought forward by Ayesha, faculty reports very little feedback from parents with regard to this issue. The staff encourage parents to please come forward with concerns either directly to Mrs. Teegan or a specific teacher.

There was an Initial communication sent out in Sept stating that Blueridge was reverting to an Eat first for the short term however staffing sees the benefit of the Play first/Eat and is happy to revert back once COVID and staffing allows. Staffing levels at this time do not allow for this program to be sustainable. Recent Family Of Schools meeting addressed this issue (as per Jennifer Dickson)within the group of schools all are doing things differently, no standard routine for any therefore it's very difficult to compare. Younger grades are getting extra time outside of the allotted 15 minutes.

Action: Please contact Susan Teegan if you are concerned about your child's lunchtime routine, faculty to monitor situation closely.

***Did you know: 2 fruit and veg options available now through the BC School Fruit and Veggie Nutritional Program. This can be accessed by the children independently throughout the day. Bowls are located outside the office.



6. Review and Discuss:

a. Treasury report - nothing to report

b. Class reps- Sanaz Kashani - email sent out today. All the class reps spots filled. Thank you to the parents who have volunteered. Introduced Natalie Drolet who will likely be taking over as of next year. New addition to responsibilities is the grade allocated fundraisers. Please check your email for class lists and intro email.

c. Hot lunch program - running smoothly..

d. Current Fundraiser/Events

- **Blueridge Gear**- sold \$2400 worth of merchandise, delivery scheduled for middle of November. Check weekly bulletin for details.
- **Neufelds- ordering online** just opened. Check social media for community favourites. Closing date- Nov 15. Delivery date Nov 25.
- **Cobbs**- unable to do personal points and school allocation at the same time.

e. Upcoming Fundraisers/Events

- **Grit**- Dec/Jan Grades 4-7. More details following www.gritvancouver.com
- **Purdy's- Gr 4** - opening Nov 7. Closing TBD. Ordering is online, link will be sent out over weekly BPAC email. Should be available for pick-up early December.
- **Scholastic book fair** -in person Nov 29-Dec 3. Currently working with Occupational health and Safety committee to determine how it will run. May need volunteers. Stay tuned.

f. Current Business

- **COVID** - Superintendent email out today re-iterated parents/caregivers wearing masks for pick-up and drop-off. No news yet as of how the vaccine for under 12 will be distributed.
- **Parking and Safety** - Still an ongoing issue. Jen D to be contacting safety and traffic counsel to come by during prime drop-off time. Signage needs to be improved. Crossing guard request follow-up - no longer a paid position, anyone in the community can volunteer but no specific initiative within the district. There has been little response from district with regards to this issue.

8. Call for other business (time permitting)

- **Parent Social** -Golfing/social-fundraiser proposed- Davi Moore and Katie Garrett volunteered to look into this as an option for the spring. More info to come...

9. Adjournment of Meeting

Upon motion duly made by the Chair and seconded, IT WAS RESOLVED that the meeting concluded at 8:50pm and there be no further business brought before the meeting. Next meeting date and time to be set at a further date.

CHAIR

RECORDING SECRETARY