

Spectrum School Parent Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 @ 6:30PM

Meeting called to order at 6:31PM

Attendees: Aaron Norris, Kindree Draper, Christine Surridge, Moira, Terry, Lauren, Anna, Lauren, Kristina, Tricia

1. Introductions

2. Review and approve January Meeting Minutes and February Agenda

- Motion to approve January 14, 2025 meeting minutes by Christina; seconded by Moira
- Motion to approve February 11, 2025 agenda by Anna; seconded by Moira

3. Principal / Admin Report

- 2 weeks into semester two
- Learning Updates to be posted this Friday for semester one
- Musical happening over the next two weeks, kids are very excited.
- Night of Dance held on January 16 was a great showcase
- Winter athletics wrapping up for some, Sr. Boys play in city championships tomorrow night at UVIC, followed by Islands, then hopefully Provincials.
- Wrestling team a couple of kids medaled at Islands and will go to provincials
- Spring sports getting underway Rugby, Tennis, Golf, Ultimate, Track and Field, and soccer. Hosting provincials for Senior Girls. At UVIC on turf.
- Course planning for next year, grade assemblies held today, mini course fair at the end of day to learn about electives.
- Grade 12 assembly on grad package, which will be going home to parents tomorrow
- Transfer process this week – school is quite full so unlikely any new students will be able to transfer in – most are from the catchment.
- Programs of choice notices out this week
- Lahal tournament is tomorrow – 600 extra people in the school. Quality Foods donated all the food. Anticipating a busy and loud day.
- Renewing school goals is underway. Staff reviewing first. Survey showing that students score high on feeling connection and belonging. Increased student participation in athletics and courses, indicators show trending positively. Second goal needs reworking. Looking at data around student knowledge on Indigenous Knowledge and ways of being. Staff first to provide input on goals, followed by students, then PAC will have a chance to provide input.

4. Recap and discussion re: VCPAC meeting January 29, 2025

- In the wake of the SD61 Board being terminated by the Minister of Education and Childcare on January 30, 2025, Spectrum Chair thanked the school parent community and administration for their steadfast support in taking a stand on the school safety plan issue with the Board and VCPAC.
- Recap of the special VCPAC meeting on the January 29th – additional meeting held to accommodate Board request to review of policy 5145. The meeting was heated and showed a general lack of agreement on a number of items including:
 - A point of order brought to discuss the VCPAC's last election where according to the constitution the executive may have been inappropriately acclaimed into their positions, many of which are filled by members of the Greater Victoria Teachers' Association (GVTA) executive. Question as to whether that would be a conflict of interest for those individuals. The VCPAC executive ignored the point of order and added it as an item to the end of the evening's agenda which seemed in contravention of Robert's Rules.
 - VCPAC executive wanted a vote to post a statement about Minister of Education and Child Care's request to meet with individual school PACS - proposed content reflected an intentional tone that

described school PACs not having enough time to prepare to answer the open ended questions about the “climate and culture of their school community”. Generated a great deal of heated discussion at the meeting.

- (now former) Chair Nicole Duncan outlined the Board’s desire to bring forward a revised Policy 5145 that had not be updated since 1979. While the [current policy stated](#) refers only to situations where students may questioned by police as being “inappropriate at the school”, the Board’s responsibility to act as the “in loco parentis”, and upholding the student’s rights – the revised policy as drafted by the (former) Board included a line implying that if police insisted on conducting an interview with a student on school grounds that the Administration would “*Ensure that the student is safe from violence, racially derogatory language, or otherwise abusive treatment of the student by the police. This includes, for instance, **the student being kept safe from the use of strip searches at school.***” The discussion of this proposed revised policy had a very strong reaction from some attendees, some of whom expressed their belief that the Board had deliberately included inflammatory and misleading information that implied that strip searches of students would even be possible on school grounds. Moreover, it was also mentioned that while there was still no approved district safety plan it seemed wholly inappropriate to be proposing a policy that should be in alignment with the overarching plan.

5. Financial update and 2024/25 Budget

- Account Balances
 - General Account: \$1,262.88
 - Gaming Account: \$21,109.59
- Latest transactions and activities
 - Cheque to Counselling - \$146.98 for light therapy & calm music out of their approved \$750 max
 - Cheque to Lahal Club - \$422.88 for hoodies for tournament – have now reached their \$500 max
 - Deposit from the Music Department’s 2024 Holiday Craft Fair - \$915.75 and required gaming license report was submitted
 - Gaming license for 2025 Grad 50/50 – Online ticket sales will start on the Monday following Spring Break and will run through May 11. The draw will take place on May 13 at 8PM (following the PAC meeting). Tickets will be 1 for \$10, 3 for \$25, and 10 for \$50 – all within the license parameters. Proceeds will be used for venue rental, decorations and entertainment - all appropriate spending within gaming rules, and that use is included in the application.

6. Questions / Comments / Opens

- None

7. Meeting Adjourned

- Meeting Adjourned at 7:37PM; motion by Anna; seconded by Christine
- Next Meeting: April 8th @ 6:30PM