

Moscrop PAC General Meeting – November 16, 2015

1. Welcome and Introduction - Mary MacKillop (PAC Co-Chair)

- Meeting started at 7: 02 pm
- As only executive members were in attendance (excluding Nicole Geyer), the decision was made to hold an executive meeting instead.

2. Principal's Report – Victoria Lee

- Email issues – District is experiencing issues as a result of phishing attacks and some email addresses are not accepting emails generated by SD 41 accounts.
- Remembrance Day Ceremonies – very touching assemblies with performances by Choir, Dance and Orchestra students, a beautiful visual presentation and a speech by a veteran who is a former Moscrop Student.
- The Halloween Dance was very successful, although the number of students who attend dances is on the decline.
- Parent/Teacher Interviews – seeking input from PAC about the possibility of an early dismissal instead of a late start on the day after the interviews
- Staff Olympics – staff members from the following departments are battling each other for bragging rights with all of the profits going to the Terry Fox Foundation: Fine Arts, Applied Skills, Social Studies, PE, Student Services and the Administration.
- Volleyball – Senior Girls and Senior Boys Volleyball teams have both won the District Championships and are headed to the Lower Mainland Competitions which will be hosted by Moscrop. The Junior Girls are also leading the District at this time.

3. Moscrop Signage Issue – General Discussion

- School sign – District has exhausted all avenues with regards to the zoning changes required. Currently, we are looking for companies that don't require a permit.
- Burnaby Central replaced the whole signage inside out.
- Mary MacKillop will contact Kathy @ BCIT and checked out whether BCIT electrician 4th year students would be willing to work on this project. It will be a partnership with BCIT.
- Gaming funds are limited to not using the money for installation.

4. DPAC Report – See attached

5. Treasurer's Report – Vera Dermanschi

- Gaming grant for 2015-2016 was received in the amount of \$28,400, as expected.
- As of today the balance of the Gaming account is \$42,956.23.

- Request for funds were submitted by teachers for review/approval in the amount of \$27,300. Finance committee has not met yet, but they have discussed requests via email. We would like to thank Bettina for her input and Victoria for all their work.
- Most of the expenses are in BC/Canada, with only some Math contests taking place in the US. As preliminary approval by the Gaming Commission is required for out of country expenses, a letter has been drafted to request the approval, following the Finance Committee meeting.
- After adding \$1,000 for Dry Grad and \$3,000 for PAC scholarships, the total amount of expenses for 2015 - 2016 will be \$31,300. This allows a surplus of \$11,656.23. As discussed at a previous PAC meeting, the remaining funds are earmarked for the school's sign replacement project.

6. Other

- It was recommended to register for BCCPAC as a member by Dec 15.

7. Parent Education

- Nicole Geyer has not received a commitment date yet from Justin Davis.

8. Dry Grad

- Unfortunately, to date, there has not been any interest from any parents to organize a Dry Grade. We will draft up something in the ListServ asking parents to volunteer or start the dry grad process in early January. If we do not receive any interest, there will not be a Dry Grad for 2016.

9. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Next Executive Meeting – January 18, 2016 @ 6 pm

Next General Meeting – January 18, 2016 @ 7 pm

DPAC Report – November 16, 2015

Summary of September 28 and October 26, 2015 DPAC meetings

September 28, 2015

New Curriculum update

The School District spent time last summer talking about the new curriculum. The School district hosted a summer leadership forum with guest speaker Dr. Yong Zhao who spoke about the future of education and having students tap into their passions. The new curriculum focuses on this idea of passion-based learning. Burnaby has been moving in this direction for some time and has begun the process of introducing the new curriculum, which will be in place by September 2016.

Assistant-Superintendents Heather Hart and Wanda Mitchell discussed the new curriculum:

- Shifting from “finding out to figuring out”. Information can now be easily accessed. Students need to learn the skills to successfully locate, analyze and apply information.
- New curriculum provides some flexibility for teachers and learners to engage in personalized learning.
- Three core competencies: communication, creative and critical thinking and personal/social competencies ; these have been identified as integral skills that students will need when they enter the workforce and begin to compete in a global economy.
- Core competencies are the foundation upon which the curricular competencies (literacy and numeracy) are built.
- Existing curriculum had many objectives to cover and completing all the prescribed learning outcomes was challenging.
- The new curriculum (i) reduces the prescriptiveness; (ii) allows flexibility for students and teachers to personalize the learning experience and (iii) balances the foundational skills students need to learn with higher level concepts they need to understand to succeed in life.
- Aboriginal content and perspectives have been integrated into all subjects.
- Learning based on “Know, Do, Understand” model: (i) students will “Know” the Content Learning Standards (essential topics and knowledge at each grade level); (ii) what students will “Do” are the Curricular Competencies (skills, strategies and processes that students develop over time and are subject specific); and (iii) students will “Understand” Big Ideas (generalization and principles and key concepts important in the area of learning).
- Time line – K to Grade 9 full implementation September 2016; draft curriculum for Grades 10 – 12 available online for (full implementation in September 2017).
- Improved assessment and reporting methods. An advisory group has been tasked with providing recommendations. Report for K – Grade 9 available online. Working on implementation. A report on Grades 10 – 12 was due in October 2015. Anticipate time line for implementation 2016-2017 school year.
- Provincial Exams to be redesigned to meet needs of the new curriculum. Science 10 provincial exam to be piloted this spring and Burnaby selected to participate in the pilot.
- All professional development in Burnaby this year will focus on the new curriculum and its implementation. District staff development teams will support the roll-out of the new curriculum and sessions will be offered at the school district level. One professional day to be dedicated to aboriginal education.

Q&A

- How can parents support their children? Continue to regularly communicate with teachers; encourage students to focus on the importance of the question rather than the answer. New curriculum focuses on innovative practices for problem-solving and thinking critically.
- Will new textbooks be required? Existing textbooks will be used. Burnaby will also continue to rely on online resources.
- Will the Capstone and AP program be affected? Burnaby will continue to follow the AP guidelines.
- Where can parents find information on the new curriculum? See the Ministry's website: www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca
- Is there information on training that will be provided for teachers and new reporting procedures? Waiting for guidelines from the Ministry on both items.

The Burnaby DPAC website has information regarding the Curriculum Redesign and FAQ (www.burnabydpac.com) .

Dr. Yong Zhao – World Class Learners – Michael J Fox Theatre

November 25, 2015 @ 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

This presentation unlocks the secrets to cultivating independent thinkers who are willing and able to use their learning differently to create jobs and contribute positively to the globalized society. World Class Learners presents concepts that teachers, administrators and even parents can implement immediately, including how to:

- Understand the entrepreneurial spirit and harness it
- Foster student autonomy and leadership
- Champion inventive learners with necessary resources
- Develop global partners and resources

With the liberty to make meaningful decisions and explore nontraditional learning opportunities, today's students will develop into tomorrow's global entrepreneurs.

Dr. Yong Zhao currently serves as the Presidential Chair and Director of the Institute for Global and Online Education in the College of Education, University of Oregon, where he is also a Professor in the Department of Educational Measurement, Policy, and Leadership. He is also a professorial fellow at the Mitchell Institute for Health and Education Policy, Victoria University. His works focus on the implications of globalization and technology on education.

SEATING IS LIMITED AND REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED: www.burnabydpac.com

October 26, 2015

There was a presentation on the Burnaby RCMP Liaison program. The School Liaison Officer Program provides a positive, visible police presence in Burnaby schools and the surrounding neighbourhood. Designated school liaison police officers work collaboratively and proactively with members of the school community in dealing with police related issues.

The main role of the Officers is safety; building a visible presence; build rapport with students; attend informal and formal school events; provide positive police relationships; educate/guide youth away from criminal activity and crime.

Further to the presentation by Wayne Best at our last PAC meeting, the RCMP Liaison officers work closely with the Safe School Specialists.

Other Parent Information Evenings

Social Emotional Learning and School Connectedness

January 27, 2016 @ 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Burnaby Central Secondary

This session addresses how one school in Burnaby focused on building connectedness through purposeful and intentional involvement of parents, staff, children and community members. A short 12 min video will be shown which highlights their journey.

Taking Social Emotional Learning Home

February 24, 2016 @ 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Burnaby Central Secondary

What do you already do, and what can you add, to develop and encourage social emotional skills with your children at home? This session will help make explicit what you are already doing at home to support and refine your child(ren)'s SEL skills. We will also discuss other ways to build on what you already do. Parental resources, such as websites and blogs, will also be shared.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS: www.burnabydpac.com