



Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School
Parent Advisory Council (SWC PAC)
7055 Heather Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6P 3P7
Web: <http://churchill.vsb.bc.ca/pac/html/pac.htm>
Email: churchillpac@hotmail.com

S W C P A C GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 31, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School
School Cafeteria

The PAC meeting was called to order by PAC Co-chair Helen Nichols at 7:00 pm.

Student Report: Nil report provided for this meeting.

SWC Staff Report (provided by Ms. L. Siedlecki):

- \$4,000 has been raised through Purdy's chocolate sales for the Auditorium improvements.
- 1 Act plays (Dept. of Fine Arts) will be held from February 7-10. Tickets are now on sale.
- Dance competition (Intensity) will be held on Friday after school.
- The VSO's Bramwell Tovy will be at SWC on Feb. 20 and will give a presentation from 2-3 pm. There are a limited number of seats available.
- Feb. 23 - Jazz Cabaret will be held again. 2 professional jazz bands and SWC's school band will perform. There will be food provided. Silent auction items are needed and if parents have any they can contact Ms. Siedlecki or the school office. Tickets are \$15 with proceeds going to SWC's Foods classes.
- Interim report cards go home today.
- Feb. 16 - Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held. Bookings can be made beginning on Feb. 7.

PAC Donation: A motion for a \$1,000 donation from SWC PAC for the Jazz Cabaret (\$800 for food and \$200 for decor) was put forward by Christine and seconded by Sarika Jain. **Motion was approved.**

Guest Speaker 1 (Math Department - Ms. Elizabeth Peterson):

Ms. Peterson provided an overview of the changes to the Math programmes being introduced through the provincial curriculum changes. Parents or students with questions about the Math programmes or contests are encouraged to contact Ms. Peterson, or speak to their school counselor.

- Most of the information in the Math course booklet is online and Grade 8 content has not been impacted yet. Grade 9 has had significant changes with a finance chapter added and all geometry content removed. However, it is expected that there will be extra instruction time available to allow some geometry to still be taught in class.
- Programming/coding is also being introduced as an elective (an InfoTech course is being introduced, along with Programming 11 & 12).
- February is Math contest month at SWC.
- No details have been provided yet on the proposed provincial numeracy test.

Guest Speaker 2: (Ms. Alexandra Wilson, Youth Engagement and Prevention, SACY)

- SACY (School Age Children and Youth) helps students and parents increase the effectiveness of their communication, helps parents understand the challenges facing youth, and provides opportunities for teens and parents to interact.
- Ms. Wilson led a discussion on the causes of stress for both children and parents and what strategies can be used to try and cope with these.
- SACY will be hosting a "Capacity Cafe" on April 12 at SWC where student volunteers (**not** from SWC) will talk to interested parents about youth lives and challenges.

Principal's Report: Mr. Kevin Land

- Term 2 report cards will now be distributed online. Course selection for next year (to be completed by Spring Break) will also be done online. The "MyEd" portal will be the vehicle for this and parents will be able to use the family portal function.
- Winter season athletics - Basketball (Bull Dog Classic) resulted in the boy's team reaching 2nd place and the girl's team winning 1st place.
- Administrative planning for teaching blocks is time intensive and complicated and parents are asked to confirm with their children which courses they really need to take in order to avoid later withdrawing and thereby disrupting class allocations which can have an impact overall.
- The end of February is the deadline for applying for Grade 8 to SWC from within the SWC catchment area
- 21 extra teaching blocks were given to SWC by the provincial ministry as a result of the \$50 million the provincial government is required to allocate as a result of the teaching contract court ruling. This will be primarily used for enhancing educational services for vulnerable youth.

- In Memoriam: Ed Olson, a teacher at SWC, passed away on January 30. He will be missed by his colleagues and by the students he inspired during his career.

Other Business

- SOLOS (Online Safety) will be holding a presentation on February 2 (Thursday) at 7 pm.
- Don't forget the Jazz Cabaret on February 23 (Thursday) from 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm in the SWC cafeteria.

Meeting Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Next Meeting

The next General Meeting of the SWC PAC will be on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Special guest will be Mr. Michael Lattimer, Department Head, SWC Counseling.