

**MINTUTES OF THE QUEEN ELIZABETH GENERAL PAC MEETING**  
**Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 to 10:30 AM**  
**QE Main Library**

(Co-Chairs Kristin McAllister and Jenny Langley)

1. **The meeting was called to order at 9:15am (Kristin McAllister)**
2. **Welcome and Introductions**
3. **Agenda accepted (Carmen Cho/ Christie Macdougall)**
4. **Acceptance of PAC Minutes – from Oct 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (Christie Macdougall/Carmen Cho)**
5. **Principal's Report (Debra Nothstein)**
  - a. **Chinese Parent Committee** hosted Milo Wu, Counsellor from Vancouver School Board to share information on parenting and screen-time. Nearly 35 parents attended. It was a very successful event and the PAC thanked Principal Nothstein for assisting in organizing the event.
  - b. Ministry of Education – update on new curriculum. Two key updates: Grade 10-12 curriculum implementation will be delayed. Foundation Skills Assessment FSA - for grades 4-7 will be rewritten and revised in the early 2017 will begin to be administered in the fall.
  - c. **Lord Byng Articulation** information night on the transition from Grade 7 to 8 has been held as well as the Byng Arts info session. Children interested in attending Byng Arts must complete district test and submit application package into Byng by December 15; as 1<sup>st</sup> term report cards will not yet be ready they are to be sent in separately in January 2017. Positions are shortlisted on January 23/24 and auditions begin. Students will be offered placements in February 2017. Lord Byng regular program has been able to accommodate all catchment area students, but cannot accommodate cross-boundary or international students for 2017. Lord Byng regular registration forms will be passed out in class and must be returned to teachers to be brought forward to Lord Byng by January 30, 2017.
  - d. **Justice Theatre** joined the school to do a theatrical play on cyber and physical bullying. Students played a role on the jury. There was very good feedback on the event, with many students recounting the experience and what they learned in the classrooms and with parents.
  - e. **Cyber-bullying** is a concern in QE Elementary and administration is working to address it. PAC is looking into bringing expert Jesse Miller in May 2017 to do a parent session, as well as a grade 4-5 talk and grade 6-7 talks. PAC has also explored some good resources and tools to share with parents, yet continues to look for more resources that might be helpful to post on the website and/or share with the community.

Principal has provided staff with resources from Kids Help Phone, a registered charity, that has recently published a useful package on cyber-bullying.

- f. **Fragrances** have been triggering asthma attacks for some in the school. As such, QE Elementary is moving towards scent-free school for health and safety reasons.

#### 6. **QE 2016/2017 Budget (Kristin McAllister)**

- a. **QE 2016/2017 Budget** is working well
- b. **Direct Appeal** campaign has raised over \$13,000 at the time of this meeting. PAC will do another launch of the campaign with a goal of reaching \$15,000 for this budget year. The funds to date have ensured a projector and laptop for every classroom. PAC is investigating costs of acquiring Apple TV and external DVD drives also for each classroom. PAC, Principal and teachers noted a big thank you to parent community for their support in providing funds for the classrooms; teachers are very appreciative and excited about the resources they now have at hand.

#### 7. **Fund raising events. (Kristin McAllister)**

- a. **Holiday Bazaar** is coming up this December 8; still need volunteers, up to ten parents to assist at each time-slot on the day-of. Items are coming in, but still in need of wrapping paper and gifts bags are welcome.
- b. **Hot Lunch** is scheduled for one more session this semester; PAC will do a survey in New Year on the satisfaction of hot lunch menu/suppliers. It was noted that the school board is getting involved in all food served, with suppliers vetted to ensure they are providing healthy foods in the schools. If PAC changes suppliers, QE admin must be informed so they can provide information to the school board.
- c. **Covenant House Backpack Donations** of items for up to 16 backpacks are underway in all classrooms. Donations must be collected by Dec. 9 for delivery by Dec. 12. PAC will work with class parents to ensure collection of items for the backpacks is going smoothly, and address any shortcomings/gaps in needed items.
- d. **Book Drive** is being organized for the first week of February 1-2, 2017; Books from the drive will go to teachers' classrooms.

#### 8. **Speakers. (Kristin McAllister)**

- a. **Seelma Noon** will be at QE Elementary from January 17-18, 2017. Parent talk will be at 7pm on January 17; PAC will coordinate with Principal on timing/scheduling for classroom talks.
- b. **Chinese New Year.** A presenter has been booked to do dragon dance January 27, 2017. The Chinese PAC will also consider other activities around this event.

#### 9. **Other Items**

- a. **Traffic.** PAC feels traffic is becoming increasingly dangerous in front of the school on Camosun Street. PAC will connect with the Vancouver Policy traffic department officer to be on site to control traffic. QE administration and PAC will both send notices to the parent community emphasizing the importance of traffic safety. PAC may advocate again with the city for a proper crosswalk, and will look into participating in a school-wide initiative with HUB program.

**10. Meeting adjourned at 10:25am (Christine Macdougall motioned/  
Carmen Cho seconds)**

**11. Next meeting to be planned for February 2017. (note: deferred to  
Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017).**

### **Attendees**

Debra Nothstein, Principal  
Kristin McAllister, Co-Chair  
Angela Zhang  
Wendy Zhu  
Fiona Xie  
Beth Hirsh  
Christine Macdougall  
Carmen Cho  
Karen Appleton  
Sara Muir Owen