

West Sechelt Elementary PAC Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2022

ATTENDANCE (In Person): Aspen W, Erica M, Brandee K, Liz H. (4)

(Via Zoom): Magnus E, Jessica H. (2)

REGRETS: Holly S, Ted C, Amanda A.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- a. Meeting started at 6:38pm
- b. Quorum met; no new introductions needed
- c. Additions and acceptance of the Agenda **Liz, Brandee 2nd**
- d. Acceptance of April 2022 Minutes **Brandee, Jessica 2nd**

2. REGULAR REPORTS:

- a. Traffic Safety: Magnus/Erica
 - i. The report and presentation is being finalized and we will be getting meetings set up with the DoS and SCRD. Magnus: Who should I contact at the SCRD? Jeff – Nick Westwick
 - ii. SD Active Travel – School Map (Best Routes) – want PAC Feedback:
 1. Aspen would like to know where the information came from when creating the map. Jeff – Was created by a consultant at SCRD
 2. Erica: Who is it created for? Jeff – All existing families and new families in the school catchment
 3. Magnus/Erica – would like to take it and discuss it with the Road Committee before we send our feedback – PAC agrees
 4. Aspen - Not sure it is the best time to release a map as there are a lot of upcoming changes (development, road construction (Mason Connector)
 5. Magnus – Not sure it should be called the ‘Best Route’, not necessarily the best route for everyone or the route most children take. The map may not change their mind on this.
 6. All - Would love to see a walking school bus in West Sechelt and marked 2 ‘meeting places’
 7. All - Would like to emphasize that West Sechelt Elementary is a designated ‘WALKING SCHOOL’
- b. Chair Report: See Old/New Business
- c. Vice Chair: Nothing to Add.
- d. Treasurer’s Report:
 - i. Current Bank Account: \$25,933.24
 - ii. Getting refund of \$2,500 from the Bouncy Castle Company for deposit that was never used pre-covid.
 - iii. Grade 7’s Account is approximately \$1,700 (\$800 from Sugar Bowl, \$800 from Plant Fundraiser and \$250 from PAC)

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- e. Principal's Report: See Attached
 - i. Aspen: We will invite Olwen Cowan (new principal) to the PAC meeting in June.
 - ii. Whole School Assembly: discussed how to behave in a whole school assembly, the school's protest to get the field open (good to use your voice but also must be responsible and safe) and active transportation week.
- f. SCS: Ted C. – Absent – Notes sent to Aspen
 - i. A shed has been donated to the school farm; Ted will organize transportation and set up.
 - ii. Food Survey – would like more comments and input.
- g. SD46: Amanda A. Absent – See Attached
- h. DPAC: There is still no WSEPAC rep

3. OLD BUSINES:

- a. Hot Lunch: May orders are in and it is going well.
- b. Carnival Update: Cancelled due to field not being ready, no trucks to transport bouncy castles and not enough volunteers
- c. Sports Day: Planning on doing hot dogs and freezies, as well as maybe fruit and popcorn
 - i. Hot Dogs will be free and Brandee suggested getting orders through a checklist given to each teacher instead of the Hot Lunch System.
- d. Grade 7 Plant Fundraiser: Went well and a few leftover plants that we will post on Facebook to sell.
- e. Sugar Bowl: A success, lots of Grade 7 parent volunteers and great weather.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Bursary: Four Grade 12 students submitted bursary letters. A vote in the PAC chose Ashley Shinn to receive the WSES Bursary. See Attached Bursary Letters.
- b. **Spending Approvals**:
 - i. Staff Appreciation Lunch – Up to \$500 – MOTION to approve \$500 towards a Staff Appreciation Lunch: Brandee, Liz 2nd **MOTION CARRIED**
- c. **AGM Date**: Tuesday, June 7th at 6:30 in person and via zoom.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:58pm

Next PAC Meeting and AGM Date June 7th at 6:30pm

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West Sechelt Principal's Report: 3 May, 2022

1. The current enrolment is 267: we have had one student join the school. We have also added Emma Brisebois to staff as a supervision assistant. Mr. Marshall has been transferred to be the vice principal at Elphinstone Secondary, next year and Mrs. Olwen Cowan, who is currently principal at Cedar Grove Elementary, has been reassigned to be principal at WSES for 2022-23.
2. We have found out that the funds to enhance the courtyard will no longer come from our \$70k equipment allowance. Mr. Marshall will work with district principal, Mrs. Deasey, to collaborate with staff to formalize a plan to move forward.
3. We hope to receive confirmation soon that we will be able to add a solar array to the roof of the expansion – this is in line with the District's strategic plan.
4. We continue to work with Maintenance to get two speed bumps installed at the front of the school and also to add a barrier/railing at least at the pinch point outside the principal's office where the sidewalk narrows.
5. The grade 7s were able to participate in the Sugar Bowl event that was postponed in the fall due to COVID restrictions. We were also able to have our first whole-school assembly this week – the first in over two years!
6. At present the school is configured for 11 divisions next year, but there is a strong chance that 12 divisions will again be put in place at the start of the year.
7. The question of opening of the field continues to be a week-by-week situation; the field was mowed for the first time at the end of April and Maintenance thinks only one more mowing might be necessary, but we cannot be sure.
8. Teachers and the District continue to research for the replacement to FreshGrade – the pack of choices has been whittled down to two companies. 9. The ultimate frisbee team is a going concern and has had two games with other schools, so far; thank you to Mrs. Allen and Ms. Danielle for coaching!

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Amanda's Notes for the Meeting:

- Our board had our favourite event in April, which was hosted by Chatelech Secondary, and our DSLT. We enjoy sitting with students at the student forum, and hearing straight from them what matters and what their thoughts are. There is a compilation report of the themes for us to consider at our next committee day.
- Our Board attended our annual AGM April 21-23. We were honoured to be taught and guided by Elders from many Nations from all areas of our Province. The Conference was From Grief to Medicine. AGM included 18 motions for the Trustees to consider, almost all of them passed. The motions included many requests for advocacy at the ministry level: See photo. The 3 missing included advocating for more funding to replace infrastructure.

2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MOTIONS

SUBSTANTIVE MOTIONS

1. BCSTA COVID Working Group
 2. Traditional Territory Acknowledgment in the BC School Act
 3. Trustee Honourarium Framework
 4. Indigenous Representation on Boards of Education
 5. Access to Education for All Students
 6. Student Voice
 7. Universal Food Programs
 8. Advocacy on the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action #'s 7,10,11,12 & 57
 9. Attributes of a BC Graduate Review Process
 10. Climate Action – Remove BC Hydro Metering Caps
 11. Safe Passing Distance for Safer Routes to School
 12. Funding for Outdoor Learning Spaces
 13. Minimum Standards for Ventilation
 14. Gender Inclusive Washrooms
 15. Capital Funding Announcements
- Our board recommended the Budget from Operations Committee be sent to the Public Board meeting this month. We continue to support the initiatives that respond to our strategic plan.
 - The board is excited to have the next board meeting IN PERSON at the board office.

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- Trustee Blog is up and running, read here <https://sd46.bc.ca/calendar-and-news/news-and-updates/trustee-blog/>

PARENTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ATTEND THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS
Next public board meeting: MAY 11 2022 7pm, IN PERSON AT SD 46 BOARD OFFICE.
Next committee meeting day is May 2022 10 am to 4pm

<https://sd46.bc.ca/district-information/board-of-education-and-governance/board-meeting-schedule/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SD46Schools>

Bursary Letters:

Terms:

Students are to submit a letter to the WSES PAC demonstrating how they have exemplified the schools

key words being SAFE, KIND, RESPECTFUL and RESPONSIBLE, please email letters to... by MAY 1st.

1. To whom it may concern,

My name is Ayyah Biddlecombe, I spent my whole elementary school life at West Sechelt Elementary. The schools key words are Safe, Kind, Respectful, and Responsible. These four words are so important to grow up hearing. If everyone thought of these words everyday I fully believe that the world would be a better place.

After leaving West Sechelt and starting my new chapter in high school, I took these key words along with me. Even if I didn't realize it, day by day I continued to go by those words.

I was faced with a lot of different situations throughout high school but always managed to choose "Safe" actions that lead me to make good decisions. I was always "kind" to everyone I met in high school, because kindness is an easy step that can make someone's day a little brighter. I catch myself teaching my younger sister Vanessa who now goes to West Sechelt to be "respectful" to other people, to always treat people the way you want to be treated.

"Responsibility" has been a huge part of my high school experience, especially right now as in the last year I have gotten a car, applying to post secondary, saving money Etc..

Over all these four words have stuck with me to this day, and I will continue to go by them as I leave high school.

2. My name is Brendan Somogyi. I am seventeen years old and live in Sechelt. Living on the Sunshine Coast is like winning the lottery; the plentiful outdoor space and preservation of Indigenous territories means I get the opportunity to hike or mountain bike in places as close as my own backyard. I like to give back to the community by volunteering. The small population means it's easier to build close connections with the community and give back to the home that's given me so much. People would describe me as a devoted and innovative problem solver,

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particularly my clients, as this summer I laid the foundations for a personal landscaping business. I used skills from the Blue Ocean Golf Course, where I worked the previous summer. The most ambitious event I helped host was a clothing drive in 2019, giving clothes to hundreds of vulnerable people such as the homeless population and others who needed clothes in time for the winter season. More recently, I volunteered with the Rotary and Interact club to raise money for Polio, my contribution consisted of baking 240 cupcakes and icing them. Our efforts resulted in over \$1000 donated to the organization. I also regularly volunteer at totem lodge, usually folding laundry, and I also enjoy doing yard work for people not able to do so. I am so grateful to the community that raised me and for being able to pursue my own personal interests and hobbies in a way that lets me benefit the people in it.

3. Dear Aspen,

My name is Ashley Shinn, and I am 17 years old. I attended West Sechelt Elementary School from kindergarten to grade 7. I am currently in grade 12, and I will be graduating this June. I would appreciate it if you would consider me for the West Sechelt Elementary School PAC Bursary.

I think I exemplified West Sechelt's core values when I peer tutored in the Shine-On Program at Chatelech. The Shine-On Program is a program for students with disabilities. One part of peer tutoring in that classroom was modeling safe and responsible behaviors for the students. Modeling these behaviors was often as simple as making sure I properly washed my hands before cooking with the students, explaining to the students that it was so I didn't get anyone sick, and making sure the students followed suit. Another part of peer tutoring in that classroom was modeling kind and respectful interactions for the students. If I noticed a student was interacting with another student in a way that was not kind and respectful, I would do my best to explain to them why that behavior was harmful.

I have recently been accepted into the University of the Fraser Valley, and the University of British Columbia. My plan is to major in psychology while completing a bachelor of arts program. I also plan on completing all medical school prerequisites, so I can apply to medical schools once I complete my degree.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Ashley Shinn

4. West Sechelt Elementary School PAC Bursary Jordan Purdy Deadline: May 1, 2022 Dear Aspen and the rest of the West Sechelt Elementary School PAC, I hope this application reaches you all well. Please consider the following letter as my application for the West Sechelt Elementary School PAC Bursary. As a previous student of West Sechelt Elementary School, I have always been proud to call WSES my former school. I may be a bit biased, but I feel that my time at West Sechelt Elementary offered me opportunities that no other school could've reciprocated, resulting in both great memories and great friends. The atmosphere in the school always encouraged kindness and fun, leading me to create some of my fondest

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childhood memories there. With the school's core values being displayed throughout the building and spoken in our daily announcements, I believe that I have incorporated all four, being safe, kind, respectful, and responsible, into my everyday life. I would consider myself a very responsible person, as oftentimes I will organize myself to be ready to help others when needed. In my last year at Chatelech, I joined the leadership class to help organize events within the school to raise student spirit after a complicated few years of dealing with the obstacles COVID-19 threw in our way. I feel that my time in Chatelech's Leadership course helped me demonstrate the responsibilities needed to take on and juggle new tasks on top of my already existing schoolwork and job. It definitely took a lot to be able to balance all my extracurricular responsibilities, but it was ultimately worth it in the end, as I got to create fun memories for myself and other students. I'd say that safety is one of my top personal morals, as I value my loved ones too much to be unsafe and careless, which could lead to accidents. My friends can attest to me being a very safe person, as I am always considering the future and thinking about the possible outcomes my choices may have. I can confidently shut down situations where people are trying to persuade me to do things which are against my morals, like driving with more people in my car than legally allowed or speeding faster than necessary. Another trait I strongly believe in is kindness, as I often consider the phrase "You never know what someone is going through". I consider this phrase to be significant because I have had people in my life admit to being mentally unwell when I would have never thought them to be, showing that even those closest to you can be struggling without you knowing. This is why I always take others' feelings into consideration and choose to be kind as a result, because you never know who might need it. Another way I have shown kindness is through the act of volunteering. Whether it be through Leadership, Interact Club, or personal work, I have contributed to the community in many ways. I think this to be a kind act as the various club's peers and I donate our time to help those in our community who are in need of certain services. We do so through many different means, namely fundraisers, clothing drives, organizing events, and other acts of service. I enjoy volunteering to help others, as it is a small way to make a positive change in someone's life. Lastly, I would say I am a very respectful person. I would argue that in order to be a respectful person, one must ultimately be honest to others in a way that does not come off rude or insincere. For example, being a good friend requires respect from both parties, where you know you can ask for a friend's opinion and trust that they are being truthful and honest in a way which won't hurt your feelings. I always try to be honest with those around me as it makes me a respectable person, and I would not want to be perceived as anything less. Another way I show I am a respectful person is through the idea of what goes around comes around. I always consider that if you don't want to be treated a certain way, don't treat others in that same way, as it can only lead to harsh feelings. With all this being said, I would say that I have done my part to live up to my former school's keywords, being safe, kind, respectful, and responsible. Insisting on following these keywords has created a positive life for myself and sticking to my core values has increased the positivity around me as well. Thank you for taking the time to read my letter, and I hope you will consider my entry in the running for the West Sechelt Elementary School PAC Bursary. Jordan Purdy