

Carson Graham Parent Advisory Council Society  
General Meeting MINUTES  
October 3, 2018 7:00 PM, Carson Graham Library

PRESENT: Mitch Carriette, Marnii Osorio, Heidi Degenstein, Kevin Barefoot, Alison Courage, Alasdair Irvine, C. Rullan, Mario Tolentino, Jay Montecillo, Leila, Bernice Discon, Alama Ilagan, Maryam Ayatipour, Sonia Ross, Rene Cravioto

**1. 7:00 PM - Welcome and call to order**

We would like to start by acknowledging and thanking the Coast Salish people whose unceded traditional territory Carson Graham Secondary School resides on.

We express our gratitude to the Squamish Nation and Tseil-Waututh Nation, and we value the opportunity to learn, live and share educational experiences on this traditional territory.

**2. Introductions**

- Executive – Chair, Cheryl; Treasurer, John; Communications, Sarah; Secretary, Lucy; regret Mark – Vice Chair
- Administration – Ian Kennedy, Suzette Doehm, Jennifer Tieche and Michelle Davis

**3. Opening Remarks – Cheryl D. Mitchell, Chair**

- How PAC works
  - Every parent with a child enrolled is part of the Carson Graham PAC, the executive are elected in May AGM and the purpose is to promote school spirit and apply for the gaming grant and propose spending the funds with the guidance of parents. In addition, the PAC fundraises for scholarships for grade 12 students (academic, school spirit and in honour of high school counsellor Rob Watson.)
  - Everyone is encouraged to donate to the scholarship fund.

**4. Library Learning Commons – Michelle Davis**

- Michelle Davis, the school librarian, presented the case for a Library Maker Space – lego wall - in room C102-4. The Library Maker Space is a movement that is reimagining education by creative methods to engage learners. One of these methods is a Lego Wall to be installed in room C102-4.
  - Using the lego wall, teachers find ways to engage students by creating a physical representation of a novel (with QR codes attached to areas of the model with links to what students have written on the topic)
  - The funds requested would include lego plates, bins, trolleys, etc.
  - This is the first part of a Library Maker space that could see additions such as 3D printing or coding.

5. Review of previous meeting's minutes  
 MOTION: Accept the previous meeting's minutes (of May 23, 2018). **Moved by Bernice Discon and all voted in favour. Motion passed.**

**6. Financial Update – John Taylor, Treasurer**

<b>VanCity Gaming Account</b> (as of Oct. 1, 2018)	
Daily Banking	\$4,257.16
Term Deposit (12 month renewable)	\$22,000.00
BC Gaming Grant (Sept 28 <sup>th</sup> /incoming)	\$30,816.00
	<b>\$57,073.16</b>

<b>VanCity Operating Account</b> (as of Oct. 1, 2018)	
Daily Banking	\$2,742.01
Term Deposit (12 month renewable)	\$26,000.00
	<b>\$28,742.01</b>

<b>School District Held in Trust</b> (as of Oct 1, 2018)	
Scholarship	\$21,138.19
	<b>\$21, 138.19</b>

**TOTAL FUNDS: \$106,953.36**

**The PAC is in good shape. See attached detailed report.**

**7. Communications Update: Sarah Sykes**

- Subscribe at [www.carsongrahampac.ca](http://www.carsongrahampac.ca)
- Follow on Twitter: @cg\_pac
- Sarah explained the administrative difficulties surrounding the current website and spoke to the need of getting a new, more attractive and easy to use website. She expressed the need to have the website link to the newsletters to keep the parent community informed of PAC activities and events.
- It is important for parents to subscribe to the PAC emails as the PAC only has direct access to those parents who subscribe to the newsletter.

**8. Presentations**

- Principal Ian Kennedy, Visit from Phyliss Webstad and Orange Shirt Day
  - This was a great opportunity to have the founder of Orange Shirt Day present to the school. Students were engaged by having orange shirts

posted on lockers, gingerbread cookies with orange shirts, very respectful students during the presentation.

- The PAC executive have taken the initiative to have a First Nation topic addressed at each general meeting to support the Reconciliation process.
- Interact Club
  - The executive of the club presented at the meeting explaining that they are a high school community group with connections to the rotary club. They are self-governing and receive guidance from the rotary clubs. They have participated in initiatives:
    - Bottle drive, Krispy Kremes, back pack drive, shelter food and sustainable life in other countries.
    - They want to have new initiatives that include:
      - Back pack, cuts for cancer, run for polio, Terry Fox, teacher dares, sports day for special need students
  - The group is requesting money for timbits to have available during their meetings. They have 20 members now and would like to have more. They promote the club during announcements.
- Vancouver Model United Nations Conference
  - The representative presented the advantages on UN Model group in school:
    - Helps with knowledge of current events, public speaking skills, improve resume making it more competitive, there is gained knowledge of creating resolutions and arguing on behalf of a country.
    - There are 36 students interested.
    - The model UN meets at a convention that takes place at the Hyatt Regency \$220 per person plus the \$390 for a teacher to be there. The overnight stay at the hotel is necessary as the convention runs until late.
- Middle Years Program (MYP): Student Panel
  - A panel of 4 students in grade 11 was invited to share their views on how the Middle Years Program helped them prepare for grade 11. There are several options for students when going into grade 11. DP, Certificate or BC curriculum.
  - When asked what were the benefits of MYP they responded:
    - They learned the approaches to learning and how these translated into the criteria of assessment which in turn helps them understand to what level they are acquiring skills.
    - The personal project in grade 10 helped them motivate for higher level of achievement in a personal area.

- They felt that the MYP helped them understand themselves and their skills enough to determine what path to follow for grade 11 (DP, Certificate or BC Curriculum)
  - They really came out from MYP understanding the criteria of evaluation and how this translates on the expectations from teachers and what is expected at different level studies in the future.
- When asked about how did MYP help them transition to grade 11 they responded:
  - It was a big jump as the grade 11 options DP (include IB program assessed worldwide rather than just BC curriculum), Certificate program option gave opportunity to challenge them only in the courses they felt passionate about, the BC grade 11 curriculum provided the opportunity to learn with less stress and time management allowing for more out of school time for volunteering or pursuing musical or sports.
  - They agreed that the pace of studies varies depending on the grade 11 program that they choose.
  - They explained that by grade 11 one should know what is expected and that if they need help, they have to actively seek it from teachers as the MYP is “training” to be able to work on your own.
- When asked if the MYP helped them make the right choice for grade 11 path they responded:
  - That it did help as they can assess and challenge themselves according to the path they have chosen.
- When asked what should parents understand from MYP (IB), they responded:
  - The most important thing that parents and students learn in the MYP is that grades are not based in a percentage of 100. The assessment levels are 1-2, 3-4, 5-6 and 7-8. Where everybody does the same project but respond different to the challenge by either merely understanding the problem to ultimately transforming the knowledge into the next step. This is the criteria, so 1-2 does not mean one has failed, it means that the understanding is at a level where the knowledge is there but more work can be done with it.
  - It takes time to understand the criteria and levels, but once this is understood, students can further challenge themselves in the areas they have more interest in.

**9. Music Report – Heidi Degenstein, Carson Graham Parents Music Association**

- Heidi explained that there is a Carson Graham Parent Music Association which runs independent fundraising activities for the music program – choir, band, guitar. There are several upcoming events for the music program:
  - January Grade 8 group trip to Loon Lake to get to know each other.
  - February Intermediate group goes to Whistler
  - March Senior group goes to Banff – this is special as the groups to attend this event have to audition to be accepted and this is the second year that Carson Graham has been accepted.
  - Kids will be selling Purdy’s chocolates as a fundraiser to partially fund these trips.
- More information to come to the next meeting.

### **10. Funding Requests**

- Athletics Department – HiPod camera system to film practices and games  
MOTION: Recommendation to fund HiPod camera system, with total estimated cost of \$3,174.28. **Moved and approved as presented.**
- Library Learning Commons- Lego and Lego Wall as part of new Library Makerspace initiative  
MOTION: Recommendation to fund Lego-related equipment for total estimated cost of \$1,639.19. **Moved and approved as presented.**
- Social Studies & History – the North Vancouver Symposium on the Holocaust being held at Carson on April 24, 2019  
MOTION: Recommendation to fund the symposia fee of \$500.00. **Moved and approved as presented.**
- Vancouver Model United Nations Club – Club attendance at the Vancouver Model United Nations (VMUN) conference , January 25-27, 2019  
MOTION: Recommendation to fund 40% of the cost of attendance, up to a maximum of \$2,500.00. **Moved and approved as presented.**
- Interact Club –Timbits at club meetings  
MOTION: Recommendation to fund Timbits at meetings, up to a maximum of \$390. **Moved and approved as presented.**
- CGPAC – Upgrade to new website server  
MOTION: Recommendation to accept Ascend to create and maintain website for approximate cost of \$1,500 (\$449 set up, \$39 monthly service, \$29 monthly for 500+subscribers). **Moved and approved as presented.**
- Fine Arts/Tech Club – Coffee House Open Mic

MOTION: Recommendation to fund microphones, microphone stands, cable and direct input boxes for approximate cost of \$801.38. **Moved and approved as presented.**

**11. Vacant Executive Positions: Elections**

- When asked about any members that would like to become part of the executive the following positions were filled:
  - District PAC representative – **Rene Cravioto**
  - Member at large – **Bernice Discon**
  - Member at large – Family of Schools rep for Carson – **Kevin Barefoot**

**12. Administration Report – Principal Ian Kennedy**

- The principal referred the parents to the Blog he sends out regularly as the place to find information about what has happened in school.
- He is happy to be on his second year and praised the PAC Chair for her hard work last year.
- He confirmed that the school is at maximum capacity: 1341 students in 32 classrooms.
- Staff is very engaged and he made a point that Pro-D days are very important for the school as there is a higher standard and more demands to meet when a school is assigned as IB. This last pro D day was all about inquiry and they are all working to find ways to help students in the inquiry process.
- He also suggested that parents interested should visit the school website and take a look at the School Plan which has been the focus as well.

**13. Other Business** – any other questions or issues?

- No other business to discuss.

**14. Next Meeting:** **Wednesday, November 28, 2018**

15. Adjournment at 8:45 p.m.