



MEETING MINUTES for October 2020 GENERAL MEETING & 2020/2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday October 28, 2020 7-830pm ZOOM meeting

1. Welcome/Introductions (7-7:05)
2. Review of minutes from September 29, 2020 (7:05-7:10)

Motion to accept the minutes from September 29th, 2020 with an amendment to the note about air quality: VSB board passed a motion - every classroom window should be able to open. MSC

3. Reports/Updates

- a. Administration
 - i. Principal - Vital Peeters

Rather than eating in the lunchroom, having kids eat in their classrooms; staggered lunch times mean they get to play in areas that they wouldn't have had access to before; more contact with supervision aids.

1/ VSB response to air purifiers in classrooms

At this time, Vancouver coastal health not recommending air purifiers; if PAC interested in supporting PPE acquisition, they can donate money directly to the district and those funds will get distributed for PPE as they see fit.

Open windows: Hastings has a health and safety committee: this would fall under a concern that the teachers would make regarding the open windows; if not able to open, they must put in a request – engineering would address it; no teachers have come forward; one parent noted that Ms. Glickman doesn't have an opening window – this is a classroom with a newer design: made so that kids can't fall out, so window can open, but not wide. Lower floors have metal screens for security so may hinder the window opening to full capacity. Admin has also been advised that Hastings meets all standards for HVAC; new HVAC system put in the summer.

2/ Tech purchases

Previously mentioned that the district was putting together a tech equity plan; determined 45 devices obsolete; replaced 1 for 1 basis with either ipads or laptops. Ipads distributed amongst classes and now each class has min. of 3 ipads each; some restrictions around cleaning / sharing but can be shared between classes if protocols followed. School has ordered 30 laptops - waiting for them but they are in high demand - coming soon. Admin is looking at buying projectors – still need projectors for 7 classroom. Cost \$1300 (mountable and ultra-short throw) + \$700 labour / install. Requires getting into the wall / routing cables.

Next step is to continue to buy portable devices; 30 Dell laptops now but testing tablet; Vital is putting together a proposal for devices which needs to be reviewed by teachers before submitting to PAC for funding.

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Parent questions:

Why is PAC funding capital projects? Responsibility should lie with the District? *Jacqueline explained that this was initiated with the technology direct donation campaign (in 2018) when parents recognized that Hastings has a shortfall with regards to technology. Since then, the PAC has been offering to support admin and teachers in this area and have been asking admin to determine what the most beneficial technology would be.*

Why projectors? *1/ allow you to present content that a student is working on from an ipad to the whole class; 2/ get apps to interact as a group shared on the projector; 3/ you can use for teachable moments.*

Why these specific projectors when there are cheaper versions available? Were other options considered? *Admin is limited by the VSB purchasing department; if we go out on our own, equipment potentially not supported by the VSB; some schools have tried smart boards but those have gone up in price; only way to really cut the cost is to get non-mountable, but these take up a lot of classroom space; not ideal esp. for the primary classes – gets bumped a lot. Ms Bion supported projectors as a useful tool so as to not have to sit with a laptop on her lap to show kids things.*

3/ Staffing Updates

Number of staff changes; see below.

ii. Vice Principal - Susan Dent (7:20-7:25)

1/ Schoolwide activities/events

Field trips: *Classes are starting to branch out on excursions including those that include a presentation component – VSB approves fieldtrips as long as you can walk there, or an outsider presenting to the class. Cannot take kids on transit / organize rides.*

Remembrance Day: *will have a virtual assembly; parents may be able to sign in as their child on Teams if they would like to observe;*

School has a weekly assembly which is presented in each classroom on a Teams channel 'All Students Team'. *Teachers sign in class to attend virtual assemblies;*

Wellness Wednesday: *PowerPoint presentations typically about wellness*

Friday Book talk: *transition with new librarian, sometimes Vital or Susan will read books as well. Content for online assemblies depends on what is happening that week. Vital will try to announce these events on school newsletter; ask your child about the All Students Team and show some of the content. Teams and the rest of Office360 rapidly getting up to speed as teachers and staff get more comfortable with the technology.*

b. Chair - Jacqueline (7:25-7:35)

i. 2020/2021 Goals

1/ Community Building

2/ Supporting parents and teachers

3/ Not sure how fundraising will happen – depends on new Executive

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- ii. Subcommittees/initiatives
 1. Speaker Series
 2. Anti-racism
 3. Rain gear drive
 4. Multi-lingual PAC resources – translating
 5. Food security
 6. Communications
 7. Teacher appreciation activities

The PAC welcomes those parents interested in being involved in one / more of the above initiatives, as well as new ideas for subcommittees and initiatives. Contact info@hastingspac.ca

c. Teacher representative – Elizabeth Bion (7:35-7:45)

Elizabeth Bion, Kindergarten, English: VESTA (Vancouver Elementary School Teachers Association) representative representing the teachers. This year has been a start like no other, everything has changed because of Covid; Working handwashing into the teaching time. Staff committee and union meetings all virtual. Teachers don't get to see each other because of cohorts, so that is difficult for them to collaborate. But, teachers are resilient and problem solvers. They are taking it one day at a time. They keep reminding themselves that self-care is of utmost priority.

What can we do for teachers? Jacqueline imparted that parents want to help in any way we can support; invite teachers to contact the PAC.

d. Secretary report (7:45-7:50) Marcie

- Callout for website developer: Currently, updates are done in HTML and CSS and uploaded via ftp. We need someone to make content updates, 2-3 times a month, or to help us rebuild the website with a user-friendly content management system. Content will be provided by the PAC Executive. Please contact info@hastingspac.ca

4. New Business (7:50-7:55)

Parent email:

- hearing the VSB did not provide hand sanitizer to classrooms with sinks
- also hearing that lots of grade 6 and 7s are forgetting to bring masks to school and the teachers are having to give them disposable ones.
- The teachers themselves are then going out and buying masks and sanitizer for their rooms with their own money.

Susan speaks to it: always prioritize soap and water over hand sanitizer; in regards to timing, its a case of structuring the line-up to process kids quickly; each teacher may have their own routine; only a few kids in line while others are doing an activity, for e.g.

Re: 6&7's masks; all given two cloth masks – if a student forgets theirs, teacher know that the student is to go to the office and speak to the VP for a talk about building new habits and coming up with ways to help them remember; they will be given a disposable mask, but an email is also sent to the parents: what is the strategy to help them remember? It's about building new habits; teachers are not being asked to buy masks and hand sanitizer.

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Motion to adjourn at 8:15pm.

MSC

Hastings PAC 2020/2021 AGM

1. Review of minutes from October 23, 2019

Motion to accept the minutes from AGM October 23, 2019

MSC

2. Treasurer Reports/Budget

Motion to pass proposed budget for 2020/21

MSC

3. Social Time – Breakout Rooms

Will pass on this item in consideration of time.

4. Election of Officers –

Introduce continuing officers:

Chair – Jacqueline Shaben

Treasurer – Yvonne Connors

DPAC – Deb Bryant

Member at Large-2 yr – Erika Fritz

Slate of New Executive 2020/2021:

Vice Chair - 2 year

Karen West (formerly Member at Large)

Secretary - 2 year

Marcie Effler Bailey

Member at Large – 2 year

Meg Roe

Members at Large - 1 year

1. Lisa Gibson

2. Kelly Barker

3. TSION Tekie

4. Mike Lowry

Outgoing:

Past Chair

James Stubbs

Vice Chair

Kaila Comeau

Member at Large – 2 year

Claudia Gawryliuk

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 9:15pm

MSC

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Next meeting: Tuesday November 24th @ 7pm on ZOOM

*** Staffing updates:**

New Staff

- *Nassim Ghani - School Counsellor*
- *Amanda Ramharakh - Resource Teacher, temporarily replacing Charlene Janes.*
- *McKenna Bain - K-4 French Prep Teacher, Thursdays.*
- *Laura Treloar - Resource Teacher, Fridays.*
- *Erin Rickbeil - Teacher-Librarian, November 2 until a permanent teacher-librarian is hired.*
- *Roger Agan Assistant (Evening) Building Engineer*

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