

# Tupper PAC Meeting

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Location: Remote via ZOOM

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## Attendance:

- Co-Chairs: Christy Thomas & Mary Levitan
- Co-Treasurer: Angela Crampton (not in attendance), Avri Snitz (not in attendance)
- Acting Secretary (April 8, 2021) Andrea Mitchell
- Members at Large: June Adamson , Andrea Mitchell, Jacqui Thomas
- Other PAC Members in Attendance: Libby Taylor, Taz Ismail, Danielle Goldsmith, Sheila Thornton, Danielle Goldsmith, Marlise Landolt Mann, Alec Tsang,
- Staff present: Jason Lauzon, Dara Hendren,
- Students present: Josh Chan,
- Apologies: Andrea Sinclair, Skye Richards, Daryl Hutchings, Dawn Dunkerly, Vira Laats, Bronwyn Carrodus, Avri T, Angela Crampton, , Rachel Sanders
- Welcome to Marlise parent of 2 tupper kids – first PAC meeting in attendance.
- Meeting called to order 7:05pm
- 7:05 - 7:15 Introductions, Welcome and Aboriginal Acknowledgement – Mary

Welcome and land acknowledgement took place according to our usual practice.

Meetings minutes approved first by Mary, second by Jacqui T

## Principal update:

1. Thanks everyone for showing up tonight
2. COVID – still in the thick of it, last time it was front and center with 16 letters going out. Thankfully we have had a bit of a reprieve, 5 – 6 weeks with no letters going home. Easter we were notified with 2 new cases at the school. Not unlike many other school as others have also received letters since Easter.
3. Still believes that our school is safe, doesn't believe that things are elevated. Good place right now.

4. Contacted by deputy superintendent today to post some higher decision makers at VCH and wanting to visit April 26<sup>th</sup> to see what high schools are doing to implement COVID guidelines.
5. Tupper was identified as a school that has been impacted the most by COVID 19
6. Grad letter sent out yesterday, some parents have not received, will check into it tomorrow.
7. Josh and Fleur giving grad update
8. Quarter 4 changes, district has made a decision to increase in person instruction. 8 thru 12. See the letter for the plan for Q4.
9. Wants to make sure that students, staff and parents are aware of the changes.
10. Attended Board meeting with regards to SLO coming, been under review for a year or so. Jason feels that this absolutely is a good program (personal opinion) some community members do not think that it is appropriate to have police in schools. VSTA is opposed to having them in schools.
11. Dara on SLO: VSTA is not supporting the program but the vote was not participated fully by all members
12. Mary – Question on new topic? Is there any information on what the fall will look like?
13. Jason – lots and lots of talk about event put on by Chris Kennedy (superintendent of West Van) to hear idea's and thoughts about next year. What things have we learned, what is working well.....certain aspects of the on line technology has worked. Looking a hybrid model. Jason's opinion Schools are looking hard at semester system for next year. If we need to change instruction next year, semesters are easier to pivot on. Model that they are looking at is semester. 10 week quarters are tricky and challenging, getting through content, a bit of a crash course. Semesters would be preferable to the Quarter system. No decision made, probably by the end of the month. Jason believes that the decision will be made quickly.
14. Christy – What does this mean, how many classes per semester?
15. Jason – 4 classes per semester. He did the semester system and he found it easier to manage 4 courses. When he came to Vancouver he found the 7 to 8 classes difficult to deal with. Teachers would teach 3 – 4 classes.
16. Christy – with the online learning being a more permanent thing is this a cost saving thing?
17. Jason – At meeting with folks from West Van to Langley they were talking about a hybrid model that included some online time. Post pandemic this will be though out carefully. No decisions have been made at this point. Around saving money Jason does not think that it has to do with anything. Teaching/learning would be the rational not cost savings.
18. Christy – can we get clarification on the COVID cases? Did you get clarification or is this just the same blanket thing.
19. Jason – Same, this one indicated grades on one of them. The first two that went out were of the same exposure date, the third one was a different date. No interaction with Coastal Health, this time all info. Was passed from the VSB person on Easter Sunday.

**Dara – teachers report:**

20. Teachers again continue to thank parents for encouraging mask usage and keeping kids home when sick.

21. Teachers are obviously concerned with the new variants and the case counts.
22. Thankful that VSB has kept class size at 50%.
23. Concern about Q4 with more in class time
24. Continue to thank admin about keeping everyone safe at school

**Treasures Report – no in attendance so we will skip tonight. Nothing new as funds have all been allocated**

**Grade 8/9 camps for fall of 2021:**

25. Any update about this?
26. Jason: Last meeting we toyed with having an additional camp for the grade 9s as they did not get a camp in Grade 8. Plans for next year hopefully we will do a camp if we can. Its important to our staff and students. Our hope is that we can book this for the fall.
27. Jason will check in with Mr. lameo about the commitments to the camp etc...ACTION BY JASON
28. Jason thinks that if we can book it we will and we will find out what the cancellation costs will be
29. Mary: Is there any thoughts about having the camps in the spring instead of the fall?
30. Christy: the whole point of it being in September is because of the ROARS and being successful in helping kids to feel that they belong, expectations and values. Where is the grade 8 money for this year, does it get boosted forward? We need to think about if 2 camps are reasonable. Christy will speak to Mr. I about the feasibility of this – **ACTION ITEM CHRISTY**

**JOSH – Grad update:**

31. Thanking us again for giving the grad committee this platform. Grad committee thanks all the parents.
32. Update on what is going on with the grad ceremony: Email has gone out to parents. The ceremony will be in smaller groups, you will get to see your child walk across the stage. With everything changing so fast we can't commit to what things will be like in June.
33. First virtual social next week, quiz night....excited. If it goes well they might do another one.
34. Might do an outdoor movie night if social distancing is possible
35. Christy: Josh do you happen to know are all the grads receiving a gown or is that a rumor?
36. Josh: We will put in our heights and grad gowns will be ordered, Aroma has information as well. Not sure if they are gifted or just rented.
37. Dara: Last year they got to take them home
38. Jason: Part of grad cost \$50 is for the gown, video and gift bag (Gowns are to be given to the students to keep) Artona sized students and they will be on site at grad to take the photo of your child crossing the stage. We will work very closely with Artona. \$50 for grads is a good value.
39. Christy: Money that pat gave to grad.....
40. Jason: We wanted to have a clearer idea of what grad looked like so we did not ask for this prior to. So \$50 is a new grad fee that needs to be paid.
41. Mary: It was unclear so we did not decide

42. Christy: Chan center is not being help, no dinner dance, parents not inside gym? If this a thing that we can pivot on if things change?
43. Josh: Highly doubts that parents will be allowed into auditorium, last year they were not. Parents can watch their child walk across the stage from the door.
44. Danielle: Friend group of 10 people, then will there be a requirement for the people to leave the school property?
45. Josh: The idea is that you leave when you are done.
46. Jason: Given that there is so much uncertainty, last year was a meaningful and successful event. How it looks: Parents arrive with grad, grad meets up with their group of 10. They walk across the stage, parents were rotated at the door of the auditorium so they could watch their child cross the stage. Protocol is no parents in the school. Jason believes seeing their child walk across the stage is closure so parents will be able to do this from the exterior door. Friend group hopefully prevents people from hanging around to see theirs friends (because they are theoretically at grad at the same time). We don't want to see congregating or gatherings. We will try to streamline it so that people do not feel rushed.....off you go to enjoy the rest of the afternoon.
47. Marlise: Question about the friend grouping
48. Josh: a form was sent to all the grad to list their 10 preferred friends. Who they would like to be in a group with.
49. Jason: Could potentially be dramatic, so trying to reduce the friends. Not sure that everyone will have 10 friends to write up. We used table groups last year to create the friendship group. Students may have 2 or 3 so they will group with others to give them a connection to some friends. Parents might like to see friends of child that they saw grow up through school.

**Josh is leaving the meeting – thank you again. If anyone has questions please feel free to contact Josh.**

#### **Brainstorming for spring plans:**

50. Mary: Not much that is COVID safe at the moment
51. Mary: Any thoughts on virtual events. Thinking of ways of connecting people?
52. Christy to Taz: has anything fun happened from your parent group – Taz – nope, nothing fun...
53. Mary: at Dickens they did a parent online info welcome session. Helpful for new parents and parents new to school in general.
54. June: Any chance for a parent walk about for new grade 8 parents?
55. Jason: Grade 8 is important, agree on that. This is what I would like to do for next year is plan for things, put them on the calendar and if we have to pivot we will. Grade 7 welcome Jason attending his first year at Tupper. Link leadership crew has been active in supporting the grade 8s this year. Our grade 8s have been served better than most schools because of the active linkcrew team. Jason will take the parent walk about idea back to the staff – ACTION ITEM JASON.
56. Dara – well supported by teachers, long day for teachers but very valuable for everyone. I don't think it would be an issue to support this.

57. Christy and June have gone every year.

#### **Talking about PAC Executive for 2022**

58. Mary: next meeting would be AGM, according to bylaws moving the AGM to September is totally ok.
59. We might talk about moving the meeting night next year as it often conflicts with DPAC.
60. Chair position OPEN
61. Secretary position may be open or co-secretary OPEN
62. DPAC position OPEN
63. Communication position OPEN – June has written up a job description and the position can be shared. She will be available for questions over the summer but defiantly needs to be taken over in September. Weebly and Mail chimp are easy to use and it's easy to update the website etc.
64. Christy: Likes having CO-chair and communications split between 3 people, makes it helpful and easier. Christy/Mary Co Chair, and June as CO Chair communications.
65. Can everyone spread the word among the parent community?
66. June: COVID fatigue is real and moving the AGM to September is a very good idea. Zoom is hard after being on zoom all day.
67. Mary: I think we should move meeting to September and we will need to make a motion. Do we have Quorum??
68. Christy: Is anyone against this idea?
69. June: Motion Christy: Second – to move the AGM to September – **ACCEPTED ACTION ITEM**  
**MARY**

#### **Day of the week next year:**

70. Christy: Can we do half Wednesday and half Thursday? Conflict with elementary school PAC meetings. Jason when does this go into your calendar?
71. Jason: We can start doing this now, but thinking about going to semester system will impact the calendar. First come first serve. Good time to have the conversation. We will do our best to not have thing conflict??
72. Mary: We should check with DPAC and see what their calendar is for next year?
73. Christy: Taz, Sheila, Marlise, Libby – you are not on the PAC email....do you have any opinons about the day of the week for the meeting?
74. Libby: Wolfe has their PAC meeting on Wednesday
75. Alec: DPAC will be on Thursday nights next year.
76. Mary: Any other questions about next year planning?

#### **Semester system rotation for next year:**

77. Libby: Semester system rotation question? What is the rotation?
78. Jason: Not sure if it will stick to morning or rotate morning/afternoon? Considerations are being looked at but no decisions have been made.

- 79. Christy: Would love to see the schools rotate to a 9:30 start. Kids need lots of sleep.
- 80. Jason: you could pick a 2, 3, 4 model and miss the first class so it could be possible to sleep in. Models start is 8:40 am start.....lots floating around out there.
- 81. Christy: My kid had to take calculus before pre-calc because it wasn't available until the spring.
- 82. Jason: The board will consider these in the rotation and that is something that would never be considered. Things like this happened this year because of having to Pivot to the quarter system.
- 83. Mary: Thanks to the staff

**Staff appreciation breakfast:**

- 84. June: Leading this similar to last year. Bags with food....would like to do the coffee this year as surfaces are of much less concern this year. We could probably have coffee and still abide by COVID protocol. The only thing I would like to do differently is call out for gifts. Wine, gift cards etc. Staff can drop their name into the bag and then there will be a draw. June is happy to put the call out and organize the gifts.
- 85. June: Last year we did not go over budget.
- 86. Christy: It was expensive to get pastry....
- 87. June: Put that out to the parent community for donations. Cash, gift cards, flowers, decorations etc...
- 88. Libby: Happy to decorate the staff room. She has stuff left over from 2 years ago?
- 89. June: Jason are we able to have one person to come into the staff room to decorate and set up?
- 90. Jason: let PAC know when they can come into the school (first week of June) **ACTION ITEM**  
**JASON**
- 91. Dara: I can't remember when the grad thing is, so just not on that day....
- 92. Jason: **First week of June seems like a good idea...maybe the first Friday in June?**
- 93. June: We would come in before school and set up and staff could get their muffin and coffee and put their name in for a prize.
- 94. June: Are we ok if 2 people come in the morning? Is two people ok???
- 95. Jason: Protocol is that we have to have an appointment so we will book an appointment. In person appointment. We will make it work.
- 96. June: Blog post or Cudos board.....Sidewalk chalk last year was really cute and we would like to do that again.
- 97. Christy has idea's but prefers not to discuss them with 2 staff members present. Will take off line.
- 98. Jason: Likes to share positive messaging from staff etc.... very meaningful right now. Feel good stuff is important right now. Staff are appreciative about this.
- 99. June: Contact June with any idea's or volunteering or donations.
- 100. Staff appreciation luncheon Friday June 4<sup>th</sup>

**New Business:**

- 101. Thanks to Andrea Mitchell for stepping in to take minutes

102. Please spread the word to the community for next year
103. Motion to adjourn at 8:27 by Libby and Mary second it.