

Parent Advisory Council
GP Vanier Secondary School
Date: January 23, 2024

Recognition of Traditional Territories - J Shields

In attendance: Julie Shields, Erica Black, Sarah Jane Howe, Jason M, Salinas L, Janice D, Rae W, Bev W, Amy P

1. Call to order at 6:31 pm, Welcome/introductions
2. Approval of agenda Motion by Bev W, Second by Rae W, carried
3. Review of November Minutes
4. Unfinished Business - None
5. Reports
 1. Chairperson - Salinas - Plan to make handover to new executive easier with a guide as to Roberts Rules, description of responsibilities of each role
 2. Administration - see attached. Parent question about lunch vouchers for students in need. Program used to include approx 20 kids but expanded to over 90 kids. Started to become cost prohibitive. Vouchers were for 2 lunches a week, the current muffins/bagels/juice in the am, soup/bun at lunch and discounted wraps is daily.
 3. [DPAC](#) - Rae -
 1. Minutes Available
 2. Speaker series with White Hatters.
 3. Concerns from parents about impact of transit strike on families
 4. Trustee - Sara Jane Howe
 1. Hiring new secretary treasurer now
 2. Trustee roles will be determined in June for the following school year to have continuity throughout the academic year rather than changing roles in January
 5. Treasurer -. Bev W
 1. Alternate Budget proposed that allocated the \$5000.00 left over from Legacy fund last year into the current Legacy fund - which will be shared with teachers that this money is available. Motion to approve Alternate proposal for PAC 2023 - 2024 Frist - Salinas, Second - Janice, no opposition. APPROVED
6. New Business - Rae - asking about funds for Nationals at Music Fest in Toronto in May. Cost per student approx \$2000.00, active fundraising occurring. Wondering if any money is available to help. There is money in the budget for Extracurricular Fine Arts but we do not have any extra funds available. We would be willing to help apply for grants if we can.
7. Next Meeting Tuesday February 20, 2024 at 6:30 pm
Adjournment at 7:44 pm

Vanier Admin Report to PAC

January 2024

Term 2 is rapidly ending – in fact there are three days left in semester one. Students are beginning to write their final assessments and present their final projects. January grads are wrapping up their

Careers 12 and Capstone projects, as they plan for dual credit, trades programs, or the next stage in their life. The last two months have been a busy one at Vanier. Citizenship projects were taken on with gusto during December, with the school filling the cafeteria with the hamper items they collected for 27 families in the Valley. Several classes supported the EDAS project (Everyone Deserves A Smile campaign), that put together 1300+ gift packages across the district for the homeless, including hats/scarves/gloves/warm socks/gifts/and cookies. When the snow flew and weather turned cold, the jackets and warm clothing that had been collected was put out for students to access and keep. Student Government put on two spirit weeks, and helped the leadership 9-12 class with the Winter Assembly on the last day before the winter break.

With the semester coming to a close, we have our final flex day tomorrow. Students in grade 10 English and Math classes will be writing their Numeracy and Literacy Assessments tomorrow. Both of these tests must be written before they graduate and are only offered certain days of the school year. Please check in with the office staff if your child is not able to be here for their test. Students should be submitting any missing assignments, working on final projects, science fair, preparing for final exams, and/or completing their Careers 11/12/Capstone materials. Report cards will be issued February 7th online.

The school has a number of tests and surveys coming up in the next few months. We have the Program for International Student Assessment (approximately 40 grade 10's), Student Learning Survey (grades 10/12, parents and staff), and YDI (Youth Development Instrument, grade 11's). All of these surveys will be completed before spring break.

Course selection for 2024-2025 will be beginning in February, with students picking their courses February 26 to March 1st. Information for parents and students will be Wednesday February 21st, starting at 6:30 pm.

In Athletics, our ski and snowboard team has 29 athletes having fun and racing on Mount Washington. Mondays are race days, and the provincials will be held in Whistler for those who qualify. The district wrestling program is run out of Vanier, with students practicing three times a week. 9 Vanier athletes have been competing and doing very well. Basketball is well underway with a home tournament almost every weekend. Over 100 Vanier students are coming out to teams at grade 8, 9, junior and senior levels.

Switching to a Monte Carlo theme at Winterfest was a huge success! Students enjoyed the slideshow of baby pictures paired with current pictures, then games of skill and chance (blackjack, roulette, craps, poker) to be able to bid on prizes. Thanks to our very generous community, some very lovely gifts were available as prizes. Grad Attire continues to provide everything needed on graduation day, completely free of charge. More information can be found at <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/gp-vanier-secondary/grad-information/>. The next big grad item is Bursaries and Scholarships which packages will be available January 31st, and applications are due Thursday March 7th at 1 pm. Last year over \$100,000 was given out at Vanier's Bursary Night thanks to the generous support of our community, so we encourage all grade 12 students to apply.

Upcoming Events in January/February

Wed January 24	Flex Day/Assessments
Fri January 26	End of Term 2
Mon January 29	Non-Instructional Day – School Closed
Tues January 30	Start of Term 3
Wed January 31	Bursary Program Opens up (online)
Friday February 2	10:30 Grade 12 meeting
February 5-7	Grad Photo retakes
Wed February 7	Report Cards posted online
Fri February 16	Non-Instructional Day – School Closed
Mon February 19	Family Day – school closed
Tues February 20	PAC meeting, 6:30
Late February	Counsellors and Administrators begin course selection for 2024-2025