

SUTHERLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Sept 18, 2023

Sutherland PAC Location

PAC Executive in attendance:

Chair: Jennifer Rodger
VP: Tanya Henderson
Secretary: Tina Craig
Treasurer: Sophie Howells

Regrets: DPAC Rep: Clarissa Boldt

1. Welcome – Meeting is called to order 7:02pm

- Jen welcomed all those in attendance with land acknowledgment. Thanks for joining.
- Intro of new PAC administration

2. *June 5, 2023 minutes were approved.*

- Motion: Nicola Beleznay
- Second: Jen Rodger
- Passed unanimously
- If you have any questions or thoughts and comments. We can address them at the next meeting. **Note:** The Sutherland PAC blogpost (<http://sutherlandpac.blogspot.com/>) can also be found on the Sutherland website. PAC documents, including minutes can be found there. If you have any updates or changes to the minutes, email the PAC email.

3. Student Leadership Council (SLC) Report (Council not yet selected)

4. Administration Report (Mark Barrett)

- **Introduction-** Joined NVSD in 1986 as a student. Was principal at Handsworth Secondary last year. Second year as a Principal
- **Enrollment** for the school is over 1000, the trend is for the school to continue to grow in population and the admin are starting now to prepare the school for growth
- Focus is to support **micro communities** to help kids feel connected to the school and their peers
- **New cell phone Policy** in classroom: no cellphones in classroom unless explicitly approved by the teacher, so far it seems to be well accepted
- **Advanced AP exams-** school will become an AP exam site. Clarified this is separate from offering AP classes. (AP classes are Grade 12 courses that mimic first year

university class, the AP exam provides university credit). Exam will start to be offered in May and are open to all students anywhere

- **Fundraisers:** Cops for cancer came to visit the school and talked to community; Terry Fox run on Thursday
- **Open House:** Thursday Night is open night at 5:30, open to the parent community to come in and meet staff, student music performance and student Art on display, learn about programs and meet the admin
- **Grad parents meeting Sept 27:** dates for ceremony and banquet will be shared. It will be a virtual, info to be shared soon
- **Lock down drill Oct 3:** At 11am, more parent communication to come
- **Ingenious Education: Orange** shirt day end of month, and looking to refurbish our Welcome pole
- **Grade 8 retreat:** Oct 4-6 Grade 8s will attend the Cheakamus centre
- **Athletics:** Variety of different sports are currently be offered including; cross crossing, field hockey, volleyball, soccer. Two new Athletic Directors, and athletics council (Admin, coaches and PAC rep, student)
- **School theme:** Pride, passion and place, as we grow how to give our students a sense of pride
- **Club days:** Sept 26th clubs will be set up in cafeteria to bring awareness of their club and take new members
- **Question**
 - Q: What is the difference between IB and AP? A: Usually an entire school is IB and are quite different, AP is subject specific, IP is interdisciplinary and is a philosophy and way of teaching
 - Confirmed school Fees: October 1st

5. Athletics Report (N/A)

6. Staff Update (Terry Mitruk)

- Introduction: Currently teach math and started with the school in 2002
- Librarian signed school up for National campaign to bring conferences into school focused on truth and reconciliation
- New staff are enjoying the school and good start to the year
- If any parents are interested in getting information about any of the programs or classes at Sutherland, email Terry (tmitruk@sd44.ca) and he will get teachers to come to a PAC meeting and give a presentation.

7. DPAC Report (sends their regards)

8. Treasurer's Report (Sophie Howells)

- The PAC has two accounts: first for regular fundraising account total balance of \$5700 (includes a donation to band of \$1000) and gaming grant \$1900 (though two cheques for \$500 for scholarships were written, so \$1000 remaining in account

- Teacher request to enhance classroom, grant money to be used
- Ask to Admin to put out request to teachers for their classroom request, goal to have final decision before Christmas

9. Chair's Report (Jen Rodger)

- Will be holding monthly PAC meeting dates
- Meeting information will go out a week ahead. You can find the meeting minutes on the PAC blogpost.
- Use the PAC email if you have any questions.

9. Open discussion – any comments?

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

Next meeting scheduled for