

Sands Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Location	Online via Zoom
Meeting Date:	October 18, 2022
Meeting Time:	7:00 p.m.
Meeting Facilitator:	Roshael Slezash
Attendees:	Chair: Razia Khan Vice President: Roshael Slezash Treasurer: Suzana Topic Secretary: Elaine Addison DPAC representative: Catharine Russell Dry Grad Liaison: Ken Charnetski Emergency Preparedness: Tony Nathan Principal: Rick Mesich Attendees: R. Kaune, D. Pettigrew

Land Acknowledgement

Welcome and introductions

Minutes from Previous Meeting

- approved

Principal's Update: Rick Mesich

- Parent Teacher Interviews & Interim Reports
 - PTIs will take place on October 19th and 20th from 2:00pm to 4:00pm on each day. Families should arrive at the school through the front doors and will be escorted to their appointments. Families should not limit themselves to connecting with teachers on these dates. Appointments can be arranged outside of these dates and times.
 - Interim progress updates will be provided to families whose child is achieving 60% or less in a given course. If a family does not receive any Interim reports from their child's teachers, then the family can assume their child is achieving greater than 60%. This process will take place from now until November 10th.
- Take Our Kids to Work – Wednesday, November 2nd

- This year families may participate in having their child visit their workplace on November 2nd. We are expecting the vast majority of grade 9 students to attend a work site on November 2nd. For students who do not participate, there will be an alternative assignment in the library for the day.
- Provincial Assessments
 - During the first week of November, students in grades 10 and 12 will be completing the Provincial Assessments in Literacy and Numeracy. The completion of all of these assessments is a graduation requirement. The Assessment Schedule will be:
 - Tuesday, November 1st Literacy 10 8:30-11:00am
 - Thursday, November 3rd Literacy 12 8:30-11:00am
 - Friday, November 4th Numeracy 10 11:40am-2:40pm
- Student and Family Affordability Grant
 - The Ministry of Education is providing school districts with a one-time grant to help vulnerable families who are impacted by rising costs in our economy. Our portion of this grant will be approximately \$20, 000 to support students and families with covering school fees, food security, clothing and potentially other items. We will learn more as we move through this process. Some of the PAC Funding Requests can be diverted to access this funding to help with allocating these funds.
- Family Presentation Series:
 - Capacity Café - October 27th 6:00-8:30pm Sands Secondary Library
 - The Capacity Café is a unique event where parents and community members listen to the lived experiences of youth. In a Capacity Café, youth and adults sit together in a circle while youth speak, and adults listen and learn from what is shared. The conversation is facilitated by Delta School District staff. Youth who volunteer have participated in communication training together before a Café Circle to ensure their safety. The overall goal of the Café is to help adults (parents and educators) gain increased understanding of the stress's youth encounter in our culture, and to provide young people the experience of being listened to, respected, and valued. Our goal is to give us all the opportunity to see youth as a much-needed resource within the community. Capacity Cafés help forge intergenerational connections by helping adults and other community members understand and appreciate life from a youth's perspective.
- Homework Club
 - Sands Secondary offers many opportunities to support students in getting extra help with their course work. Another student opportunity is the Homework Club that takes place every Wednesday after school in the Library from 3:00pm-4:00pm. Ms. Lee and Ms. Papakosta sponsor the Homework Club and

have assembled a group of dedicated and knowledgeable Peer Mentors to help students. We encourage all students to use this school support.

- Terry Fox Run – Thursday, October 6th
 - The entire school participated in the Terry Fox Run on Thursday, October 6th where students and staff took part in a run or a walk to commemorate Canadian Hero, Terry Fox. Students assembled in the gym for a presentation, then gathered at the starting line. Students were asked to bring a “Toonie for Terry” and as a school, we raised close to \$1600.00. This money will be donated to the Terry Fox Foundation to help find a cure for cancer.
- Pep Rally – Friday, October 7th
 - The entire school came together for a Pep Rally where student groups and staff were introduced, students were made aware of clubs and speeches were given in the election for Student Council Prime Minister. The mascot, Hank the Scorpion, was reintroduced as the original uniform was lost. We had a campaign over the course of September to find Hank.
 - Reward posters were throughout the building. Hank was revealed at this event. A great time was had by all and created a great atmosphere in the building.
- Grade 8 Retreat
 - On Thursday, September 29th, the grade 8 class enjoyed a day at Deas Island Park where they experienced a leadership and team building program facilitated by Pinnacle Pursuits. Students experienced activities to get to know their grade 8 classmates and to build personal collaborative skills. Feedback from the students and staff was extremely positive.
- Grad Boat Cruise
 - On Thursday, September 29th, our grade 12 class experienced their first Grad event of the year. The weather was spectacular, and the students enjoyed picturesque views, many photos, a great meal and dancing. The boat crew and security complimented our students on their excellent behaviour on board and welcomed us back anytime. So proud of our students.
- new Math teacher hired
- Mental Health curriculum is still a priority of the district and the school
- will look into repairs of lockers in boys changing room
- pickleball courts have been painted on the tennis court, has heard nothing about possible resurfacing the court

Treasurer’s Report: Suzana Topic

- received letter regarding the gaming grant application and Sands will receive \$13800
- there is money left over from last year as the SafeTeen presentation did not happen , \$2000

- requests have been received for funding
- some of the usual ones were not yet received but Suzana has added buses for grad and teacher appreciation
- Dry Grad request received, Sands has 165 grads
- spreadsheet will be compiled and sent out
- PAC executive will meet ahead of next PAC meeting and discuss requests
- gaming report will be completed by next meeting

DPAC update: Catharine Russell

- \$2 million grant for schools to support vulnerable students
- Four new trustees elected in recent vote
- Mental Health - Brad Bauman will be presenting at Jan 16 DPAC meeting in order to let everyone know what the district is doing to support schools
- Metro Vancouver had 6000 more kids than expected, not a huge increase for Delta in particular, but pressure has been put on school systems
- visit from the Ministry of Children and Family Development regarding foster care. They are looking for emergency foster parents within catchments

Dry Grad update: Ken Charnetski

- The meeting is tomorrow, unfortunately Ken cannot attend. Suzana will attend and report

Emergency Preparedness: Tony Nathan

- Food and water has not yet been replenished

Other Business:

- Executive will meet to discuss gaming grant requests on Nov 1 at 7 pm

Next Meeting

- November 15

Adjourned: 7:56