

Queen Elizabeth Annex Minutes

QEA PAC Meeting Minutes - November 19th 2020, via Zoom

Present:

Susie Outerbridge

Ange Goulay

Becky Rivett

Lily Cameron

Lori Ferguson

Nadine Ho

Mark Cormack

Azedah

Chin Sun

Ken

Valerie

Christine/Ken

Lia Guaditis

Namiko Kunimoto

Catrina Longmuir

1: Review Minutes and Agenda

Motion to adopt minutes from last meeting - PASSED

Motion to adopt today's agenda - PASSED

2: New Business

Activities still happening: VSO online concert

Food Drive - Virtual and Physical if possible, Susie to liaise. Boxes will be outside school to drop off donations before school, then be taken into school

Michelle liaising with sister school, Grandview, to see how we can best support them this year. Usual cake walk cancelled. Fundraising event doesn't need to be prior to holidays, but important we keep the relationship going.

3: Teachers Report

Madame Chantal not available

Garden report - lots of seeds given, gardening gloves, planted tulips along the school facing the forest. There is a need for a shed to store things in as unable to store things in the current one.

Benches donated by Lily so kids can use those to sit in the garden being utilised well

4: Vice Principals Report

Terry Fox run - blew our goal, some kids did 4 laps

Pumpkin patch was a great hit, kids enjoying the hay bails

Outdoor education going strong, at least one walk in the woods per week, keeping to the same cohorts. Lots of friendship bonds being built across the grades. Time management to hand washing and some kids have dry hands from the school soap, parents are able to send in kids own soap. Different feel to the school year, but things are going well, the kids are getting their socialization and continuing to learn well. Music class - made videos of what the kids have been working on.

Questions?

Update on Mask wearing in class, can it be encouraged for more kids to wear masks and for all staff?

No direct communication on most recent update, but we follow all of the guidelines. The guidelines that we're currently following that in all cohorts masks aren't mandatory, but until we have any further recommendations we will continue. Could you bring this up to a higher level to ensure the VSB

Class parent asked to send out an email to encourage mask wearing by parents, not a class parent job. The data so far shows that children at the age of QEA students aren't spreading the virus significantly, it is the individual parents choice whether they wear a mask or not, but it is still a personal choice at this time

Any cases at QEA?

No, if somebody tests positive they go through VCH contact tracing, letters would be sent out and contact would be made. As cases are going up the process isn't as fast, but if there were any cases at the school we would know

A parent voiced the concern that kids are hearing the news and they're saying to wear masks but not all kids aren't wearing masks. Please if people could talk it over with their kids to wear masks and maybe practice wearing them at home. Agreed, this is a personal choice.

Is everyone back at school? How many homeschooling
Only one not yet back

5: Treasurers Report

Direct Drive - \$3775 fits well into our budget plans for 2021

Bike to school week : QEA won hub cycle prize for runner up for the most children who biked, lights, padlocks etc.

We will be participating in some fundraising (probably in the new year), especially for Grandview school. Partnering with companies - west coast sees, Bee friendly living, Mabel labels, a percent of sales will be donated to the PAC, need to add QEA to checkout

6: Planned Activities

Possible Holiday tree and decorations, found one place willing to deliver for free, but will call some other places to ask for donation prior to buying one. If anybody has any other Holiday traditions that they'd like to be included, then please speak to PAC

Each child will get to decorate their own ornament that will be hung on the tree (or existing tree in garden if we don't go ahead with Christmas tree purchase)

Possible issue is some potential vandalism on site, bring the tree inside somehow at weekends/evenings??

7: DPAC Report

Octobers meeting, follow up about covid reporting, now a more formal methodology in place. Other big topic the issue of school liaison programme - police in schools, under review but still active. Focus on this in the next meeting. Presentations on mental health - panel of high school students, very insightful into how they're coping, very moving. 2 presentations from professional providers - any mental health resources - will be posted on DPAC website. QEA PAC website we've added a section on advocacy and DPAC resources, long range planning

Whats the thoughts on QEA advocacy?

Advocacy meeting happening but not consistent, not too worried at this stage, but possible movement in next school year. Also talking with the working group for French immersion, VSB not inviting, see how in demand that FI is and there's still a long waitlist. Email QEA PAC account if you're interested in joining.

DPAC having more conversations/ more transparency for parents. Long range facility plan has been discussed and QEA not on there.

Also Canadian parents for French - advocates for FI, new chapter with Vancouver advocacy opening. Mask update to be brought up at next meeting

8: Other Business

Any other questions?

Any ideas for December please come to us for how to celebrate the holidays.

Meeting Adjourned 21:15