

Parent Advisory Council Minutes
GP Vanier Secondary School
Date: 15 October 2024

Recognition of Traditional Territories - J Shields

In attendance: Rae Walsh, Hayley Dato, Laura Farnan, Shawn Thr, Joanne Barr, Kathleen Radford, Alexandra Lamont, Stephanie Ritchie, Bev Wilke

1. Called to order at 18:30 pm. Welcome/introductions
2. Approval of agenda - Motion by Rae Walsh, Second by Beve Wilke, carried
3. Approval of January Minutes, Motion by Bev Wilke, Second by Stephanie Ritchie, carried
4. Unfinished Business - None
5. Reports
 - a. Chairperson - Jennivieve Mcrae-King - no report
 - b. Administration - see below
 - c. DPAC - Rae Walsh.
 - Shared information about upcoming events hosted at Vanier (anxiety and tech), special attire program
 - Chair report - smooth start up
 - DPAC Speaker series - Parental Digital Dive hosted by school district teachers Oct. 23rd, and RCMP hosted event on drug use Date TBD (Nov.)
 - Transportation committee - Bus App available for tracking student bus
 - New school food coordinator position - C. Cockerton
 - Trustees - SD discussions with CVRD around rec expansion planning, Feeding Futures Program, Anti-racism principle assigned in a ½ time role.
 - Question re Vanier's music program requiring a PO Box - to be followed up with Vanier admin.
 - d. Trustee - Nil
 - e. Treasurer -Beve Wilke.
 - Focusing on gaming summary report. Move towards budget for November meeting
6. New Business - Nil
7. Q&A
 - How does Vanier use feeding futures funding? JS: Breakfast grab and go, reduced cost wrap in cafeteria, soup/scone available to anyone, snacks in various locations, support to student groups with lunches - approx \$6000/mo. Working on lunches for some kids. Also currently 50 backpack buddies go home to families weekly at no cost.
 - Opportunity to consider alternative photography company. Island Life is a Campbell River based photography company that could provide a competitive alternative to Life Touch. They can make a pitch to the school.
 - Daily Announcements - link on website below green banner at bottom of webpage

- Discussion on PE options, requirements, participation
 - Sports/Activities - Week at a glance and on listed on website
8. Next Meeting Tuesday Nov 19, 2024 at 6:30 pm
Adjournment at 19:23 pm

Vanier Admin Report to PAC Oct 15, 2024

School Events in September/October

- Terry Fox Run – the Terry Fox Assembly and Run was well organized by the Leadership classes and seeing 1300+ students run or walk the course was an impressive sight to see. Vanier’s goal was to raise \$1 for every student and staff member – which we did! Congratulations to Ms. Mazey’s dance class that raised \$545. Enjoy your pizza lunch!
- Student Government Elections for prime minister and deputy minister were held after some very passionate speeches at lunch in the multipurpose room. Well done to all of the candidates, and our new student voice/council.
- Post secondary visits have begun, with many representatives coming to Vanier to talk to students. UVIC, NIC, U of C, U of A, are all on the calendar to meet with students. Vanier will also be hosting a mini fair on Tuesday October 29th in the afternoon for all grade 11 and 12 students interested in finding out more information about North Island College, Vancouver Island University, University of Victoria, Camosun College, University of British Columbia, British Columbia Institute of Technology, University of Northern British Columbia, Okanagan College, Thompson Rivers University, Trinity Western University, or Canadian Armed Forces-Royal Military College.
- School District 71 held an information campaign in all of the high schools focusing on Consent during the week of September 16-20. Information was distributed through classrooms, and counsellors were available for any students wanting more information.
- September 23rd – 27th was Truth and Reconciliation Week across the district. Similar to Consent Week, the school participated in information sharing, discussions, story telling, and recognizing Indigenous experiences including residential school survivors. This message continues being shared and discussed in classrooms and the school as a whole throughout the year.

Athletics

- Fall sports are going well, with almost every age group and division being represented this season – with thanks to the many staff and community coaches that have stepped up to volunteer.
- In Wrestling, a parent meeting was held last week. The district wrestling team practices at Vanier. Contact Dan McKee for more information – Daniel.McKee@sd71.bc.ca
- Winter sports, particularly basketball will be starting up soon!

Grad

Winterfest will be held on our December flex day (December 4th). Plans are being put in place by the grad parent committee, and more details will be shared as the plans develop. Many volunteers are required to put together this event, and if you have any questions, please contact vice principal Erica Black at erica.black@sd71.bc.ca.

The Grad Special Attire (formerly the Cinderella and Cinderfella project) will be available for grads to book an appointment and get set up for grad (dress, shoes, gloves, suits, ties, etc.). The community has been very generous with donations of grad gowns and suits and is at no cost to students. Special Attire is housed in the new Dodge dealership on the second floor, with volunteers hosting bookings on Saturdays. Current dates are November 2nd, November 23rd, January 18th, February 8th, March 8th, April 12th, and May 10th. More information can be found here - <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/grad-attire-program/>

Upcoming Events

Thursday October 17 – Great Shake Out Earthquake Drill

Tuesday October 22nd – Photo Retakes

Friday October 25 – Professional Development Day for staff (no school)

Tuesday October 29th – Colleges and Universities mini fair (afternoon, in school)

Wednesday October 30th – Flex day & Provincial Assessments. Grade 12 Students currently in English will write their Literacy 12 assessment. Students missing their Literacy or Numeracy 10 assessment should see Mrs. Shields

Saturday November 2nd – Grad Attire @ Comox Valley Dodge

Wednesday November 6th – Beginning Band Concert, 6:30 Multipurpose Room

Friday November 8 – last day of Term 1

Monday November 11th – Schools closed for Remembrance Day

Tuesday November 12th – Term 2 begins

Tuesday November 19th – November PAC meeting

Wednesday November 20th – Report cards posted to Myed. Paper copies will be distributed soon after.

Saturday November 23rd – Grad Attire @ Comox Valley Dodge

Tuesday November 26th – English 11 classes will go to the Big House for a cultural presentation

Saturday November 30th – Vanier Winter Market, 9-2 in the gym.