



VICTORIA
CONFEDERATION
OF
PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS
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Points 2 Ponder

March 2, 2018

From the February 27 meeting:

We elected Dan del Villano as our Treasurer for the next few months, his term will end June 1st. He is an asset to the executive and the organization. Welcome aboard Dan! We voted to nominate Kim Currie for a position on the BCCPAC executive. Wish her luck.

Call for award nominations for our 9 awards. VCPAC has a tradition of recognizing the amazing people in our school communities. The deadline is May 4 this year for submissions. That event will be held at Esquimalt High School May 22nd. Have a look at the criteria and procedure here <http://www.vcpac.ca/vcpac-news/15-vcpac-award-nominations?highlight=WyJhd2FyZHMlXQ==> Remember May 4, 2018 is the deadline this year.

Our **New Superintendent** will be Shelley Green. She is currently the Deputy Superintendent and will be moving into the new position in July. We welcome and congratulate Shelley on her successful application.

Calendar - The Ministry of Education has added another non-instructional day to the calendar for next year, and the government changed the day for the Family Day holiday in February. These changes have required the District to adjust the calendar for 2018/19 which was already approved. The current proposal has been posted for review and feedback. The deadline for feedback is March 28, 2018. Here is the link www.sd61.bc.ca/news-events/news/title/your-feedback-is-invited-on-the-amended-2018-2019-school-year-calendar/

*****Note** there was another change after our meeting on the 27th. February Pro-D has been moved to the 15th removing the concern about a 3 day week.

B - Beacon Community Services has given notice that they will no longer be providing Crossing Guards at the schools they currently serve. We identified parent concerns and priorities. Our points were: needs to be consistent across the district, not volunteer, not children, not PAC funded, criteria to qualify and process for assessing need for a crossing guard should to be clear and transparent, the plan should include encouraging walking or some other activity and recognize safety concerns, and be funded sufficiently. Perhaps the municipalities will recognize their responsibility for pedestrian safety on their roads and assist with funding fully. I took this list to a meeting later in the week. We all agree with points but have no answers yet. VCPAC will be working with District Staff to form a plan. It may take a bit of time to be fully in place. Liability, labour agreements, funding streams and responsibility all need to be worked through to have something in place for September. An administrative survey of current practice in the next weeks will help us understand what we are going to do.

Parent information opportunities - District Senior Administration wants PACs to know they are willing to attend PAC meetings to discuss topics or issues of concern at your school. They have the current information and understand the reasons for the decisions being made. If your parents are asking for clarification it is a good idea to get it straight from the source. If you are interested in this and don't know who to ask, Mark Walsh may be a good place to start. mwalsh@sd61.bc.ca. If the issue is something you think stretches to other schools: crossing guards, lead in the water, classroom space, to name a few, then let us know and we can arrange to have them come to a VCPAC meeting to discuss the district concern. info@vcpac.ca

Allergy Awareness Parent Ed Swati Scott will be organizing a Parent ed night in April for Allergy awareness. More to come in soon

Notice of Motion:

VCPAC By-Laws contains language about the meeting, both executive and general, that we hold in the year. We need to amend those clauses to reflect a two week spring break and what is actually feasible in our present day experience.

Be it resolved that Article III clause 2 be amended to read;

2. General Meetings will be held monthly from September to May except for December *and March*, unless otherwise determined by the membership. General Meetings are open to all Parents. Any Parent of a child registered in the SD61 may speak at any General Meeting for the VCPAC. Guest may speak at the discretion of the assembly. The Quorum for the General Meeting is one-third of the current membership.

Be it resolved that Article III clause 1 be amended to read:

1. Executive Meeting will be held at the discretion of the Executive, with a minimum of *five four* annually. Quorum is a majority of the Executive members.

Our next meeting, the VCPAC AGM, is April 24 at Reynolds Secondary.

This is the **Official Call for Nominations to the Executive**.

As per our By Laws quorum of 15 PACs represented in the room (no proxy vote is permitted) is required to elect the new executive. Have you considered serving on the executive? Here is the link to the description of the roles <http://www.vcpac.ca/parent-leadership> Look on the left column for the positions. Now could be your chance, all positions are elected each year and we have several parents near the end of their K-12 parenting years. It would be good to handoff the responsibility while they are still around and willing to help make the transition smooth. BCCPAC conference and AGM will be 12 days later, we will discuss how we want to vote on the resolutions for BCCPAC. The annual reports will be delivered at this meeting. Other items to discuss if there is time will be answering questions: What do you want included in the fall PAC 101 Partnership event? How do we move away from food rewards? Crossing Guards what's happening on this one? Update and parent input, how to reduce traffic at the school front door.