



**FRASER HEIGHTS SECONDARY SCHOOL
MINUTES OF PAC MEETING
Tuesday, September 22, 2020**

The PAC meeting commenced at 7:00p.m. via Zoom with 46 in attendance.

❖ Minutes

The PAC minutes for February 18, 2020 and April 28, 2020 were not circulated and instead will be presented for approval at October 2020 meeting.

❖ PAC President's Report

Lucki Kang

Welcome to all parents. PAC meetings will continue in a virtual format until further notice and will be held the third Tuesday of the month from 6-7 p.m.

Fraser Heights Facebook page continues to be active and will contain PAC information.

Thank you to the administration, staff and teachers for their commitment to our children's education during this challenging time of a pandemic.

PAC Executive elections are normally held in the final May PAC meeting of the year, but under the current conditions, this election had been deferred. The position of Vice-Chair is currently vacant. Parents interested in Executive positions are encouraged to connect with PAC chair for more information.

❖ Treasurer's Report

Marnie Stariha

The final treasurer's report for the 2019/2020 year was presented. As a result of CoVid the spending on the wish list was halted for the remainder of the year which resulted in a large carryover of funds. We ended the year with \$11,612 in General, and \$7,896 in Gaming.

The budget for the 2020/2021 year has not yet been prepared as we have not received Gaming funds as of yet. Further it is likely that the PAC will not be collecting parent donations for this fiscal year. The budget will be presented at the October meeting for voting in by the PAC.

❖ Dry Grad

Any year end celebrations or ceremonies for the graduating class are being discussed and will follow the provincial guidelines.

This item was not discussed.

❖ Question Period

Next PAC Meeting – October 20, 2020 6-7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Principal's Report for PAC Meeting, September 22, 2020

"May you live in interesting times" since our last meeting

- We are in the midst of a pandemic and we are all (parents, students, staff, FHSS community) justifiably careful and concerned, a quick background:
 - We finished last year by re-opening slightly and learned some from that
 - We were able to run a safety driven simplified Commencement, that we live-streamed. That was a really positive end to the year. We all hope for an effective vaccine soon, there is optimistic talk, but historically this has been a multi year process.
 - So this year may be similar for our grads, we already cancelled out September Boat Cruise and Winter Formal, but we are holding onto hope for the late Spring events
- We finished June with our Superintendent's announcement that we would open at 20%, (i.e.) mostly online in September. I anticipated this might be 50%, and we were ready for both possibilities
- In late July the Ministry of Education and the Public Health Officer, in conjunction with the BC Restart Plan, announced that schools would open with as close to full face to face instruction as possible, but with additional safety structures
 - For Surrey:
 - Grade 8-9 students would be cohorted together (learning teams)
 - Grade 10-12 would be ½ day direct face to face teaching and ½ day online with some face to face as part of the online, so we had to examine ways to retimetable our school.
- We usually spend three or more months working with a team of counsellors, department heads and special education teachers to build our timetable, we had to redo this task, in about a month, this was challenging
- What complicates it for us is we have many different pathways resulting is FHSS students having really unique timetables. For example, we have streaming in math, enhancement in French, paired courses in Humanities, Inquiry 8 and a Science Academy and we take students from Berkshire Park's MAC program where students are working at advanced rates.
- So.....after lots and lots of work, Mrs. Fitz was able to build a grade 8 and 9 timetable that seemed to work, without hugely impacting the 10-12 timetable, and we prepared to open in September
- As late August neared, the Ministry of Education received increasing feedback from parents who were still 'nervous' about sending their child(ren) back to school. This feedback was discussed at the Ministerial and Superintendent level.

- This caused us to consult our parents and ultimately created an online transitional opportunity for some grade 8 and 9 families to stay connected to the school but not attend all day
- We are offering one block of Science 8 and one block of Math 9, for students/families who want to wait and see a bit. It is not ideal, but it is the best we can do in the short run.

Then we opened, while still in a pandemic, and our focus is:

- Safety for all drives everything we do
- We ask parents to do a health check on their child/children each morning, before sending them to school. If they show any symptoms, they are to stay home
- If a student become sick, or show symptoms of sickness AT SCHOOL, we accompany them to our 'quarantine area', disinfect the area where they were working, and contact the parent/guardian for them to be picked up. They must stay home until they are symptom free. Often, we ask families to consider making a medical appointment to get professional advice about returning to school.
- Students arrive hopefully about 10 minutes prior to classes starting and enter school through the doors nearest their A block classroom. The first week they waited outside, but as the weather worsens (like tomorrow) they will just enter the closest door to 'A' block.
- They sanitize their hands upon entry and frequently through the day
 - Grades 8 and 9 stay with their peers throughout their two classes and we hope they will be able to stay in their 'A' block classroom to have lunch (though at some point during lunch most of the rooms are electrostatically sprayed with a disinfectant), dries in ~3 to 5 minutes
 - We have long classes with a stretch break part way through, the hope is that students will mostly stay inside their class or, weather permitting, pop briefly outside at breaks
 - When not in their cohort group, they should be wearing a mask and be socially distanced as much as possible, this goes fully against human nature
- Grade 10-12 students have morning class with a different start time and the bulk of their afternoon class is delivered virtually (online)
- We ask students to leave the school, unless under the direct supervision of a teacher, the end of period 1, or at the end of the day
- If we ever learn of a positive case of Covid in our school, Fraser Health guides our response. Frequently we learn of such an occurrence through Fraser Health. If we learn of Covid in a school we:
 - Inform our Assistant Superintendent, our Human Resources Health and Safety lead, our Staff and our Parent Community. We follow up with a staff meeting, often the next morning
 - Administration are frequently just messengers; we often know very little specifics and we must respect privacy
 - Fraser Health takes the lead on contact tracing and letting people know if they have to stay home and self isolate, or something (there could be a second letter)
 - To the best of my knowledge, while there have been cases in Surrey there has not yet been transmission. People are self isolating, but we are not closing schools.

The first week:

- The students have been great in terms of coming on time, waiting patiently, wearing masks in common areas and classrooms. Like for most humans, I see them having a little trouble with social distancing. They want to be closer than two meters to their peers and classmates. This is human nature, but we have to work on this
- We have two janitors come and disinfect classrooms over lunch, this is a big job. We have a prioritized list of classrooms requiring cleaning each day, sometimes a class may have to step out for five minutes while the room is fogged. The disinfectant is approved by Health Canada
- Lunch, thus far, has been good as it has been warm and dry and many students are eating outside, it will be more challenging as fall and wet cold winter comes
- The afternoon online class is more challenging as staff are teaching through a laptop or web cam and nothing can replace face to face instruction. Staff are working on how to balance direct on-line instruction on Monday and Friday and small group face to face instruction on Tues, Wed, and Thursday
- ADST (applied design skills training) classes like shop classes and possibly Home Ec will have their students come in all afternoons, in 1/3 student rotations, the machine-based learning just cannot be replicated online

Clubs: Fraser Heights has a long proud tradition of providing many clubs that help students grow as responsible citizens, or continue learning and developing as young leaders. This year most clubs will have to be run through online meetings and include fewer activities. We are looking into this structure as it makes it harder for club sponsors to monitor. I expect we will have less clubs.

Yearbook: Yearbooks are memory books, built around photos of the learning and co-curricular opportunities the school offers. (i.e.) Student Council Activities, Athletics, Music, Dance, Grad activities, etc. Barring the introduction and wide scale application of a successful vaccine, we don't think we will be able to offer most of these options this year. In addition, with timetabling and the quarter system, classes that traditionally run all semester long now happen over 2.5 months. Thus, the yearbook class does not meet until Mid November. Therefore, for the reasons cited above, we don't think we will be creating a yearbook this year. This is sad news. Mr. Pahal is looking at options, we'll see if any surface.

School Photo Day: happens Wednesday September 30th. Grade 10-12 will be in the morning, by cohort, the grade 8 and 9 classes in the afternoon. We will have 5 photo stations, 3 in the garage and 2 in the NLC. If your child has a spare block in the morning block they come for their photo and we squeeze them in. Mr. Mackenzie is thinking at about noon.

Concluding thoughts: we are all in this together. Working together makes us stronger and better able to manage the Covid pandemic. There has been a lot of information released and we are still learning about the virus. We are trying our best to synthesize the most important pieces and doing what we can to keep our schools safe and positive learning environments. We continue to review the health and safety updates we receive and we get a lot of emails. We do our best to keep our parents informed. Thanks for all your help in making all of this work.

Our next **PAC Meeting** is October 20th, 2020, 6:00 – 7:00 on zoom