**Magee PAC Meeting**

**24 October 2023**

**-Summary-**

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| **Position** | **Name** | **In Attendance** |
| **PAC Co-Chairs** | Shannon Ezekiel Sarah Jordan  | ✔✔ |
| **Treasurer** **Assistant Treasurer** | Sandra Cheng Sophia Wang | X✔ |
| **Secretary** **Assistant Secretary** | Mira Laza VACANT | ✔ |
| **Member-at-Large** | Janice Bakas (Special Events & Hospitality)Tiffany Lee (Communications & Direct Donations)Michelle Zhao (Translator & ELL Parent Liaison)Stella Dyankova (Website Manager) Joanna Zhang (Website Assistant & ELL Parent Liaison)Marzie de Pangher (Parent Education)Stephanie Burns | ✔✔XX✔✔✔ |
| **District Parent Advisory Council Rep** | VACANT |  |
| **Number of Parents in Attendance (including Executive)** | 33 parents  |  |
| **GUESTS:** **Magee Principal****Grade 12 Counsellor****Past Magee PAC Chair (2018)** | Dr. Andrew SchofieldMr. Daniel LinMs. Paula xxx | ✔✔✔ |

**PAC Meeting Facilitators:** Shannon Ezekiel, Sarah Jordan

**Meeting start: 7:00pm**

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| 1. **Welcome and Land Acknowledgement**
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| **Sarah/Shannon** | * Magee acknowledges that we are visitors to the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples: sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), sel̓íl̓witulh (Tsleil-Waututh), and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) nations
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| 1. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes**
 |
| **Magee PAC Meeting Agenda, 24 October 2023****Minutes from PAC Meeting, 11 April 2023** | * Review of Agenda (See Appendix 1 attached)
* Call for additions to agenda:- None
* Review of Minutes (See Appendix 2 attached)
* Discussion... NONE
 | **MOTION:** To approve the agenda of Magee PAC Meeting, 24 Oct 2023 and the minutes of Magee PAC Meeting, 11 Apr 2023First: SarahSecond: ShannonVote: None opposedMOTION CARRIED |
| 1. **PAC Updates**
 |
|  | PAC Exec intro and vacant positions (Shannon)* There are still few positions in the PAC Exec that need to be filled (i.e. Assistant Secretary, DPAC Rep)

Open House (Shannon)* Oct 5th, 2023
* Choir, meeting with Principal, Vice-Principal, counsellor etc., PAC table, snacks & drinks…
* Many thanks to all the volunteers
* Well attended by parents
* The importance of community is emphasized at Magee… Each family comes with their own strengths and challenges… we are stronger together…

Traffic Monitors (Shannon)* Thank you to all volunteers
* Follow local traffic rules: stop only where it is allowed, and move along after dropping off… don’t occupy space longer than necessary for telephone use etc.

University Fair (Shannon)* Oct 3rd, 2023 at Magee for all students within VSB
* Very successful event… Apr 24th there will be a repeat with more secondary institutions involved (20+ schools)
* Q: How many students from Magee (and within VSB) are interested in US schools and what is the percentage of students admitted in the US? Is it worthwhile organizing this type of events?
* A: Not much official data available at VSB level… Open up as many opportunities as possible for all VSB students… At Magee 20/200 students in 2023 and 13/200 in 2024 had expressed interest in attending US Universities… A unique opportunity within the public school system… Most of the time this type of even is organized in coordination with other local events (i.e. WPGA, NACA)

Volunteer Sign Up (Shannon)* Always looking for volunteers
* Use available QR code or contact PAC directly, if interested in helping

Communication (Tiffany)* Parents are invited to communicate through WhatsUp (English) and WeChat (Chinese) for each grade level
* Creating a community within each grade, and at the school level

Direct Drive (Tiffany)* The school gets some funding through Gaming Grant, but these funds can only be used for certain extracurricular activities, semester turnaround, yearbook, counselling snacks etc.
* Some activities can only be funded from school fundraising

House Post Update (Paula) * Legacy gift to Magee started in 2019 - interdisciplinary art project honouring Coast Salish and Musqueam peoples
* Phase 1 - Spindle Whirl (in Magee foyer)
* Phase 2 - Coast Salish Orcas Community House Post
* Public art installation … part of a larger project “Art Walk”…
* Unveiling ceremony of the house post will take place on Nov 3rd, 3:15-6PM at Magee Secondary… Movie documentary about Musqueam history will also be presented
* Need volunteers for food tables, signup table, donation table etc.
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| 1. **School Staff Updates**
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| Dr. Andrew Schofield**Principal**Daniel Lin **Counsellor (Gr 12)** | * The administration is open to answering any questions that patents might have
* Counselling team is supporting students to the best of their ability
* Midterms are coming up… the important thing is to understand how students learn… co-competencies
* During collaboration and pro-D days teachers are discussing students’ development and methods to improve the learning process
* The school is a very welcoming environment with zero tolerance for violence, propaganda, antisemitism, racism etc
* The world is in a very difficult place right now and we need every child to feel valued and appreciated
* Q: Grad Events?
* A: Nov 1st – Grad Meeting w Parents of Gr 12 students
* Q: Gr 12 parent sharing her daughter’s experience with the Peer Counselling program and its transformative effect for both the Gr 12 and the Gr 8 students, who are peered together
* A: Potentially organizing monthly events for new students… ideally, assign a Gr. 8 student to a Gr. 12 student, as peers… improve the experience in school… impactful for most kids who had participated in previous years… both for the Gr 12 student (felt empathy for teachers, by caring for younger colleagues) and for the Gr 8 students (felt more connected and protected by their older colleagues)
* Midterm assessments upcoming, Gr 12 applications to post-secondary… it is a very stressful time for some of the students… please support them…
* In the new year, potentially open up the post-sec conversation for younger grades
 |  |
| 1. **Parent Education**
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| Marzie de Pangher, **PAC-Parent Education**Daniel Lin,**Gr 12 Counsellor****Susan Heffernan** | * Hand-out – parent survey… what topics are interesting to parents, with specific details... form includes a section on online safety
* What is necessary to prepare for post secondary education?... Competitive advantage… Gr 8 and 9 students request AP classes, want to advance etc… This is not necessarily the best course of action!!!
* Skating program approached the SPARTS program at Magee (SPARTS = program dedicated to students involved in competitive sports (8 SPART parents in the room)
* Pressure felt by parents are transferred to kids
* Parent expectations need to be well managed

**Competing Pressures and Youth Mental Health*** We can safely assume that our kids are smart, motivated, self-critical, sensitive, goal-oriented etc. and they do feel pressure from all these areas
* Parents are also very motivated, and often wondering whether they are doing a good enough job helping their kids to succeed… Parents have high hopes for the kids, but they are also stressed by their own jobs, financial issues etc
* **Need to keep the balance**: want to make sure kids do well, but at the same time the pressure needs to be managed
* Huge concern with mental health, particularly if the balance cannot be maintained
* **Check yourself as a parent!!!**
* Story of Joanne Rochette – Vancouver 2010 Olympic Medalist, whose mom died during the Olympics… Skater went on even after the accident to secure medal. Eventually, she studied medicine…
* As parents, we need to strive to cultivate healthy, well rounded, young people

**KEY MESSAGES*** 1-YOU ARE THE PARENT! No matter what happens you must love your child unconditionally & listen to what your child feels, thinks etc.
* 2-Q: Are you parenting TO PROTECT OR TO PREPARE? Young = protect, older = let go
* Covid – enormous impact. Regardless of how much we want to protect, we need to let go
* 3-THE PHONE… model behavoiur… by age 5 kids have learned all their values, they do what you do not what you say
* 4- LANGUAGE- what you say to kids is very important (Ex: *you should be proud of yourself*, of what you accomplished vs. *I am proud of you*)
* 5- TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF… so much focus and time on chldren… talk with friends, do things that you enjoy

Mr Lin:* The immigrant family struggle most of the time adds grit to children… the application to post-secondary education is the first level of distress that kids might have experienced in their lives… kids feel that they need to have everything figured out by 17… challenges still exist… but these challenges bring experience, grit, skills that will help in the future… Kids are afraid of making mistakes
* Some kids also struggle when they have too much choice… no judgement…
* It is very challenging for parents to see their children in distress: anxious, sad, afraid… interpretation of these feelings is different for child vs parent vs extended family
* Handouts about mental health had been offered to parents

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Next meeting: Dec 12th, 2023

**GOOD NIGHT AND THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!**

**Meeting adjourned: 7:40PM (PAC Meeting) 8:26PM (Parent Education)**

Appendix 1

**NOTICE OF MEETING – MAGEE PAC GENERAL MEETING**

**Date of Meeting**: Tuesday, October 24, 2023

**Time**: 7:00 – 7:30 PM

**Location**: Magee Library

**2023-2024 Magee Secondary Executive Members**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Name** |
| **PAC Co-Chairs** | Shannon EzekielSarah Jordan |
| **Treasurer****Assistant Treasurer** | Sandra ChengSophia Wang |
| **Secretary****Assistant Secretary** | Mira LazaVacant |
| **Members-at-Large** | Janice Bakas (Special Events & Hospitality)Tiffany Lee (Communications & Direct Donations)Michelle Zhao (Translator & ELL Parent Liaison)Stella Dyankova (Website Manager) Joanna Zhang (Website Assistant & ELL Parent Liaison)Marzie de Pangher (Parent Education)Stephanie Burns |
| **District Parent Advisory Council** | Vacant |

**AGENDA**

7:00 pm - 7:30 pm – ***PAC meeting***

1. Land acknowledgement
2. Approval of agenda and minutes
3. PAC updates
* PAC Exec intro and vacant positions
* PAC updates
	+ Open House
	+ Traffic monitors
	+ University Fair
	+ Volunteer sign-up
	+ WhatsApp groups
* Direct Drive
* Housepost update
1. School staff updates

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm – Guest speaker Susan Heffernan on ***“Competing Pressures & Youth Mental Health”***

8:30 PM – ***Meeting adjourns***

* Parent education survey
* Next PAC meeting dates

Appendix 2

**Magee PAC Meeting**

**11 April 2023**

**-Summary-**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Name** | **In Attendance** |
| **PAC Co-Chairs** | Shannon Ezekiel Sarah Jordan  | ✔✔ |
| **Treasurer**  | Monica Tang  | X |
| **Secretary**  | Mira Laza  | ✔ |
| **Member-at-Large** | Janice Bakas (Event/Hospitality Coordinator) Maria Hubinette (Past Co-Chair) Michelle Zhao (Chinese Parents Liaison & Translator) Sandra Cheng (Volunteer Coordinator & Fundraising) Stella Dyankova (Website Coordinator) Stephanie Burns Tiffany xxx | ✔XXXX✔✔ |
| **District Parent Advisory Council Rep** | Skye Richards | ✔ |
| **Number of Parents in Attendance (including Executive)** | 17 parents  |  |
| **GUESTS:** **Magee Principal****Grade 12 Counsellor** | Dr. Andrew SchofieldMr. Daniel Lin | ✔✔ |

**PAC Meeting Facilitators:** Shannon Ezekiel

**Meeting start: 7:07pm**

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| --- |
| 1. **Welcome and Land Acknowledgement**
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| **Shannon** | * Magee acknowledges that we are visitors to the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples: sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), sel̓íl̓witulh (Tsleil-Waututh), and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) nations
 |  |
| 1. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes**
 |
| **Magee PAC Meeting Agenda, 11 April 2023****Minutes from PAC Meeting, 21 Feb 2023** | * Review of Agenda (See Appendix 1 enclosed)
* Call for additions to agenda:- None
* Review of Minutes (See Appendix 2 attached)
* Discussion... NONE
 | **MOTION:** To approve the agenda of Magee PAC Meeting, 11 Apr 2023 and the minutes of Magee PAC Meeting, 21 Feb 2023First: SarahSecond: TiffanyVote: None opposedMOTION CARRIED |
| 1. **PAC Updates**
 |
|  | Urban Roots Fundraiser (Shannon)* Pop-up plant nursery
* 10% pre-tax purchases made in Kerrisdale during the month April will go back to Magee PAC
* Ad on PAC website and PAC Facebook page

Staff Appreciation Lunch (Janice)* Sending info shortly: volunteering, food donations etc.

Gaming Grant Applications (Sarah)* Proposals from school are put forward every spring to be funded through BC Gaming Grant

Call for 2023-2024 PAC Exec Members* Looking for any help that can be provided… back up secretary, treasurer etc.
* Email PAC address or personal

Music Society * Very talented group of children
* First trip in many years… expensive
* Fundraisers:
* Shredding event on May 6 by donation at the school
* Plant sale in May for fundraiser
 |  |
| 1. **School Staff Updates**
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| Dr. Andrew Schofield**Principal**Daniel Lin | * Thank you to PAC and Music Society for everything they do
* One of the struggles brought about by the technological evolution is related to the new “language” that it brings
* Another major struggle of our times is climate change
* As parents and educators, we need to help our kids find a “language” to navigate the future; enormous impact that needs to be re-evaluated. Magee students do learn music and have high academic standards, but they also need to learn other aspects of the future
* Magee Newsletter – out today
* Impressive work done by the teachers

 * Course selection done for next year
* Midterm marks done at the end of the month
* Assessments take place in different classes, therefore the level of stress is increased
* End of May: Parent -Teacher interviews
* Upcoming International and US University Fair on April 28 (Magee), April 29 (Vancouver Convention Center), and May 9 (US specific, high level sports -UBC Alumni Center)
* Students can come over earlier to the Magee event and talk with presenters
* QR code on advertising material connects to Canadian representative for one-on-one advice

Q&A * Q: RE: Course selection…when is it too late if students change their minds?
* A: Different opportunities to change for what is available, both at the end of the school year and in the first weeks of the next. Hopefully not too many students make major changes
* Q: Any similar event regarding Canadian Universities
* A: Canadian Universities events… Google for info sessions
* Dr S: Challenge w young students (Gr 9) requesting high level classes (ex: Calculus 12) … students must be given the opportunity to develop at their own pace
* Mr Lin: If students accelerate, by Gr 12 they may have social difficulties not being able to integrate with their peer group
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| 1. **Parent Education – Urban Gardening**
 |
| **Skye Richards****Ian Marcuse & Victoria Buffalo Robe** | * Introduction and traditional song

**Urban Gardening and Food Network Presentation*** Gardening pedagogy helps bring the education outdoors… gardens are a tangible way to connect with the land
* Benefits: play, joy, beauty, human interaction, communication, relaxation, integration, inquiry
* Investigate the cause & effect quality that builds resiliency in people
* Land based learning, environmental stewardship
* The art of noticing: scientific inquiry (identifying, classifying etc.), sensory observations (smell the flower, being mindful about its beauty…), use of technology (tools, medicinal role etc.)
* Relevance… learning moments: ecology, nutrition, self-reliance, home economics, social engagement
* Responsibility… responsive without being reactive, critical thinking
* Resiliency… going outside in a cold and rainy day
* Transmission of knowledge… experiential learning, story telling

 Learning Opportunities* Planning and Design: professional designers and landscape architects
* Carpentry: plant boxes
* Landscaping
* Exercise
* Indigenous knowledge and learning
* Healthy eating and nutrition
* Cooking with ingredients grown in the garden
* Beekeeping… potentially raising native bee colonies
* Herbal medicines
* Soil science… analyze the soil
* Entomology… looking for insects inside the soil
* Botany
* Composting… rebuilding soil
* Seed saving… picking seeds, milling, baking the flour
* Marketing and Finance… summer farmer market
* Art
* Seed bombs to give away 😊
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**GOOD NIGHT AND THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!**

**Meeting adjourned: 7:40PM (PAC Meeting) 8:46PM (Parent Education)**