



Queen Mary PAC Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 12th, 2019.

Attendees: Megan Davies, Justin Morrison, Judy Yeung, Rebecca Anderson, Tamara Knott, Maria Koebisch, Merle Miedzygorski, Scott Trinder, Angela Zi, Dan Bartok, Melea Burns, Alex Jeyaseelan, Kuljit Sajjan, Christine Darvell, Allisa Kim, Oliver Hanson (VSB Trustee)

Regrets: Janine Kobylka, Nazy Alborz.

Meeting commenced: 7:07pm

1. Approval of Agenda

- **Moved by:** Scott
- **Seconded by:** Tamara
- **Unanimous approval – Motion carried.**

2. Approval of February 19, 2019 Minutes

- **Moved by:** Dan
- **Seconded by:** Judy
- **Unanimous approval – Motion carried.**

3. Vancouver School Board Trustee – Oliver Hanson

- Background: Trustee for the Byng family of schools on West side; liaison to facilitate exchange of information between schools and VSB; Chair of the Finance Committee; got involved as VSB Trustee after his kids began attending McBride Elementary.
- Discussion points:
 - **PAC:** Speech & Language Support (SLP) – serious shortfall from what we require. We used to have two SLP's, then down to one SLP full day, now down to half a day only! Ruth Hanson is so overloaded, has to prioritize based on current workload, hard to get in. Only half a day, then needs to travel to other school. At least 22 students currently. Students need regular work, but it's not happening. Speech requires support early. Private is \$100-\$140/hr a session. Not all people can afford private assistance. Without assistance, self-confidence goes down, socialization is difficult and situations get worse. Why has FTE gone down, when needs have not!
 - **Oliver: Certain amount of funding per designated child, based on level of designation, and overall need. If one school has a higher need, determines FTE availability at other schools.**
 - Ruth is new to QM, and still learning the students & needs. Difficult to get settled in with any students with such demand.
 - **Difficult roles to fill, very challenging. Hoping to hire more SLP, when qualified people are available. FTE is based on 3-days/week, due to stress of**

- job. Lower wage seems to prove some kind of deterrent, compared to private sector wages.**
- How can we make our voice louder to gain a better likelihood of more SLP support?
 - **There is a chain-of-command that starts with the Principal and then the Director of Language, etc, Oliver will try to circumvent that long process to get some answers. Will find out if VSB is short on SLPs in general, or too few qualified SLPs applying, etc.**
 - Ruth coordinates with SSW's to continue support on days when she is not available. However, SSW's are over-worked as well!
 - Christine providing a letter to Oliver to pass along to VSB & Trustees.
 - ELL worker (Chris Frykberg) retired last year, with no replacement. Any indication as to why that happened?
 - **Megan:** Funding was reduced for resource/support staff. Vancouver has a high ELL. QM gets ELL support based on assessed needs, but our ELL #'s are decreasing from a couple of years ago. We can always use more ELL & SLP & Resource support!! (There is no "cap" on ELL students per classroom!)
 - **Oliver to take our message to VSB, to push for more review on SLP support at QM and other schools. As Chair of Budgeting Committee, "we are in Budget Review Process now, with community consultations coming up at Mt. Pleasant April 23rd, 7pm-11pm for parents to speak. Email going live on April 9th – items to be added/considered for the budget, but less effective."**

4. Principal's Report – Megan Davies

- 2019-2020 Update
 - Currently staffed for 2 Kindergarten classes
 - Working with office staff to offer spaces to in-catchment K applicants (offers went out on the 8th and an RSVP was due by 3pm today)
 - This morning we sent out offers to our Kindergarten cross-boundary applicants who have older siblings that already attend QM
 - Will work with the District as they place some K students from full elementary schools with waitlists for in-catchment families
 - Later this month we will advise remaining cross boundary applicants (K or higher grades) if they have a place at QM or have been waitlisted. The waitlist remains until September 2019.
- VSB's draft Long Range Facilities Plan
 - Draft published last month – not yet adopted by the Board
 - Ministry requires all districts in BC to have a LRFP
 - The plan is a guide that contains data regarding facilities and their usage in Vancouver
 - Key areas include: enrolment forecasts, facility condition, seismic mitigation, capital assets and site capacity
 - Involves consultation with the public and stakeholders
 - Considers capacity and feasibility analysis
 - Consultation with stakeholders will occur in April
 - The feasibility analysis (of 28 schools – 6 sec, 17 elem, 5 annexes) is not a closure list

- Some reporting (by Global, for example) has been inaccurate. Global's report outlined that QM is on a closure list – this is not true – there is no closure list and QM is not one of the 28 schools that is part of the feasibility analysis.
- Mobile Devices at QM
 - Expectation is that devices are put away from 9-3
 - Students may, under close supervision, use a personal device for educational purposes
 - Provided reminders this week to staff and students via announcements
 - Parent info session on May 2nd 7-8:30pm at Tupper – the topic is Raising Digitally Responsible Youth. Registration/RSVP here: <https://tinyurl.com/y39nfcpa>
- Student Learning Surveys (Satisfaction Surveys)
 - Completed in the province by April 30th (Grades 4, 7, 10, 12)
 - The survey covers a range of topics, providing a comprehensive picture of the educational experience in B.C. public schools. Questions were developed with input from partner groups, teachers and experts in educational measurement and special education.
 - Schools, districts, government ministries and other external organizations such as the Representative for Children and Youth use the survey data for planning, research and advocacy work for youth. Feedback from participants provides valuable insight for addressing current needs and trends
 - Info can be found here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey>

Upcoming dates:

- March 15th – last day before Spring Break
- April 1st – 1st day back after Spring Break
- April 2nd – Performance – Kinnie Starr
- April 8th – Class and school photos
- April 9th – Grade 7 Articulation Meeting with Lord Byng staff
- April 25th – Volunteer Tea
- April 26th – Monthly Assembly – hosted by Div. 8

5. Chair's Report – Justin Morrison

- School dance June 14th – theme is Pirates & Mermaids. Suggestion just be “Pirates of the Carribean”, or something gender neutral? Suggestions to Lori Matick.
- Anxiety Workshop for Parents – Janine tried to attend, but it was “sold out”. She is now looking to get Bethany Mitchell come here.
- Megan has had no luck with getting hold of Jesse Miller. Janine will look at other options.

6. Treasurer's Report –Angela Zi

- Deposit from Purdy's commission, Stong's commission & Pink Shirt profit!
- Miscellaneous cheque from Kim family for \$22, for reason unknown.
- Outgoing funds for Pink Shirt Costs & Teacher reimbursement for Craft Fair.
- IXL coming in at only \$500 after all subscriptions, so \$1500 will be released from General Account.

- Still waiting for Mr. Weir's invoice for Art Starts program.
- Gaming Funds at just under \$5,000.
- General funds sitting at a balance of almost \$7,900.
- Music program to come out of Gaming Account.

7. DPAC Report – Maria Koebsch

- Most items covered throughout meeting.

8. Other Business

- Choir update: drop-in was about 15 students per session. Sign-up will go out after Spring Break.

9. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm