

Handsworth PAC

Minutes October 16, 2023

1. Welcome Statement

We would like to thank the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh Squamish Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation, upon whose unceded traditional territory the North Vancouver School District Handsworth Secondary resides. We value the opportunity to learn, share and grow on this traditional territory.

2. Roll Call

A quorum for the transaction of business at a general meeting is seven voting members, including at least two of the HPAC Directors. At least one of the HPAC Directors must be a signing officer. Quorum was achieved.

3. Approval of October 20, 2023, Agenda

The agenda was circulated by school broadcast on Oct. 13, 2023. Motion to accept agenda by Megan Enns and seconded by Carmen Jensen. Approved.

4. Approval of September 18, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Minutes were circulated on Oct. 13, 2023 by school broadcast. Motion to accept Minutes from September 18 Meeting. Moved by Angela Santoro and seconded by Shane Lowry. Approved.

5. Chair Report

This is a transition year for HPAC with lots of movement and many new members. Shane Lowry, Carmen Jensen, and I met with Mr. Hungle and Lukas Reble to discuss the needs of the Athletic program. We have started a discussion with Mr. Hungle to initiate the Gaming Grant Wish List Process. We are aiming to approve those requests at our November meeting. Chris Atkinson and I discussed over a telephone call the field use and I look forward to Chris sharing information with the HPAC later in the meeting. We received positive feedback from the last meeting to in person meetings, so we have officially transitioned to all in person meetings.

Finally, we are researching a family photo opportunity for November so please watch for further details.

6. Treasurer Report

Carmen presented a summary of accounts.

General Account: \$4926.80.

Term Deposits: \$10,000 Executive approved renewal of term deposits for one year at VanCity.

Hot Lunch Account: \$36,110.84. This includes \$24,000 in deposits collected for HL payments for the term, but we have many upcoming vendor payments. This includes ~11K carried forward from the last fiscal.

Parent Grad Account: \$1644.27.

Athletics Account: \$25,000.

Gaming Account: 7518.77. Gaming grant has yet to be received for this fiscal.

Our CRA submissions have been outstanding for several years because our treasurer could not access the account despite efforts to gain access to the account. We have now restored access and are working to complete our annual submissions and reapply for charitable organization status. We evaluated the HPAC's need to be a charitable organization and learned that if we cease to be a charitable organization, we would be required to distribute our assets and we would likely miss one year of the gaming grant funding. The Executive decided this negative impact on the student community who we are serving was unacceptable, so have decided to keep our charitable status. We are working with an accountant to complete outstanding returns, review our accounting practices, and apply to reinstate our charitable designation.

We feel it would be prudent to have an accountant review our fiscal year end books prior to submission of returns to CRA in future years. **Volunteer Call Out:** If there are any accountants in our HPAC community willing to volunteer to review the HPAC fiscal year end books for us please reach out to your Executive.

7. Administration Report

Handsworth is a big & busy school with many people stepping up to enhance the learning environment. Grade 8 retreat photos were shared with the HPAC community. A large cohort of leadership students supported the Grade 8 retreat for 2 days to help deliver programs and helped grade 8 students with their timetables and lockers. The Grade 8 Retreat was a very

positive community building event. The idea for a retreat first started at Handsworth with many schools now participating in some fashion.

Club Day was held in Grand Commons to introduce students to the many clubs at Handsworth. This event was very lively as students “sold” their clubs to prospective members. Students can join a club at any time by reaching out to the staff sponsor listed on the website.

The School Lockdown Practice was held which was impressive considering our school is largely a glass block. Our students performed very well and RCMP did a mini-debrief in every classroom. The Strachan Hartley run was successfully held with 580 runners participating. This run has raised over \$70,000 over the last 17 years. There was 100+ volunteers including student volunteers from Handsworth who were First Responders, the Junior Football team directed traffic and AV students provided media support. The Parent Teachers Conferences are coming up soon on October 26 and booking is now open. Midterm report cards with new reporting style will be released on Nov 20.

Athletic Report – The school is very active on the athletic front with 14 different teams in the school, many games and practices and a recent and upcoming volleyball tournament. Basketball will start shortly with a meeting in the coming days. Most sports/teams have coaches in place however there is a call out for a Grade 8 basketball coach.

Sophia Frith provided a report on Grade 12 planning and community support initiatives. The Grade 12 parent information night was held with information shared on grad/scholarship and academic institutions. There was a large turnout for the Grade 12 Parent Information Meeting held on October 5. A slide deck is available on the Handsworth website for anyone who missed the meeting. Information covered at this meeting included graduation requirements, scholarship applications, grad. Council and school sanctioned event including the graduation ceremony on June 10 at Queen Elizabeth Theatre and the Grad Banquet on June 14 at the Westin Bayshore. A Purdy Chocolate Fundraiser will be offered again this year which allows for accessible events for all graduates. A Holiday movie night, Grad skate at the Shipyards, Grad doughnut Day and Ice Cream Day, prizes (gift cards) are examples of the events held in previous years. There will be a link on the Handsworth website for ordering chocolates with a deadline for ordering of Nov. 27, 2023, and delivery week of Dec 4-8, 2023.

Each year we organize a fundraiser for the Christmas Bureau through the Family Services of the North Shore. We know that there are families on the North Shore who need support and we have families who can provide support. There will be more information on the Handsworth website for families who need support. Handsworth now provides gift cards for recommended stores as we have found this is most appreciated by the recipients. This campaign will run from Nov. 7-30. Since 2019 Handsworth has raised almost \$16,000 which has helped 1100 families. The second community fundraiser we support is the Stash Project where donuts will be sold to raise funds for a non-profit organization that aims to alleviate the homeless crisis in Vancouver. Proceeds from the sale go to Project Backpack that provides essential items to youth living on the streets of Vancouver. The donut sale will occur on Friday and Saturday October 20- 21 at 9:30-5 pm in Edgemont, Park Royal, Westview, Lonsdale Quay, VAG, and Waterfront Station.

8. Guest - Assistant Superintendent – Chris Atkinson - Handsworth Field Update with question period.

Handsworth Field/Lawn

Chris shared the grass field/lawn at Handsworth has drainage, leveling and rotten seed issues and SD44 are actively working with the contractor to remedy these deficiencies. SD44 are the owners of the lawn at Handsworth.

Q-When will lawn deficiencies be resolved?

A-Not sure.

Q-Who's responsibility is to maintain the lawn once it is done?

A-it's SD44 job to maintain Handsworth lawn,

Q-Was this field ever meant to be a sports field?

A-The Handsworth grass field was never intended to be a sports field. We estimate this grass field will have a maximum usage of 6-10 days a month.

Q-Was there any intention for the grass field to support athletics?

A-It is set up for a lawn. Hopefully it will be more than a place to eat lunch, but it will rarely be used as an athletic field.

Q-What is the end goal for the Handsworth Grass Field?

A-We will get a grass field at Handsworth that will be used for some sports and maybe for some PE classes.

Q-What is the plan for sports and PE class in the interim?

A- We have ongoing communications with the DNV to get the fields we need from DNV. Mountainside, Eldon, Griffin (ready in Nov.) may be our consistent home fields. We currently have access to Eldon for PE class, and we will work with the DNV to extend access to Eldon Park during after-school hours. The maintenance at William Griffin will be done in mid-November which will likely be the field where we look for solutions for afterschool practices from 3-5:30. These fields are not available after 5:30. Chris will confirm when maintenance at Griffin will be completed at the meeting next week.

Comment from HPAC member-6 years without an athletic field for the largest school on the North Shore is unacceptable.

Q-Is Cleveland available for rugby?

A-Probably not. Handsworth grass field can handle some rugby use.

Q-What do you need from us to support SD44 to ensure we have access to fields?

A-Do not know if there any advocacy will influence how fields are allocated.

Q-Will you know by November if we can use Griffin?

A-Yes, we will hopefully know by then. The hope is to have Griffin access in the spring.

Mountainside Field

There are conflicts between the different user groups of the field at Mountainside (dogs/sports). The attempt to protect the field by using a fence was not popular with the community who want access to the trails. The field is safe for football practices but not for games.

Q-Currently kids are not permitted to access bathrooms or change rooms at Mountainside school. Can the kids get access to Mountainside school?

A-Chris was not aware that kids did not have access to the school. Chris will look into this for the HPAC.

ATF

Chris-DNV has allocated \$5 million for an ATF at Handsworth in their capital plan. The capital plan has the ATF planning phase starting in 2025. The funds for the ATF are DNV funds, not SD44.

Q-Can we share fields with other schools who have ATF?

A-To date, principals have been very helpful in sharing and offering.

Q-Was a user agreement holding up Argyle?

A-That should not be a problem for Handsworth as the starting point will be the Argyle Users Agreement.

Q-The HPAC has learned from DNV that an agreement on partnership is required prior to DNV site inspections, design, and tender. What is the status of the agreement?

A-There is no user agreement.

Q-At your meeting on Tuesday can you clear up the misunderstanding with DNV who appears to be under the impression an agreement is needed from SD44 prior to starting the process.

A-Yes.

Q-The football program has been told we cannot increase fees however now that we do not have a field, we have additional transportation costs. Can the SD44 provide funds to Handsworth to help with bus costs to games?

A-No guarantee

9. Announcements: Next HPAC meeting will be held Monday Nov. 20, 2023 @ 7PM. Learning Commons

10. Adjournment @ 8:40

“The Handsworth community develops empowered, innovative, and compassionate learners