

## Banting PAC meeting - January 20, 2021

**Participants:** Principal Trask, Vice-principal McMahon, Lucky Saini, Noelene Ahern, Marit Heideman, Stan Wylie, Andrew Robertson, Christina DeBruyn, Claire Wheeler, Jennifer Sing, Jayden

Agenda and Minutes from previous meeting approved by Claire and Jen.

### Principal's and vice-principal's report

- Covid report:
  - Energy level of the students in the school is good. It is important to be aware of mental health.
  - Teachers have added stress of health worries and Covid protocols.
  - The day in the life of a Middle School teacher has changed.
  - Impressed with resilience of staff, and students, and following Covid protocols. Students are sticking to their cohorts.
  - Planning for Covid in the new academic year (September 2021).
  - Behavior changes (e.g., pushing each other's buttons) in students due to 'cabin fever' and being with only one group and one teacher.
  - False Covid exposure, was initially identified by Fraser Health, but rescinded the notification. The communication officer had already put a message on Twitter.
- Grade 8s will be doing virtual tours of high schools. IB program test was on Saturday January 16.
- Planning
  - Planning for incoming Grade 5 students
  - Small classes this year (~24 students per class in 20 divisions). FRIM will stay similar, English program will be growing. School can accommodate 22 divisions.
  - District has noticed growth in the area, and there will be four portables put in place. The portables will be sealed and the school is not able to use them (e.g. storage).
  - Cross enrollment - presently, Bill is unsure if they will be taking cross boundary for 2021-22 – he will know in late Feb. Last year, they had 30 apply and could not accept them.
  - Q: will the kids be losing any outdoor space due to the portables? A: currently the space is use as an outdoor Covid zone (there are 10), and that would need to be revised. It is a marshy area.
- Grade 7s FSA are coming up, and Grade 8s are doing a Middle School Experience survey.
- Parent/student access to MyEd: Term 2 report cards can be viewed and signed off online. Banting Middle School is a pilot school. Next year the entire district will be on MyEd. High schools are also using this platform. MyEd will also show attendance and marks.
  - Grade 8s can do their course selection for high school (for Port Moody Secondary School) online through MyEd.
  - Q: will parents be able to help with course selection? A: information will be available online. Ms McMahon will reach out to PMSS to inquire how they will further communicate this to parents.
  - Q: what is the process and how much time do students have to make their course selection? A: will ask students to do course selection for their catchment school.

Notifications for IB and Inquiry Hub will be sent at the end of January. By Spring break students need to have handed in their course selection forms.

- Movement to performance standards/scale versus grades. More information will be available at the next PAC meeting.
  - 4 performance standards: emerging, developing, proficient (means that kids understand the concepts), and extending (sophisticated understanding).
  - Idea behind it: learning is a continuation, and move the students forward in their learning. Proficiency scale allows for a deeper conversation about the child's learning.
  - Q: will there be an equivalent to the B honor roll list? A: that would need a conversation on how to continue.
  - Conversations are happening in high schools and universities to change to their performance standards as well.
  - Questions on this transition are welcome and can be sent to Ms. McMahon.
  - Q: will there be student-led conferences this year? A: in the past 4 years we have had parent-teacher conferences, not student-led ones.

### Treasurer's Report

- Overview of Banting PAC accounts.
- Funds have been mostly used from the Gaming Account, as this money has to be used in the school year. There is \$1,885.98 left in the Gaming Account.
- General Account of \$11,213.44
- The PAC asked the school if there are any expenses that can be expected?
  - School would like to purchase a life-sized skeleton (\$300)
  - School will inquire with staff
- Family donations: has not been closed yet and will remain open.
- Hot lunch: still not possible to run the hot lunch program. Principal will bring it up at the next District meeting. Crepe truck has a commercial license and adheres to health protocol.
- Gift card fundraiser yielded \$1,670.00
  - Local businesses were happy to be included.
  - Low return for the amount of effort it took.
  - \$700 donation from Vivio Flowers.
  - Was great to be able to use the SchoolOnline system, but this may not be possible in the future. Speaking to DPAC to continue the gift card fundraiser with local businesses.
- Spin off from gift card fundraiser: Cobs and Port Moody liquor store are providing the PAC with a certain percentage of whatever you buy there when you mention Banting Middle School.

### Other business

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- DPAC meeting at the end of January

Meeting adjourned at 7.35 pm. Next meeting February 17, 2021.