

**School District 43  
(Coquitlam)**

**WALTON ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY  
COUNCIL  
CONSTITUTION  
AND BYLAWS**

**Amended  
May 2012**

**CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS of the  
WALTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

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# **CONSTITUTION OF THE WALTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

## **SECTION I                      NAME**

The name of the Association shall be the WALTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL, School District 43 (Coquitlam), from now on referred to as the PAC.

The PAC will operate as a non-profit organization with no personal financial benefit and shall conduct business without bias toward race, religion, gender, or politics.

The PAC has been established with the authority granted in Bill 67 - 1989 School Act, Part 2, Section 7 and 8 and Bill 34, the School Amendment Act - 2002.

## **SECTION II                      MISSION STATEMENT**

Walton Elementary School PAC mission is to advocate for excellence in education, the safety and well being of our students, and for the effective and meaningful involvement of parents as partners.

## **SECTION III                      OBJECTIVES OF THE PAC**

The objectives of the PAC are:

1. To support, encourage, and improve the quality of education and the well being of students in Walton Elementary School.
2. To provide a forum and the opportunity for the membership to openly review and discuss any matter related to the school (e.g. programs, policies, plans and activities) as stipulated in the School Act and to advise the Principal, staff, or other associated organizations of any recommendations.
3. To promote effective communication and cooperation between the home and school in providing for the education of children.
4. To provide parents with information on how to effectively communicate within the education system and to advocate on behalf of their children at both the School and District levels.
5. To initiate fundraising activities only when there is a clearly identified need to provide funds for children to receive an enhanced quality of education in a safe, healthy environment and to generate funds to cover all PAC expenses.
6. To affiliate with the District 43 Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) and the British Columbia Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC).
7. To organize PAC activities and events.

## **SECTION IV MEMBERSHIP**

1. All parents and guardians of students in attendance at Walton Elementary School have the right to participate at PAC meetings as voting members, recognizing that there is one vote per family (see Voting, Section VII). Regular attendance at meetings is encouraged to ensure an informed opinion and to aid the expediency of meetings.
2. Administration, staff (teaching and non-teaching), and students of Walton Elementary School may be invited to PAC meetings as non-voting attendees. However, a staff member with a child as a student at this school will be allowed to be a voting member at general meetings of the PAC.
3. Members of the community residing in the catchment area of Walton Elementary School may also be non-voting members of the PAC, but must apply to the PAC through the school office for inclusion.
4. The school will make available to the PAC Chair a list of names of parents / guardians of students and staff if / when it is necessary to decide if a member is eligible to vote.

## **SECTION V DISSOLUTION**

1. In the event of the dissolution of the PAC, the PAC shall pay all outstanding debts and any costs of dissolution. The PAC shall then transfer any remaining funds and assets to another Parent Advisory Council(s) or DPAC within School District 43, Coquitlam, or a charitable organization(s) within British Columbia registered under the provisions of the Income Tax Act (Canada). This shall be determined by the membership at the final general meeting of the PAC.
2. In the event of the dissolution of the PAC, all records of the organization shall be placed under the jurisdiction of the District Parent Advisory Council, School District 43, Coquitlam.

# BYLAWS OF THE WALTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

## SECTION VI MEETINGS

1. General meetings shall be held as often as necessary, approximately every six weeks, but with a minimum of six meetings during the academic year. Dates for these general meetings will attempt to accommodate as many parent schedules as possible.
2. One general meeting will be named the Annual General Meeting and be held in May for the election of PAC officers for the next year. If vacancies remain, a supplementary election should be held in September.
3. General meetings are for the purpose of conducting PAC business and discussion of issues as outlined in the Objectives of the PAC, Section III. A PAC meeting will not be a forum for the discussion of individual school personnel, students, parents, or other individual members of the school community.
4. All policy and spending decisions, other than operational needs, shall be made at general meetings where all parents, not only the Executive officers, can participate.
5. A special meeting is a separate session held at a time different from that of any regular general meeting, and may be convened to consider only one or two items of urgent business. Maximum possible notification of the meeting date and the agenda item will be provided to parents by e-mail or in writing.
6. Executive meetings shall be held as often as needed during the school year to conduct operational business and provide input for general meeting agendas. Minutes of Executive meetings will be made available to members by e-mail or, if requested in printed form from the Secretary.
7. The President or Chair Designate will prepare agendas after accepting input from other PAC members and the Administration. A meeting is duly called when the agenda has been distributed to the parents at least seven days prior to a general meeting.
8. Any member wishing to place an item on the agenda of a general meeting shall contact the President or Chair Designate. The member or their designate is then required to attend the general meeting to present the rationale of that issue to the membership. "New Business" from the general membership can be added to the agenda to be discussed, if time permits, or be tabled to the next meeting.
9. Each member entering a meeting shall sign the attendance record so that quorum and their eligibility to vote may be determined and recorded for any audits of PAC records.
10. Meetings will be conducted efficiently with fairness to all members. Open discussion is encouraged, but orderly conduct and respect for other points of view is mandatory. Members acting inappropriately will be asked to leave the meeting. If they fail to comply, the meeting shall be adjourned.
11. The Principal and staff members of the school are encouraged to attend and report at general meetings as requested by the PAC. The Principal's role is as consultant on school policies and as a liaison between staff, parents and the PAC, and shall yield to the autonomy of the PAC, its Chair and its members at all meetings.
12. Guests may be invited to any meeting at the discretion of the Executive to provide information or address agenda items. The guests' speaking time should be short and not dominate the meeting. Consideration should be given to inviting parent education speakers to separate sessions so their talks will not be hurried and parent questions and other PAC agenda items will not be minimized.
13. The rules contained in the most recent edition of "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised" shall be used by the PAC to resolve any procedural situation, unless they are in conflict with the rules in this Constitution and Bylaws. DPAC may be contacted for clarification and advice.

## SECTION VII

## VOTING and QUORUM

1. Quorum must be achieved for the conducting of any business or decision making. In the absence of quorum, any business transacted will be null and void.
2. At any duly called general or special meeting the number of voting members present shall be a quorum, as long as they outnumber the non-voting members.
3. If the agenda has been provided with less than one week's notice when calling a general or special meeting, a quorum shall be a minimum of 50% of elected Executive officers plus the voting members present, as long as it totals a minimum of seven members.
4. For the purposes of Executive meetings and resolutions of the Executive, the quorum shall be two-thirds of the voting positions filled on the Executive.
5. At the discretion of the meeting Chair or at the request of any voting member, non voting members and visitors may be asked to leave the meeting room, for closed discussion and voting on any issue. This is essential to the free expression of the voting membership.
6. Unless otherwise provided, questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a simple majority of eligible members actually voting. That is, when votes are tallied there are more votes for (yes) than against (no), with blanks or abstentions not contributing to the total of votes cast. Abstentions do not contribute to a vote as it indicates the member has no opinion.
7. The PAC President protects his or her impartial position by not voting unless it will determine the outcome of a motion or when the vote is by secret ballot.
8. In case of a tie vote, the motion shall be lost.
9. Voting by members on all matters must be given in person; i.e. voting by proxy shall not be permitted.
10. Each family is allowed one consensus vote at PAC meetings. In case of dispute for the family vote, that right shall go to the person legally entitled to custody of the student. In instances of joint legal custody, the person who usually has care and control of the child is entitled to vote.
11. Voting shall be done by the show of hands except when a secret ballot is ruled by the Executive or requested by any member at a general meeting. Prior to any motions being put forth, the President shall ask PAC members whether anyone would prefer a secret ballot.
12. When a secret ballot is requested, one blank ballot will be given to each eligible voting member. The President or Chair Designate can vote by ballot. The issue or name(s) of the candidate(s) will be written on each ballot. A "yes" or "no" must be clearly written beside each issue or candidate on the ballot. A blank beside the name or issue indicates an abstention and is therefore not counted.
13. When the ballots are counted, two or more filled out ballots folded together are recorded as illegal votes. A marked ballot will be counted if it is folded with a blank ballot
14. In the event that an unforeseen decision should be made quickly by the members of the PAC before the next scheduled meeting, the President may decide to put the matter to a vote per e-mail, in order to avoid having to call an extraordinary meeting for the purpose. Such a procedure should remain the exception. The motion shall be sent out per e-mail to all the office holders and chairs of any standing or currently existing committee in the PAC, plus those voting PAC members who were present at the previous general meeting. Votes for and opposed and abstentions shall be e-mailed back to the President, and in CC: mode to the Secretary and a third PAC member at

the same time. All three recipients shall check returns and count votes independently. If counts do not tally or votes seem suspicious, the e-vote shall be void. The e-vote motion and voting results shall be attached to the minutes of the previous meeting and be presented to and passed by the next general meeting.

## **SECTION VIII EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

1. The affairs of the PAC shall be managed by a board of elected officers whose titles and duties may be determined by the needs of the PAC.
2. The Executive will be as follows:
  - A. President
  - B. Treasurer
  - C. Secretary
  - D. District Parent Advisory Council Representative
  - E. Fundraising Coordinator
3. The positions of President, Treasurer, Secretary, and District Parent Advisory Council Representative are essential to the operation of the PAC and must be filled before any nominations will be accepted for other Executive positions.

## **SECTION IX ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

1. The Executive officers shall be elected from the voting members at the Annual General Meeting. Any member standing for Executive office that is an employee of a school district or the Ministry of Education shall declare so before election. They must refrain from discussing, influencing and voting upon any matter before the PAC in which, by virtue of their employment or associations, may be in a situation of perceived bias. There must be the appearance that Executive members are speaking solely in the interests of parents and students and not influencing the PAC for outcomes that benefit other groups. Any concerns by members regarding perceived bias shall be referred to the Conflict and Bias Committee for a ruling, should the person in question not voluntarily step aside. Failure to step aside when requested to do so shall be grounds for rescinding of election.
2. Nominations for the offices of the Executive shall be submitted in writing prior to, or shall be taken from the floor at the Annual General Meeting. Any voting member may nominate a voting member for these positions. (Refer Section IV Membership.)
3. An absent member can be nominated at the meeting when elections are held if there are justifiable circumstances for the absence. They must however, send written acceptance of nomination for a position to the Chair for reference during the meeting. The absent member should also submit a short resume detailing their skills, interests, or prior PAC involvement for members who may not know the nominee.
4. In the event a position on the Executive is vacated during the year, election of a new officer will take place at the next general meeting.
5. No person shall hold more than one position on the Executive. If a volunteer does not come forward for a vacant Executive position, no other officer shall assume the duties of that position.
6. Any Executive position may be co-chaired or shared with the agreement of the two (2) parties and with the requirement that the two people share one (1) consensus vote at Executive Meetings.

7. Elections shall be conducted by the Elections Chairperson, who shall be nominated and elected by the membership at the general meeting prior to the Annual General meeting. In the case of a vacancy during the term, the Elections Chairperson can be selected at the meeting when election of an Executive office is necessitated.
8. The election of contested Executive positions shall be done by secret ballot. Election of DPAC Representative and School planning council Representatives, must always be by secret ballot. The Elections Chairperson shall tally the votes and announce the decision. All election duties must be carried out in full view of the meeting assembly.
9. A vote shall be taken to destroy any written ballots.

## **SECTION X                    DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

1. The elected Executive shall consult with, take direction from, and represent all parents of the school. The Executive shall work as a team to ensure PAC purposes are achieved.
  2. All officers are expected to attend all executive, general, and special meetings, to be familiar with the Constitution and Bylaws, to carry out their duties as described, and to follow the Code of Conduct (Section XIII).
  3. If an Executive member is unable to attend, they should inform the Secretary prior to the meeting.
  4. The Executive shall elect a "Chair Designate" early in the term from the Executive officers. This person shall convene and preside at PAC meetings when requested to do so by the President. The "Chair Designate" must always be a voting member that meets Executive eligibility criteria.
  5. Each Executive position shall have a designated binder and files where all written material pertaining to the position is to be maintained in a current and orderly fashion. These official materials must be delivered to their successors or the Chairperson within 14 days following the date at which their successors assume their duties.
- A.     **PRESIDENT – for duties refer to Appendix A**
  - B.     **TREASURER – for duties refer to Appendix A**
  - C.     **SECRETARY – for duties refer to Appendix A**
  - D.     **DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE – for duties refer to Appendix A**
  - E.     **FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR – for duties refer to Appendix A**

## **SECTION XI                  EXECUTIVE TERMS OF OFFICE**

1. The term of office for an Executive officer shall be one year (commence on July 1 and end on June 30 the following year) or until their successor is elected. The new Executive shall attend the June Executive meeting to allow for transition between exiting and incoming officers.
2. Any elected member of the PAC may serve on the Executive for as many years as he or she is elected. No person may hold any one position for more than two consecutive years without the consent of the majority at a general meeting.



3. The following are grounds for termination of the office of any Executive member:
  - is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Executive or PAC without reason acceptable to the Executive
  - is convicted of a criminal or other serious offence
  - failure to observe the Constitution and Bylaws, purposes, and policies of the PAC
  - failure to abide by the PAC Code of Conduct

## **SECTION XII                    PAC REPRESENTATION to the SCHOOL PLANNING COUNCIL (PAC-SPC Rep.)**

### **Elections:**

1. Three parent representatives, who are not employees of any school district, shall be elected annually to the School Planning Council from parents or legal guardians of students enrolled in the school.
2. One of the representatives must be a PAC executive member.
3. The election of representatives to the School Planning Council is mandated to always be by secret ballot, even if only one candidate is running.
4. A secret ballot is intended to ensure fairness and allow members to exercise their choice privately and without the influence or judgement of others.
5. Nominations for PAC representatives to the School Planning Council will be taken from the floor. Members accepting nomination will have previously reviewed the expected duties and conduct of the position.
6. An absent member can be nominated at the meeting when PAC-SPC Rep elections are held if there are justifiable circumstances for the absence. They must however, send written acceptance of nomination for a position to the Chair for reference during the meeting. The absent member should submit a short resume detailing their skills, interests, or prior PAC involvement for members who may not know the nominee.
7. The PAC will appoint two members, called “tellers” to distribute, collect, count the ballots and report the vote to the Chair. Tellers should be chosen for accuracy and dependability and have the confidence of the membership.
8. The election will require at least two ballots.
9. It is possible that a ballot may not elect any candidates, and further balloting is required.
10. The first ballot will include only the name(s) of Executive officers who have accepted nomination.
11. When the PAC Executive SPC representative has been elected, nominations for the other two representatives will be taken. Unsuccessful candidates from the PAC Executive SPC election can stand again.
12. When all balloting is completed, a motion will be made to destroy the ballots.

### **Voting:**

1. One blank ballot will be given to each eligible voting member. The Chair can vote by ballot and nominated members can vote for themselves.
2. The name(s) of the candidate(s) will be written by the member onto the ballot. If a name is incorrectly written, it should still be counted if the voter’s intention is clear.

3. The member will write a “yes” or “no” beside each of the candidate names on the ballot. A blank beside the name indicates an abstention and is therefore not counted within the vote tally.
4. When the tellers collect and count the ballots, two or more filled out ballots folded together are recorded as illegal votes. A filled out ballot will be counted if it is folded with a blank ballot.
5. All candidates can be marked “no” and the ballot is still legal and shall be counted.
6. Only one “yes” can be recorded on the ballot for PAC Executive SPC representative. The rest of the candidates must be marked “no”. More than one “yes” will make the ballot void.
7. On the ballot for the other two PAC-SPC representatives, only two “yes” votes can be written on any ballot, more than two “yes” votes will make that ballot void.
8. A simple majority of members actually voting is required for elections. That is, when votes are tallied there are more votes for (yes) than against (no), with blanks or abstentions not contributing to the total of votes cast.
9. A majority vote is required for election and as a minimum will be 50% plus one of legal ballots cast.
10. If there is no majority of “yes” votes over “no” votes for any candidate, then the election has failed and the Chair announces “no election”. New nominations are taken and another secret ballot held.

11. The Tellers’ report should follow this form:

Tellers’ Report	
Number of votes cast .....	17
Necessary for election (majority).....	9
Candidate A received .....	12
Candidate B received .....	11
Candidate C received.....	6, etc.
Illegal Votes	
One ballot containing two for Candidate C folded together, rejected.....	1
One ballot containing two “yes” votes for Executive SPC, rejected .....	1

12. When balloting for the PAC Executive SPC representative, the highest majority number will be elected; for the ballot of the two other PAC-SPC reps, the two highest majority numbers will be elected.

**Terms of Office:**

The term of office for PAC School Planning Council representatives shall be for one year or until their successor is elected.

**Duties:**

The PAC School Planning Council representatives shall:

1. strive to be informed about issues facing school planning councils.
2. take direction from the general PAC membership and act in the best interests of parents and students
3. attend all SPC meetings to represent and speak on behalf of the PAC .
4. report back to the PAC at general meetings, but not disclose information designated as confidential
5. communicate only reliable information.
6. conduct SPC business in a collaborative and respectful manner and abide by the rulings of the Chairperson.
7. work to ensure that issues are resolved by due process
8. be bound by the PAC Code of Conduct

## SECTION XIII CODE OF CONDUCT

1. The Walton Elementary School Parent Advisory Council is not a forum for the discussion of individual school personnel, students, parents, or other individual members of the school community. Open discussion is encouraged, but orderly conduct and respect for alternate points of view is mandatory for all members.
2. ALL members must refrain from discussing, influencing and voting upon any matter before the PAC in which they or their families have a pecuniary (financial) interest and are therefore in a conflict of interest. A concern raised by any member regarding a conflict of interest or a perceived bias of another member(s) shall be referred to a Conflict and Bias Committee for a ruling should the member in question not voluntarily step aside.
3. An Executive member who is approached with a concern relating to an individual is in a privileged position and must treat such discussion with discretion, protecting the confidentiality of the people involved.
4. A parent or guardian who accepts a position as a PAC Executive Member, an other position on the PAC or as an SPC Representative:
  - a) upholds the Constitution and Bylaws, policies and procedures of the PAC
  - b) performs duties with honesty and integrity and meets agreed upon deadlines on projects
  - c) works to ensure that the well being of students is the primary focus of all decisions
  - d) respects the rights of all individuals
  - e) takes direction from the members, ensuring that representation processes are in place
  - f) encourages, supports, and provides information to parents and students with individual concerns on how to advocate on their own behalf
  - g) works to ensure that issues are resolved through the appropriate process
  - h) strives to be informed and only passes on information that is reliable and correct
  - i) respects all confidential information
  - j) supports public education
5. Breaching the Code of Conduct or Section XI, Part 3 may be cause for removal of an Executive officer. This would be done as a motion to **rescind** their election and it may be carried out by:
  - a two-thirds vote of the PAC Executive attended by 3/4 of the Executive (excluding the executive member in question). The Executive member in question shall receive 7 days written notice of the motion prior to the meeting. OR
  - a majority vote of voting members at a duly called general meeting, where the notice of the intent of the motion has been presented in the agenda.
6. Each executive, committee member and representative must sign the Statement of Understanding (See Appendix C).

## SECTION XIV COMMITTEES

1. Standing and ad hoc committees shall be formed as necessary by the President in consultation with the Executive or as directed by the majority of the membership at a general meeting.
2. Recommended that a Conflict and Bias Committee be convened at the beginning of the term, ready to be called on when necessary.

### **Conflict and Bias Committee**

- shall meet as needed to review circumstances where a member or Executive officer is questioned regarding their involvement on an issue being in a conflict of interest, a possible position of bias or a

- breach of the Code of Conduct.
  - shall rule if the member or Executive officer must refrain from participation on the issue as per the Bylaws. The ruling must NOT be made on a personal basis, but solely on whether the member is compromised by association, employment or conduct.
  - shall be comprised of three members, who are not employed or elected officials of any School District or the Ministry of Education, and by association or employment are clearly free of conflict of interest or perceived bias in relation to the issue of contention.
3. Committees are fully responsible to the Executive and membership.
  5. Other committees may be struck.

## SECTION XV FINANCES

1. A proposed budget should be drawn up by the Executive and be modified and approved by the membership at the final general meeting of the year. The final budget must be presented for membership approval by the second general meeting of the fiscal year.
2. All funds of the organization will be on deposit in a bank or financial establishment registered under the Bank Act in appropriate account(s) for Walton Elementary School Parent Advisory Council.
3. The Treasurer is authorized to collect and disperse monies as directed by the members as expressed at executive and general meetings. Monies submitted shall be requested in the form of cheques made out to Walton Elementary PAC. Two members (one shall be Executive) must verify and account for monies collected from events or fundraising. ALL monies raised by the PAC must be deposited promptly in a PAC account before being dispersed so that proper records are maintained.
4. There shall be three signing officers for banking and legal documents. This shall be the PAC President, the Treasurer and one other Executive officer as decided by the Executive.
5. All money paid out from the PAC will be as a cheque on receipt of a detailed invoice or receipt. Signing officers must never sign a cheque where the "payee" is left blank. All issued cheques must bear the signatures of two of the three authorized signatories.
6. The general membership must approve all expenditures by Executive or Committee Members over their budget. Preferably this should occur at a general meeting if one is held prior to that expenditure being made. If this is not possible, an expense up to 10% of the budgeted amount or fifty dollars, whichever is lesser, can be approved by the Executive. The PAC is not obligated to reimburse individuals who exceed these guidelines without prior approval.
7. Expenditures for operations of the PAC may be approved at Executive meetings. All proposed expenditures on capital, school events, or items / services for the school will be first presented to the Executive, and then must be approved by a majority at a general meeting.
8. The Treasurer will submit a written financial report as detailed in Section X, Part C, (Treasurer), at each general meeting. The Treasurer will submit a complete annual statement at the first general meeting after the end of the PAC's fiscal year (June 30).
9. A review or audit of the accounts must be done at the end of each fiscal year. A review or audit is also mandatory

at the change of Treasurer. Audit for this purpose refers to an independent review and verification of all records during the period under review, i.e. budget year.

10. All financial records are the legal property of the PAC and must be kept for a minimum period of seven years and turned over to the Executive on demand. Any member who makes such arrangements with the Treasurer can view financial records at the school.
11. A contingency fund shall be set up and maintained for the administration of PAC activities. The amount shall be five hundred dollars. This amount must be carried forward to each new term.
12. Must ensure current regulations for use of gaming funds are met.

## **SECTION XVI            FUNDRAISING**

1. By the first general meeting of a school year the PAC should draw up an agenda of goals to be achieved during that school year and, if necessary, how to fundraise for them (See Section XV, 1). Funds raised should be dedicated to providing the most, and ideally lasting, benefit for the greatest number of students as decided by the parents. Fundraising activities should not become, nor be viewed as, the most significant contribution the PAC makes to the school.
2. It shall be stated to the membership how the proceeds of any fundraiser will be directed.
3. Fundraising by the PAC will be undertaken in consultation with school administration and the approval of the membership.
4. Fundraising must be sensitive to the fundraising of other groups within the community and resources of their own parent community.
5. No member or their family shall benefit financially from fundraising at the school.

## **SECTION XVII        CONSTITUTION AND BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

1. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of Walton Elementary School Parent Advisory Council may be made at any general or special meeting of the PAC with a proper quorum, notification, and voting majority.
2. Written notice of proposed amendments must be given to members of the Executive at least fourteen (14) days prior to presentation at a meeting.
3. Written notice of proposed amendments must be given to members of the PAC at least ten (10) days prior to presentation at a meeting.
4. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote by eligible voting members is needed to amend the Bylaws.
5. A three-quarters (3/4) majority by eligible voting members is required to amend any part of the Constitution.

Adopted by the Membership at the General Meeting held on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

Stefanie Putzhammer  
PAC President

Anna Richter, Secretary  
PAC Executive – Position:

## APPENDIX A

## DUTIES OF POSITIONS

### A. PRESIDENT

- shall convene and preside at all executive, general and special meetings or notify the Chair Designate to assume this duty as necessary
- shall be familiar with and follow the Constitution and Bylaws
- shall ensure that an agenda is prepared and distributed following the Bylaws
- shall ensure a quorum is present before calling a meeting to order
- shall appoint committees where authorized to do so by the Executive or membership and be an ex-officio member to all committees except the Nominating Committee
- shall be the official spokesperson and representative for the PAC, always acting on behalf of the majority of members and not personally
- shall be a signing officer
- shall supply an executive summary of the year's activities to the membership before the end of the school year.

### B. TREASURER

- shall have a demonstrated ability and/or understanding of bookkeeping procedures
- shall keep an accurate and current record of all receipts and expenditures of the PAC. Bank statements must be reconciled monthly and made available for review as requested
- shall assess all financial undertakings to ensure they are within the annual budget
- shall ensure expenditures have the proper authorization and are backed by detailed receipts and invoices
- shall prepare a written financial report for presentation at each PAC meeting; this shall include the total balance on hand in all accounts at the beginning of the period covered by the report and all credits to and disbursements from the accounts, balance of funds on hand and outstanding accounts receivable and payable, and the net surplus or deficit
- shall be responsible for issuing receipts and the prompt deposit of all monies paid to the PAC. Also refer to Section XV, Finances
- shall be a signing officer
- shall ensure all bills are paid promptly
- shall draft an annual budget with the assistance of the Executive.
- shall maintain all financial records in an orderly fashion as stipulated by BCCPAC

### C. SECRETARY

- shall record the minutes of all executive, general and special meetings
- shall prepare within two weeks of any meeting, complete minutes and ensure their distribution
- shall file the original copy of the minutes in the official PAC record binder
- shall issue and receive correspondence on behalf of the PAC
- shall check the Walton PAC webmail account frequently and pass e-mail on to executive members as necessary
- shall make sure PAC information is updated by the Principal on the school website
- shall be in charge of passing on information approved by the PAC executive and the Principal for distribution to the community to the Classroom Liaison Coordinator and the Multicultural Liaison
- shall keep a current copy of the Constitution and Bylaws and submit updated copies to the DPAC office for safe keeping and reference
- shall ensure safe keeping of all records of the PAC
- shall keep a complete and current inventory, including location, of all PAC assets
- shall ensure the binders are collected at the end of the term and appropriately redistributed in September

**D. DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**

- shall attend DPAC meetings or designate another elected officer of the PAC who attends on their behalf
- shall report to the PAC regarding issues discussed
- shall seek input from the PAC for presentation at DPAC meetings
- shall vote the PAC's wishes at DPAC meetings
- shall maintain the PAC's information binders with DPAC meeting minutes and materials provided from DPAC, BCCPAC, and Ministry of Education, and make them readily available to the general membership.

**E. FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR**

- shall propose fundraising projects to the Executive ensuring that they meet the guidelines established in the Constitution, Bylaws and PAC Policies and Procedures
- shall coordinate all activities related to a fundraising event and act as liaison between the fundraising committee and the PAC Executive
- shall maintain a record of fundraising projects, suggestions for improvement and future events (submit as a final report)
- shall convene and act as Chairperson of a Fundraising Committee, if necessary

**F. STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON(S)**

**1. HEALTH and SAFETY COORDINATOR**

- shall monitor student safety issues such as emergency preparedness, traffic, school grounds and play equipment, and the surrounding neighbourhood to identify possible safety improvements and ways to achieve them
- shall communicate concerns regarding health issues and first aid procedures
- establish and coordinate activities of parent committees for student safety or health enhancement projects
- liaise with school administration, civic officials, police forces, ICBC, DPAC, etc. as necessary
- preferably shall be available during school hours
- shall, at the beginning of each school year, cooperate with the emergency preparedness officer of Walton staff to check the emergency supplies and ensure that stocks are replaced or added as necessary
- shall keep a list of expiring dates of emergency preparedness stocks to plan for their replacement in a timely fashion and coordinate rotation of bottled water supplies with the Fundraisers or the Hot Lunch Coordinator

**2. TRAFFIC COORDINATOR**

- shall monitor traffic in the school drive through and neighbouring streets, identify problem areas, and suggest measures to improve safety

**3. NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

- \* shall put together a newsletter informing parents on the activities of the PAC after each meeting or as occasion arises and include other news of general interest to the parents as brought up by the meeting body or the PAC officers
- \* shall find volunteers to translate the newsletters into the major foreign languages spoken in Walton families, such as Chinese, Korean and Farsi
- \* shall ensure the contents of the newsletter are passed by the PAC executive and the Walton principal before being published
- \* shall ensure the prompt distribution of both English and translated versions of the newsletters via the classroom liaison network and on the school website and that printed versions are made available to those parents who chose not to take part in the paperless



network

#### 4. CLASSROOM LIAISON COORDINATOR

- \* shall work to establish a paperless communication network among Walton parents as quickly as possible after the beginning of the school year, working together with the school office when necessary, and using the previous year's private parent contact lists as a basis, making sure the previous year's grade five addresses have been removed from the list
- \* shall make sure that a liaison parent is found for every class and that as large a percentage of parents as possible in each class gives a contact e-mail address to the PAC to be used for PAC information purposes exclusively.
- \* shall ensure the protection of the data collected and make sure names and addresses are kept confidential and not used for other purposes than PAC and school-related information
- \* shall hold a complete list of all current parent contact addresses
- \* shall make sure all parents on the list receive outgoing information
- \* shall educate the classroom liaisons about their duties, data protection and confidentiality and make sure changes in the contact data get updated
- \* shall check e-mail daily
- \* shall preferably be able to be physically present at Walton Elementary School at least three times a week
- \* shall make sure parents/guardians of all students new to Walton Elementary School receive a welcome and information package from the PAC as put together by the executive
- \* shall, in the event of the absence of a particular Classroom Liaison Parent, either due to a vacant position or due to temporary unavailability of that liaison, take on the duties of that Classroom Liaison Parent

#### 4.1 CLASSROOM LIAISON PARENT

- Is preferably a parent/guardian of a child in the assigned classroom
- Checks email on a daily basis
- Shall preferably be physically at the school at least three times a week
- Shall be a point of contact between Walton PAC and the parents of children in the assigned classroom
- Shall be a point of contact between the classroom teacher(s) and the parents
- Shall introduce himself/herself to classroom teacher(s) and parents immediately at the beginning of the school year and explain the position's duties.
- Shall receive their division's 'Private Parent Contact List' from Classroom Liaison Coordinator at the beginning of the school year and receive updates to this list (as needed) throughout the year. This list must be kept private and must not be shared with parents of the class. The liaison shall encourage all parents to participate in the paperless information network and explain the protection of data and the purpose of the network.
- Shall disseminate information sent out by Classroom Liaison Coordinator to the rest of the class, consistently using BCC: mailing mode and the 'Private Parent Contact List'
- Shall disseminate information requested by their teachers to the rest of the class, consistently using BCC: mailing mode and the 'Private Parent Contact List'
- Shall inform the Classroom Liaison Coordinator of any new incoming or outgoing students
- Shall check in with their teachers frequently to identify concerns/needs. Use of e-mail is encouraged.
- Shall support PAC work by distributing PAC notices or collecting return slips/funds while class is in session, if required
- Shall endeavour to keep those parents in the class, who chose not to join the paperless information network, informed of school news, existence of foreign language liaison parents and PAC activities
- Shall compile a 'Shared Classroom List' for playdates, birthday parties, fieldtrip carpooling, etc. This list will be shared with all parents in the class. It will be made very clear to parents that participation in the shared classroom list is absolutely optional and distinct from the private parent contact list.
- may coordinate holiday teacher gifts and/or end-of-year teacher gifts if there is sufficient demand from parents
- Shall demonstrate and encourage parental engagement and active participation

## **5. PARENT EDUCATION COORDINATOR**

- shall inform members at general meetings of any speakers, workshops, or conferences which may be of interest to parents
- shall arrange topics and guest speakers for assemblies where a parent education component is desired
- shall maintain a complete record of speakers, their topics, handouts and associated costs
- shall collect potential speaker information and maintain a record of this information in the parent library
- shall maintain and post a master list of all available parent resource materials

## **6. SOCIAL COORDINATOR**

- \* shall act as host at PAC meetings and take care of refreshments
- \* shall be in charge of the supplies stored in the kitchen

## **7. HOT LUNCH COORDINATOR**

- \* shall organize fundraiser hot lunches offered to all Walton students and staff members, calling for parent volunteers as necessary
- \* shall coordinate convenient dates with the Principal
- \* shall coordinate the ordering, delivery, preparing and serving of any food
- \* shall make sure that healthy eating guidelines and food safety regulations are being followed
- \* shall ensure the PAC kitchen, food supplies and cafeteria trays are kept in a hygienic and tidy manner
- \* shall keep a record of supplier contacts, purchase orders, invoices and price quotes and provide suggestions for the purchasing of food and supplies
- \* shall coordinate the advertising of hot lunch events to parents and staff

## **8. MULTICULTURAL LIAISON**

- \* shall facilitate the welcoming of families new to Walton Elementary School that have backgrounds in other cultures and encourage their involvement in the PAC and the school community.
- \* shall find parents willing to volunteer as translators of PAC information into the major foreign languages spoken by families at Walton
- \* shall find parents to serve as foreign language liaisons in the major foreign languages spoken by families at Walton. These liaisons shall put together mailing lists of parents who prefer to communicate in their language, cooperate with translator volunteers and the Secretary to pass on translations of PAC information and relate foreign language communications by parents back to the executive. The foreign language liaisons' task shall also be to inform parents new to the school about our community and the Canadian education system and help them communicate with staff and administration when necessary.
- \* shall inform new families about our foreign liaison network via the classroom liaison parents and arrange for liaisons to introduce themselves to the parents at the beginning of the school year.
- \* shall maintain a record of parents involved and our initiatives and suggest future efforts.

## **APPENDIX B**

## **OTHER POSSIBLE COMMITTEES**

## **1. PARENT VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR**

- shall coordinate the recruiting of one or more volunteer parents from each class. A list of volunteers shall be provided to the PAC President
- shall establish phone trees with the assistance of these class volunteer parents to find volunteers for projects or to relay PAC information
- shall facilitate communication between the PAC Executive and the parent body as a whole through these volunteers
- shall coordinate any long term volunteer positions within the school, e.g. absentee phoning committees

## **2. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE**

- shall send representatives to all meetings of the School Emergency Preparedness Committee
- shall assist the school to ensure all student identification and release forms are up to date and properly stored
- shall check all classroom orange bags once or twice per school year to ensure all supplies are present and fresh, and that all classrooms lists are current.
- shall assist with other tasks to help the school meet Level 1 of the District 43 Emergency Preparedness recommendations

## **3. HISTORICAL COMMITTEE**

- shall collect and act as custodian of all material (such as photos, memorabilia, and records of events and people of Walton Elementary School and the PAC) and to document the history, activity, and accomplishments of the students, school, and the PAC
- shall keep these materials safe and orderly and ready for use for external reviews or school event use

## **4. Members at Large**

- shall accept duties assigned by the PAC at the time of their election and at other times throughout their tenure as the needs of the PAC might require.
- all general duties of the Executive and Code of Conduct shall also apply to the Member at Large
- shall submit a final report.

## **5. Fundraising Committee**

- Money Counter - shall oversee the counting, recording, and preparation of money for deposit by the Treasurer. This person shall act as an assistant and report to the PAC Treasurer

## **MORE Committee possibilities:**

> Social Committee

> Grounds Committee

> Phoning Committee

> Lost and Found Committee

**APPENDIX C                      CODE OF CONDUCT - STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING**

A person who accepts a position as a Council executive member, committee member or representative:

1. upholds the constitution and bylaws, policies and procedures of the electing body
2. performs his or her duties with honesty and integrity and in the interests of the Council
3. works to ensure that the well-being of students is the primary focus of all decisions
4. respects the rights of all individuals
5. takes direction from the membership and executive
6. encourages and supports parents and students with individual concerns to act on their own behalf, and provides information on the process for taking concerns forward
7. works to ensure that issues are resolved through due process
8. strives to be informed and only passes on information that is reliable
9. respects all confidential information
10. supports public education

Statement of Understanding

I, the undersigned, in accepting the position of \_\_\_\_\_ of Walton Elementary School PAC have read, understood and agreed to abide by this Code of Conduct. I also agree to participate in the dispute resolution process that has been agreed by the electing body, should there be any concerns about my work.

Name of Executive Member, Committee Member or Representative

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail contact \_\_\_\_\_

