

POINT GREY SECONDARY

News & Events

March 8, 2019

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PAC Meeting Update

Follow up Monday March 11, 7pm

Point Grey Library

Thanks to all the parents who attended the PAC Meeting on Tuesday, it was a really good discussion the it showed that we as a community can come together to discuss the issues with openness and respect.

We discussed the VSB Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP), and how to advocate for our kids. The consensus was that we advocate for Point Grey Secondary to remain open and move forward on the seismic upgrade. We also agreed to be mindful of our fellow schools and respectful of the VSB Trustees tough choices. We recognize that the closure of Point Grey Secondary is not imminent and we are lacking quite a bit of information. We have asked the school to reassure our children, many of whom are feeling anxious. We hope to have some more answers after the March 7th DPAC Meeting with the VSB. We are sending a delegation from Point Grey and they will report back to us on Monday.

We also talked about the Ministry of Education's proposed **new funding model** which includes a change from course based to student based funding. This could impact the off timetable programs that are offered - such as yearbook, choir, theatre, band, distance learning etc. There has been some shifts since the original document was put out and we expect to learn more at the March 7th DPAC meeting, we will report back on this on Monday night as well.

Here's a link to the Funding Model Review Discussion Paper put out by the Ministry of Education:
https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/resource-management/capital-planning/bc_k12_funding_model_review_discussion_paper_2018.pdf

According to the Globe & Mail article they have created working groups to look further into the questions and concerns raised and "the working groups will now report back in the fall of 2019. No changes will be made to the existing funding model for the 2019-20 school year." See full article here: <https://globalnews.ca/news/4778000/b-c-government-not-ready-to-update-education-funding-model-yet/>

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Here's the BCCPAC (review of the funding proposal:

https://bccpac.bc.ca/images/Documents/Resources/independent_review_panel-final_report_2018.pdf

DPAC's response to PG PAC when asked via e-mail:

BCCPAC asked the DPAC executive what our biggest priorities and concerns were on the Funding Formula Review recommendations (see document link above)

We [DPAC] responded with the following:

1. Recommendation 4 - Concerns - No provision is made for schools in areas with persistent socio-economic challenges or high linguistic diversity. These issues are considered in recommendation 6, however, the prevalence model of allocating funds related to these factors will shortchange our diverse district. Further concerns discussed under Recommendation
2. Recommendation 6 - Concerns - The lack of clarity and detail raise concerns with this recommendation. It is unclear whether specific challenges, such as high incidence special needs, will be funded directly or by the prevalence model. It is unclear what the definition of "high cost" supports that would not fall under the prevalence model would be. It is unclear where the supporting data for "prevalence" will be sourced or how often it will be revised. The recommendation does not contain language to ensure that funds allocated via this recommendation would be targeted to learners in these categories.
3. Recommendation 9 - Concerns - Recent information suggests that VSB Secondary students take the equivalent of 1.1 FTE of courses, so this recommendation would negatively impact our district. There is additionally a lack of clarity regarding what this recommendation would mean for students that attend classes in more than one school district or perhaps take regular classes and distributed learning (ie: blended model).
4. Recommendation 12 - 17 - Comment - Changes by the Ministry of Education made for accountability reasons may change the dynamic of the current co-governance model that they share with the boards. As boards move to formative student evaluations based on the new curriculum, it is unclear how will student outcomes be reported out and tracked over time.

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We will provide more updates on this issue as they become available and over the next few weeks will come up with some talking points and sample letters.

If you do decide to write to the Ministry of Education about this funding model, here are some tips:

1. Write to Rob Fleming, Minister of Education – rob.flemaing.MLA@leg.bc.ca
or call 250-356-8247
Room 124 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
2. The correct salutation is: Hon. Rob Fleming
3. CC: your MLA
4. Sign your full name, include your postcode and provide contact details – address, phone number and/or e-mail
5. Personalized letters carry more weight than petitions

This is an issue the PAC will follow closely and will provide more details in upcoming newsletters. Le

Homework Club

Homework club is now being offered at Point Grey. It is every Monday and Wednesday in room 105 from 3:15-4:15. It is for students to come and get support with academics or do their work independently. There will be several peer tutors and teachers to support students with all subjects. Anyone is welcome. Snacks will be provided!

Youth's Optimal Health & Wellness Bootcamp Grade 9,10, & 11 at Kerrisdale Community Centre free information session Wed April 3, 4-5pm

This Bootcamp is specially designed to help students become a health ambassador, advocating healthy diet and lifestyle to their peers, family and community.

https://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/vancouver/Activity_Search/youth-s-optimal-health-bootcamp-free-trial/204733

Upcoming Calendar Dates

- Sun. March 10 – Daylight Savings Time – Spring Forward 1 hour
- Mon. March 11 – 7pm – PAC Meeting - library
- Wed. March 13 – 5-7pm VSB Facilities Committee special meeting – LRFP 1580 W. Broadway
- Fri. March 15 – Last day of classes before Spring Break

Weekly Newsletter submissions accepted until Wednesday 8pm pointgreypac@gmail.com

More information to be found on ****NEW**** Point Grey PAC website

<https://www.pointgreyparents.org>