

# Everything You Need to Know About Your Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

## **Who is the Parent Advisory Council?**

All parents and guardians of children attending Queen Victoria Annex

## **What is the role of the Parent Advisory Council at Queen Victoria Annex?**

The PAC provides a means of communication and community building between parents and staff. Consultation takes place on a wide spectrum of issues concerning parents such as school grounds and student safety, curriculum trends and enrichment possibilities for our children at Queen Victoria Annex. It is also the PAC's role to provide funding for enrichment programs for our children, and supplies and extra items not covered by the Vancouver School Board Budget. Finally, we provide a forum for parents to advocate for the school to the government, the media and the District PAC.

The PAC is not responsible for organizing or planning field trips, sport programs, purchasing of equipment, etc. The Vice Principal, teachers and administrative staff take care of this and will ask for assistance (volunteers, funding, etc.) if they need it. The PAC will support the school staff whenever we can.

At the beginning of the school year, our Vice Principal submits a 'Wish List' as a result of consultation with our teachers itemizing things they would like the PAC to provide funding for. The PAC reviews and approves this expenditure. **Here are some examples of past PAC sponsorship:**

- A variety of Field trips including:
  - The Vancouver Children's Festival
  - UBC Museum of Biodiversity
  - Orpheum to see "Arvaarluk: An Inuit Tale"
  - Pumpkin Patch
  - Museum of Anthropology
  - Ice Skating
  - The Vancouver Aquarium
  - CTV Weather Studio tour and student on air weather report taping
- World music performance series at Grandview school and Theatre
- Puppetry and musical performances at Queen Victoria for all students
- Week-long Project Chef hands-on cooking for our upper grades
- Bus to Evans Lake for the annual school camping trip (accessed by PAC from a government Gaming Funds Grant)
- 20 Gym mats for Gymnastics
- Bringing a Rollerblading and Tennis instructor in as part of the physical education program
- iPads, LCD Projector and Smart Board
- Coordinating Scholastic Book Fairs resulting in money for library books
- P.A. Equipment such as microphones, stand and cables for student and visitor performances
- Contributed to teachers for classroom materials
- Contributed to our Grade 5 Graduation celebration
- Age appropriate Sexual Health Seminars for all students (parents welcome)
- Providing items and assembling Holiday hampers for needy families
- Lunch at our annual Sports Day in May
- A Giving Project to community members in need
- Teacher's end of the year lunch contribution

**In order to make these things happen it takes a lot of volunteers and many fundraisers throughout the year including:**

- Micro-Footie Concession Stand in Garden Park
- Bake Sales in October, December and May
- Spring Festival which includes a Rummage Sale, Bake Sale, Children's Games, Dunk Tank, Bouncy Castle, Concessions, Cotton Candy, Bike trailer rides, Ice cream, Face painting, Entertainment Stage
- Continental Coffee Sales
- Family photo nights
- Magazine Sales
- Donald's Market Shopping cards
- Recycling
- Kids Culture Film Series (all money from this is being put towards our new playground)
- Mabel's Labels

### **How does the PAC communicate?**

The PAC communicates through monthly meetings held in the evening in the Library (snacks and coffee are provided for adults and childminding is available for children in the gym).

Below are PAC Meeting dates for the 2015-2016 school year:

- Wed, Sep 16                      Foodie Kids tasting    5:30 to 6:30 pm (new 2 day/week lunch program)  
   PAC meeting                      6:30 to 7:30 pm
- Mon, Oct 26                      6:30 to 8 pm
- Mon, Nov 23                      6:30 to 8 pm
- Mon, Dec 14                      6:30 to 8 pm
- Mon, Jan 25                      6:30 to 8 pm
- Mon, Feb 22                      6:30 to 8 pm
- Thurs, March 31                      6:30 to 8 pm
- Mon, April 25                      6:30 to 8 pm
- Thurs, May 26                      6:30 to 8 pm
- Mon, June 20                      6:30 to 8 pm

We have a parent buddy system for kindergarten parents, as well as division representatives, to help keep all of the parents aware of what is happening in their child's classroom and in the school.

There is also a PAC bulletin board just inside the main doors to the school where you will find the posted minutes from each meeting, volunteer opportunities and active fundraisers.

Finally, the **very best way to stay involved and informed** is through our Google group.

Please contact us to sign up - [qvapacchair@gmail.com](mailto:qvapacchair@gmail.com)

If you have any questions, please let us know!

Your PAC co-chairs,

Virginia Weiler and Erin Wallden or via [qvapacchair@gmail.com](mailto:qvapacchair@gmail.com)