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September X, 2018

Dear Parent / Guardian,

My name is Gregg Sayer and I'm the President/Chair of the Van Horne PAC.

If you are brand new to Van Horne, then let me extend you and your child a warm welcome to our community. If not, then welcome back to a new school year! I hope everyone had a nice Summer and are now enjoying the return to the rhythm of Fall.

For new parents/guardians, you may be wondering what the "PAC" is. Essentially, it's the group of parents and guardians whose children attend Van Horne. Our official purpose is to "advise the Board, Principal and staff of the school respecting any matter relating to the school." However, I prefer to think of it as an 'instant community'. There's no process to join the PAC; you're automatically a member. And just like any community, we share perhaps the *greatest* of common interests: the well-being of our children. With community also comes information and support: we're here to help guide you if have questions or support you if you need help navigating school life.

Personally, for me it took a while for the purpose of the PAC to come into focus, but now I see it. We're here to help each other as parents/guardians and to strengthen the bonds of community. We're here to support the vision of our Principal and the projects of our teachers/staff. We're here for our kids.

Please come find me at the Potluck & Meet the Teacher Night and say hello. In the meantime, I have a few favours to ask that will help us communicate with you:

- **Please sign up for PAC emails:** Go to vanhornepac.com to sign up for summarized PAC emails with useful updates (frequency is only ~ once every 2 months).
- **Join our Facebook community:** Join us @vanhornepac. It's a great way for new parents to ask questions and connect with other helpful parents.
- **Bookmark our website:** The PAC's website is www.vanhornepac.com and has a useful [calendar](#) (that you can export to your phone) and details on PAC events, projects, ways to volunteer.

Yours in community,

Gregg Sayer
President / Chair
Van Horne PAC