Esquimalt High School FINAL Meeting Minutes - PAC General Meeting November 9, 2021

by Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84107911311?pwd=d3ZmWmpLaG1xL3M5dUUza3VFYnZ4UT09

Meeting ID: 841 0791 1311 Passcode: 426244

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Attendees

Executive: Christine Sullivan (Chair); Kimberley Hamilton (Treasurer; Grade 9/11 Rep); Julia Alvarez (VCPAC Rep); Rod McGregor (Grade 10 Rep)

Membership: Aaeren Madden; Kim Robertson; Meena Lee; Sheila Gabel; Sue Fox; Victoria Barr; Wendy Harmen; Ali; Andrew; Boon; Faith; Gina, Samara D.

Guests: Barry Scott (Alumni); Ken Henderson (Careers); Tina Pierik (Principal)

Meeting Chair: Christine Sullivan

Items:

1. Welcome & Territorial acknowledgement

Meeting was called to order at 6:50pm

2. Quorum & Introductions

Quorum = $\frac{1}{2}$ Executive + 1 voting member = achieved

- 3. **Motion** to accept November 9, 2021 agenda as distributed No objections. Accepted.
- 4. **Motion** to accept October 12, 2021 General Meeting minutes as distributed No objections. Accepted.
- 5. **Motion** to accept October 25, 2021 Executive Meeting minutes as distributed No objections. Accepted.

Christine commented that approved minutes are available on school website. Daily announcements are also posted on school website every day. ACTION: Christine to send approved minutes to Geoff Orme for posting on school website.

6. Special Guest: Ken Henderson, Work Experience Coordinator

Presentation slide <u>https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Dw0LTN-</u> L1T79qP4AACukSsCgf6IKyecIrc-F9xm48wc/edit#slide=id.g101172c1a07_0_21

Recording of presentation https://youtu.be/XvEYESVh0yQ

Ken provided an overview of the EHS Career Pathways and Partnerships programs. Here, students explore their vocational interests and learn about available careers, workplace environment, make connections for part-time employment as well as help to shape professional aspirations and learn 'what is out there'. EHS has been making connections with medical services, local businesses and industry (e.g. Seaspan shipyard; Farmer Construction) including security clearances and safety training, to allow the students to volunteer, shadow, and work at these places. Meets the 30hrs careers exploratory credit for graduation. Some give class/college credits (like the District-sponsored Aviation placement with Viking Air, Auto Tech, Allied Health). Tina commented that all placements still carry SD61 insurance for the kids. For more information, visit esquimaltcareers.sd61.bc.ca

Special summer and Spring Break programs are available. Some placements contribute to course credits, some have resulted in summer employment for the kids. Opportunities in carpentry, metal trades, engineering, electrical and auto. These usually run 9-5pm for 1week.

Students are encouraged to visit the "career hallway" to find out what opportunities are available or to make a request based on their particular interest. Students can also visit "Future Opportunities" on Google Classroom.

SD61 partners with Camosun College for dual credit courses that are free to students. There is an Engineering sampler program as well as a program for students with special needs.

Ken described the Capstone program which began in 2020-21 and allows a deep dive into a topic of personal interest to the student. Students can come talk to career teachers during the Wednesday Focus Block.

Ken promoted the "Parents as Career Coaches" Zoom seminar on November 16 offered by EducateBC.

There were many thanks to Ken from participants via the Zoom Chat.

7. Q & A with Ken Henderson

Rod: Appreciates how seriously EHS takes this guidance. He expressed that he thought it was all a super proactive and comprehensive set of initiatives; it is so valuable. Thank you to Ken for the presentation ad for the work he and his team are doing on this critical component of secondary school.

Q: Does EHS teach budgeting and taxes? A: Yes

Q: Will Firefighter camp be available this year over spring break? A: Yes, but already full for 2022

Christine: PAC Facebook page has a Careers section. Also, there is Careers page on school website.

Q: Can placements be conducted from home/remotely (due to Covid etc.).

A: Yes, for computer programming and tutoring, for example. Volunteer Victoria is great resource.

Q: Who handles Post-secondary guidance, applications, scholarships, cut-off marks/prerequisites, resumes/portfolio etc?

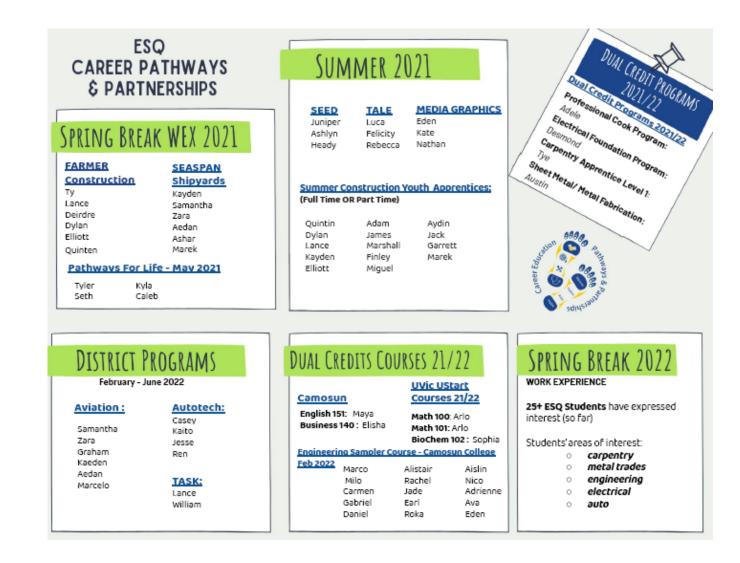
A: Dana Bjornson has taken that on. This guidance role requires much expertise and currency with regards to post-secondary institutions' application requirements. Also, there are counselors available, and a hallway dedicated to the Career Pathways activities where opportunities are posted. Dana provides "Scholarship" and "Careers" classes in Grade 11. Students can find more information on Google Classroom.

Q: What about mock interviews?

A: Generally, this is done annually for Grade 11s but could not be held in 2020-21 due to Covid restrictions. Local employers give students job interview experience.

Q: How do you line up partners?.

A: Reach out directly. Sometimes, it takes a while to approve training program - especially when safety measures must be considered.



8. School Administration Report

Tina's Report:

Docker is the best source for consolidated information. Tina has been impressed by her observation that the students are still taking precautions seriously, and staff are vigilant about occasional reminders to pull masks up etc. There is a lot of cleaning.

Winter Formal has changed from Delta to in-house to provide larger distancing space, and no dancing. 'Vegas Christmas Wonderland' theme.

Basketball is starting up.

9. Q & A with Administration

Rod offered that there is newly introduced Provincial Health Order "Article 13". It allows the individual school or Board some self-directed power to strengthen mitigation regarding masking, at their discretion. Rod suggested, as an example, that 'mask off for eating' could benefit from a distancing rule (citing airborne nature of Delta variant, and air travel data now revealing cases are occurring after very brief mask removals for eating). However, the administration is in best position to identify if there is such a weakness in defence for possible exploitation of this Article 13 flexibility.

It was discussed that the SD61 elementary schools are more vulnerable since they are minimally vaccinated (under 12 yrs) and have had dozens of Island Health advisory letters sent to parents in last 6 weeks alone. Most of the elementary school cases have been single cases entering the school, not spread in school, also testament to SD61 protocols. High School less so due to protocols and high vaccination rate but we are not in the clear from the pandemic yet and we must keep guard up.

Christine commented that any further need or action to promote new PHO Article 13 could result from a pan PAC (VCPAC level) consensus of concern, or greater input of parent concern via the PAC website. Tina commented that distancing appears fairly good on a student self-directed basis of which specific instances of students taking cautions seriously were mentioned. There is not a specific weakness in the protocol at this time and this is supported by the case record for the school.

Vaccine mandate for teachers is still at board discussion. Tina commented that large majority of teachers are already vaccinated without mandate.

10. PAC Executive Reports

President

Christine reminds parents of survey regarding revisions to Constitution & Bylaws: <u>https://forms.gle/mqUCwCicen1p3s9UA</u>

Treasurer

Coast Capital Savings – Signatories complete (4) but sponsors have yet to be changed. ACTION: Kim Hamilton to take care of paperwork involved to declare Kim Hamilton and Heidi Hackman sponsors for the PAC banking.

Fairway Market fundraiser – Cards now available at 272 Gorge Rd W. Cards can be re-loaded at any Fairway Market location. 5% of loaded amount is donated to our PAC. ACTION: Christine to ensure announcement is made in next Docker.

VCPAC Representative

- Report on October 26 meeting
 - Vic High land use deal appeals to be going ahead despite controversy
 - NEW SD61 sexual assault policy Call for volunteers to VCPAC committee

11. New Business - None

MOTION to adjourn by Kimberly Hamilton at 8.34 pm. Rod seconded. Moved.

12. Next meeting date: Tuesday, December 14 @ 18h45 (via Zoom) to vote on Budget

<u>References</u>

- Careers, Pathways & Partnerships
 - ▶ Website: <u>www.esquimaltcareers.sd61.bc.ca</u>
 - ➢ Google Classroom: N88vcm
 - ➢ Instagram: @ESQCareers
- Covid Response Plan: <u>https://www.sd61.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/91/2021/10/k-12-covid-19-health-safety-guidlines-October-2021.pdf</u>
- 0
- Provincial Health Order with Sept. 28th update Article 13. <u>https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-order-face-coverings.pdf</u>
- PAC Constitution & Bylaws (2008): <u>https://esquimalt.public.sd61.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/34/2013/03/parent_info_pac_constitution_-2008.pdf</u>
- o PAC Survey regarding revisions to Constitution & Bylaws <u>https://forms.gle/mqUCwCicen1p3s9UA</u>
- Land Lease at Vic High
 - SD61 backgrounder <u>https://www.sd61.bc.ca/.../vic-high-planning-for-the-future/</u>
 - Presentation on Vic High land lease and Equity in SD61: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LJbgkIJcejJlN06zJEoFcY-pongdET78/view
 - Friends of Vic High awareness video <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnEhdLNcSgs</u>

Find all approved meeting minutes at <u>esquimalt.sd61.bc.ca/parent-info/pac-minutes/</u> Visit our Facebook page @*EsqPAC* (+ join the <u>NEW</u> private group for members).

Look for us in The Docker e-newsletter.