



Burnaby Mountain Secondary School

Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 4, 2024 at 7:00pm

Attendees:

Dave Rawnsley (Principal)	Tatiana
Teresa Rossiello, (Chair)	Emerson
Gaurav (Jay) Kapadia, (Treasurer)	Amaji
Siva Ramesh (Secretary)	
Trinity Bissett (DPAC)	
Ruchika Gupta (DPAC)	
Kurt Bakker (Member at large)	
Sol and Veronica (Student Co-Presidents)	

1. Welcome & Correspondence call to order at 7:00 pm

2. Minutes of September 2024 Council Meeting

Review, correct or adopt

Motion: To approve the minutes for September 2024 as presented.

Moved by Trinity. All in favour. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Student Council Update (Sol and Veronica)

Halloween spirit week was good, "Pie a teacher" went well. Good participation from the students.

Winter fair – there will be prizes and photo booth. Gaming grant has been approved.

Nov 21 at 6 pm – Culture Fest. Collecting food from the local community, everyone is welcome.

Tickets available from school. \$3 for 1 person \$5 for 2 people. Looking at arranging a food truck.

If any parents know about a food truck, please connect with the student council.

4. Treasurer's Report (Jay)

Staff submitted a wish list for extra curricular activities.

Note Gaming grant funds cannot be used to cover Teacher On Call (TOC).

The school wish list was approved with the amendment that Athletics cannot use the funds to cover TOC.

Note the gaming grant cannot be used for classroom activities, these are to be covered by the Ministry of Education.

Gaming grant can be used for extra-curricular activities. There are many clubs at BMSS and the clubs take turns to request for funding.

Main Operating Account

- Cash is Main account as of October 31, 2024. → is \$6,129.
- The balance now includes the Canada Post grant of \$4500. No amounts of this has been spent.
- Background of the Grant: We have got approval for the Canada Post for \$4500. We had applied for this grant, and we would spend it under the following activities. This includes \$1,500 for purchase of athletic equipment, \$2500 for purchase of team uniforms and equipment, \$500 for intramural tournaments.

Gaming Account

- Cash in gaming account as of October 31, 2024. → is 41,005
- We received a grant of \$30,600 on Oct 2, 2024, so this will be reported next month
- No amounts of this have been spent from this grant.
- We have issued a cheque (to be signed) for \$3750 (375 students*10)

Motion moved: Teresa Second Trinity Approved All.

5. Committee Reports

DPAC (Trinity Bissett and Ruchika Gupta)

The following was discussed:

The following events and sub-committee meetings occurred during the month of November.

November 3rd and 17th– Constitution and Bylaws meetings were held. We're working consistently on the bylaw sections now.

- 1. Parent Information Evening: Dr. MacNamara** – "BIOGRAPHY...Dr. Deborah MacNamara presents to parents, educators, and helping professionals on child, preteen, teen development. The focus is on making sense of what is happening behind behaviours. The goal is to make headway based on developmental science. Best practices in the home, classroom, and clinical setting are offered based on insight, research, and over 25 years of experience.

She spoke to approximately 300 Burnaby parents and everyone enjoyed her presentation. This what she focused on. *"Who is to raise our children? The only answer compatible with nature is for parents and adults entrusted with their care to serve as their mentors, guides, nurturers, and role models. Today's culture lacks rituals and customs to foster attachment villages for kids/teens to be raised in. But, we can create a sense of home for them by providing a sense of rootedness, belonging and connection - wherever they are. If parents and other adults are to share the task of raising our children/teens, then we must actively cultivate the village they need through three attachment rituals. Deborah will also touch on the ideas in her latest book, Nourished, in which she delves into the separated connection between food and relationships in our society today."*

- 2. Committee as Whole (C.O.W.)** – The committee has begun discussing potential goals and targets for emission and waste reduction. The committee is also engaging in

conversations about how to best support schools with information and engagement on possible initiatives such as: • Active travel, • Bike to School Week, • Recycling, • Paper use

3. **DPAC General Meeting** – Kristin Schnider, Chair, presented an update on the work the Board has been doing since September. Then a Q and A followed.
4. **Sustainability committee report** – a list of potential resources are being vetted and compiled. An update on compost and recycling bins along with signage was provided. Staff want to narrow down goals to two. Involve more students but be careful not to offload work onto them as they're feeling betrayed by leadership not doing enough already. A discussion was had about having a ProD on the subject. The City has applied for a grant for Safe Streets initiative – a school will be identified soon.
5. **SOGI Committee** – Students voiced a concern about not having enough universal bathrooms at one high school. Problem: TOC's not being well versed about dead naming when they come into a classroom. POSSIBLE SOLUTION: Have information put into each TOC folder. Long line ups for bathrooms was another issue. Trustee mentioned that the SOGI policy is under review with admin procedures attached. BTA asked if more parents can be a part of the policy making. New problem identified, not enough education provided to teachers now because of last year's budget cuts (only 1 SOGI lead now compared to 9 last year). Richard suggested perhaps parents can do "lunch and learns". We briefly touched on the roles and goals of each partner group and we'll revisit the rest in the new year.
6. **BCCPAC General Summit** – This was an online Summit that all PAC's were invited to. The topics covered: DPAC Advocacy, A MOE update, discussion on BCCPAC's key areas of focus, navigating PAC/DPAC governance...decision making, resolving conflict...presenter: <https://crownandcalling.com/#groupservices>

Parent Ed

The scholarship application parent education was well attended.

There are parent education sessions that other school in Burnaby hold and some invite BMSS parents to attend, information is sent out to parents.

Dry Grad

No update

Principal's Report & Questions (Mr. Rawnsley)

See the Friday update from the Principal for more information.

Report cards will be coming out on November 12.

Extended days

This is not unique to Burnaby, Surrey school district has been doing this for a number of years.

There are 4 hubs in Burnaby: Metrotown, Brentwood, Lougheed, and Edmonds.

5 out of the 8 schools in Burnaby are at or over capacity.

Going to extended days is not best practice but it is an option for school while they wait for long term capital projects to come to fruition.

BMSS capacity is 1300 to 1400 students, currently have 1585 students enrolled. Projected to grow to 1600 over the next few years.

Alpha, Moscrop and Central are currently diverting students from their catchment.

The school day will be extended by 30 minutes at the beginning and end of day. There will be x 5 period each day and students are expected to attend 4 periods.

Burnaby school district has a contractual agreement to have set lunch time for all staff.

The morning (X-block) pre-school programs will be affected.

Often grade 11 and 12 students take the same classes, if BMSS goes to extended days it is likely that Grade 11 and 12 will be affected. Recommend that grades 8, 9 and 10 remain in periods 1 to 4 and grade 11 and 12 students will have period 1 to 5 with one free period scheduled in. Period 5 would be for Grade 11 and 12 students.

Having 5 periods will allow for more flexibility to accommodate individual needs. There may be reduced conflicts with scheduling.

ACEit programs will be affected.

Flex time will be reviewed as this will extend the already extended day. Cannot be at the beginning of school as the school is already starting early, flex time, if it goes ahead will need to be incorporated during the school day.

There will need to be x 3 periods either before or after lunch. Need to consider if a nutrition break is needed between 3 period blocks.

Staff meeting will be a challenge as not everyone will be working at the same time. Need to be flexible.

Extracurricular activities concerns: what time will they run, will the sponsor teacher stay if they had an early start day.

The students getting food in a timely way at lunch time is not an issue unlike in some other districts.

This will impact many families. Will know by Christmas if BMSS is to go to extended days and it will start in September 2025 or September 2026. The decision whether to go to extended hours will be based on numbers. Once a decision is made then the school will connect with the parents to discuss the details of the proposal.

7. Adjournment

Dates of PAC meetings:

Date	Time	On-line / In-person
Monday, February 03, 2025	7:00 PM	In-person
Monday, April 07, 2025	7:00 PM	On-line
Monday, May 05, 2025	7:00 PM	In-person AGM
Monday, June 02, 2025	7:00 PM	On-line

Find us at: [PAC Website | Burnaby Mountain Secondary School \(burnabyschools.ca\)](https://www.burnabyschools.ca)