

**RBSS PAC Meeting Minutes**  
**April 14, 2021**  
**Prepared by Tanya Perk, Secretary**  
**Start 7:02 pm Via Zoom**

**Attendance:** Tanya C, Chelley C, Vicki L, Tanya P, Lance M, Elise D, Erin F,  
Josee R, Angie B, Sarah K, Wendie B, Pam P  
Linden T, Kathleen C, David O - Music students / Student voice

**Welcome:**Tanya C

**Motion to pass previous meeting minutes:** 1st- Josee R, 2nd-Angie B, passed with all in favour

**Principal's Report: Lance McDonald**

- After the board meeting yesterday, there will be the following staff moves: Jeff Ritchie VP, (has been at RBSS for 15yrs and VP for the last 4) will be heading over to Yale as VP, and Carla Campbell who is a senior VP within the district will be coming from Yale to RBSS.  
Ali Klassen who has been at RBSS 8yrs, will be heading over to Abbotsford Secondary as VP. This year has been one of the biggest (most) moves in district history.
- Leadership has been out and about working on planters, trying to bring some cheer
- Kids have been resilient this year with all the changes and adapting to the new schedule
- Quarter 3 ends next week and with increasing CV19 case numbers, there will not be a block B flip on day 1 . Many are doing a great job of staying within their cohorts, and as a precaution will not be doing the flip this last quarter to limit contacts.
- Schedule next year is planned as two semesters, however that may also change depending on cases, vaccination and current restrictions. Looking at adapting the regular schedule to include some longer learning blocks, as feedback was that some opportunities to mirror this year's longer blocks could be beneficial at times. Some schools are doing longer blocks every morning, RBSS staff decided twice a week was sufficient.
- Grad Convocation is scheduled on June 22, 2021. Grad parents will get more info as available. Planning similar to last year's ceremony, however depends on restrictions.
- Kelly M arranged for doughnuts in RBSS colors with Class of 2021 written on them Admin presented to the grads. Thanks Kelly, and Thanks to Tim Hortons on Abbotsford Way.
- Covid 19: emails and calls daily . All info is given to the district from Fraser Health to notify every parent of exposure or positive case. After contact tracing is complete, classes directly affected are asked to monitor for symptoms or self isolate. If there is an exposure and people have been 2meters apart and masks worn = monitor.

**No questions about the report.**

**Questions from the floor...**

**Tanya P** - Please explain why the district has decided to start charging for AP exams.

**Answer:** SD34 tries to be equal and equitable and is the only district that currently pays for AP exams . AP (Advanced Placement) is offered to grade 12 students and it is a choice to write the AP exam . If they score above 3, they can earn credit towards university. Only three schools in our district offer AP... RBSS, Yale, and ATSS . Abbotsford Sr offers the IB program. AP classes cover the same content as regular classes, but has an extra layer of info and covers more indepth material at a faster pace and prepares students for university.

**Tanya P** - But why now, during a pandemic, when some of these kids are working very hard for this and challenging themselves? Some families are struggling already and now if their child chooses to write an exam it is an additional \$130 cdn to do this. For some families that is an additional \$500. While I understand budgets etc, I just do not feel it's fair to these students as it is not presented that way to upcoming grade 9 students. And why is this not across the board? ATSS has already been charging the families and giving a 50% refund if the student shows up and writes the exam. The communication has not been very clear as a parent of a grade 12 AP student and a grade 9 student hoping to do the same. Course selection is already done!

**Answer:** The district does not feel the exams are necessary, and if families are struggling the school will pay

**Comment Pam P:** Some Universities do not even look at AP exam marks

**Angie B:** With regards to the ¼ system , what are the numbers? Failures?

**Answer:** Some subjects are doing a bit better and others are not. Have heard positive and negative results. Staff just met and 7/10 learning groups wanted longer blocks every week . Took a look at satisfaction / failure surveys and there was both good and bad responses. 88 credits are needed to graduate, so if students are slipping in a couple of areas, they may still be able to graduate.

### **No further questions**

**Student Voice:** Music program , Linden, David and Kathleen

### **Feelings about quarter system**

Kathleen: Beneficial as less classes to focus on, but hard to learn online and no time spent with peers.

Linden: Online is a struggle

David: Impossible to learn a language online

### **How do you think music has been beneficial to you during highschool?**

David: Music has been very beneficial . Overcame fears, being timid and have made many friends throughout the years. During the pandemic there have been no workshops, but has been helping and mentoring younger students coming up. Music provides teamwork, variety and commitment.

Linden: Loved the arts at both Clayburn and Bateman. Lots of variety and found ways to get around Covid 19. This year has lost the experience of playing for a live audience . Next few years may explore new instruments. In jazz, loves choir and will continue to be involved for a long time.

Kathleen: Sense of community , able to meet and look up to new people.

David - Festival trips are the best highlights and memories.

**Comments: Lance** - So proud of your leadership and encouragement

**Sarah K** - Remembers David and Linden from Stenersen. So glad both are doing so well!

**No further questions or comments**

**Treasurer report - Chelley C:** See attached

**Comment:** David - online gaming? What is it?

**Answer Tanya C:** E-sport is a online sports program that RBSS decided not to opt in to. Any questions should be forwarded to Mr Mills.

**New Business:**

- Planning ahead : Staff appreciation luncheon coming up for the end of the year. Considering menu options and putting format forward to health and safety for approval Looking at doing the same procedure as at Christmas.
- All Executive positions will be open to vote in June. Vicki L is leaving as this will be her daughter's last year at Bateman.
- PACs in the district got together over Zoom to meet and will be speaking collectively as a group initiative at an upcoming district meeting. Proposing outdoor grad event, (awesome response from grad parents) as well as a presentation on gender equality (sports etc.)
- Next student voice - lunch club and work study program. Tanya C invited to next lunch club meeting.
- As the pandemic continues, it's important to check in with our children, support them through this crisis and give them ways to cope with it, along with being as positive as we can. It's very tiring for them all and many find it hard to motivate themselves through days that look exactly the same. There are a variety of resources online, found simply by searching "ways to support kids through the pandemic".
- Administrative Professionals Day April 27, 2021 . We will be honouring our amazing team in the office (Tiffani, Lisa, Karen and Rita)
- Next Meeting May 11, 2021

**No Further comments or questions. Motion to adjourn Chelley C, 2nd Tanya P  
End time 8:08 pm**