

**WELLINGTON SECONDARY PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, March 5, 2008**  
**MINUTES**

**1. Introductions:** Val Neilson, PAC President, brought the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**2. Changes to the Agenda:** Additions were made to the Agenda.

**3. Adoption of the Agenda:** AnnaRita Best made a motion to adopt the Agenda. It was seconded by Phyllis Hawryzki and carried.

**4. Adoption of previous meeting's Minutes:** AnnaRita Best made a motion to adopt the Minutes. It was seconded by Val Carver and carried.

**4A. Student Council presentation:** Celia White reported to the PAC that the Student Council would be holding a school dance on Wednesday March 12 in the gym. This will be a "video dance" for Wellington students only, from 6:30 to 10:00 PM and tickets are \$5. About 80 tickets have been pre-sold and they are hoping for about 150 students at this event. The Student Council is in need of parent volunteers, especially for the two time slots of 6:00-7:00PM coat check and 9:00-10:00 end of dance. They are also in need of prizes such as gift certificates, small gifts that will be awarded during the dance. Donations for prizes can be dropped off at the office.

**5. Band Program presentation:** Carmella Luvisotto gave an overview of the band programs at Wellington this year. Our school and its band program were highlighted in an international bulletin for high school music teachers last month and Carmella has received much positive feedback from that coverage. Groups went to the Surrey Jazz Festival early in February, there was the Jazz Fest event at the Port Theatre recently, and 87 students from Wellington attended the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Moscow, Idaho. A select group of thirteen Grade 12 students will attend Music Fest Canada in Ottawa this year. Both the junior and senior Concert Bands are traveling this spring to festivals. Carmella also wanted to thank the Wellington PAC for their continued financial support. Upcoming events include:

- Jazz Combo night (tentatively) at the Theatre at Malaspina U-C on Wednesday Apr 30
- Junior Concert night in the Multi-Purpose Room at Wellington on Monday May 26
- Senior Concert night (tentatively) at the Theatre at Malaspina U-C on Tuesday May 27
- "A Jazz Affair" at Beban Park, an evening of fun and music on Friday May 30

**6. Student Leadership Conference:** Peg Elhorn (teacher at Wellington) and Karen Miller (teacher at NDSS) came to speak about an important conference that Nanaimo is hosting in October 2008. The BC Association of Student Activity Advisors, a non-profit registered charity, will hold their annual provincial student leadership conference called "Riding the Tides of Change" in Nanaimo on October 23-26<sup>th</sup> at the new Conference Centre. This group facilitates the growth of student leadership and offers a wide variety of workshops, events and opportunities for both students and teachers over a four-day period. The experience that student organizers, participants and teachers gain from this conference is immeasurable and hosting this conference is a chance to showcase our school district and city. They asked that Central Vancouver Island PACs help to promote youth leadership and community service by sponsoring this conference so that costs for speakers, workshop presenters, the housing and feeding of 300 students and 100 teachers can be covered and registration fees can be kept at a reasonable level. This year organizers plan to bring 40 Grade 7 students to the conference (for the first time) so that they can be mentored and benefit from the experience. Six students from Wellington will probably attend the event. The PAC agreed to look into funding this conference.

**7. Treasurer's Annual Report:** Val Carver reported that \$20,535.13 has been spent to date for athletics (includes tournament fees, coach expenses, equipment, uniforms), \$10,245.00 for Band, \$3,463.53 for Art/Library/other, and \$1,725.00 for student planners (total = \$37,318.66). There is currently \$4,936.59 in the Gaming Account and \$8,065.06 in the Fundraising Account. Val is keeping track of projects that need funding and the spending committee will be allocating available funds at the end of the school year. Our Bingo license expires in June 2008. The 3-year Gaming License renewal application was sent in this past month. It takes 6 to 8 weeks to hear whether we have been approved for another three years.

**8. Wellington School Construction Committee:** The Ministry of Education has given the go-ahead for the seismic upgrade at Wellington. This work also includes an expansion of the school to include 300 more students, as part of the School District 68 secondary school closure plan. The project will use “swing space” construction whereby a new wing will be built and, upon its completion, students will be moved to the new wing and the existing “A” and “B” wings would then get their seismic upgrades, one at a time. Upon completion of all the work, 300 new students will be added to Wellington’s population bringing it up to around 1200. These students will come from the re-distribution of students with the closure of either Woodlands or NDSS secondary schools. With “swing space” construction, there will be less need for portables and less disruption within the school.

District policy demands that a School Construction Committee be formed with the following reps:

- District Buildings Committee,
- Zone Trustee, architect (no one in place yet),
- Principal,
- A teacher, and
- A parent (preferably 2).

This committee will most likely meet during the day, starting in April and will address all aspects of those affected by this construction. It was suggested that students be invited to speak about their views on the construction. The parent reps would act as a liaison with our PAC, and could update parents on all aspects of this work. Val Neilson asked that we have two names of interested parents by the April PAC meeting.

**9. Dry Grad:** Dry Grad is an all-schools event held after graduation ceremonies (June 27<sup>th</sup>) from 8:00PM until 5:00AM to celebrate Grade 12s and give them a chance for fun, games and prizes in an alcohol-free environment. The Dry Grad Committee is non-profit organization in its 19<sup>th</sup> year of operation. The Dry Grad Planning Committee meets the last Thursday of every month at Wellington. The next meeting is on Thursday Mar 27, 2008, 7:00PM. About 300 volunteers are needed to make this event happen each year, before, during and after the event. There are two shifts on the night of the event: 7:00-11:30PM and 11:30PM-5:00AM. If you want more information about Dry Grad or can help in any way please call, email, or check out the website.

- to call: Last name            A-L Yvonne Bunce 753-1642 [y.bunce@hotmail.com](mailto:y.bunce@hotmail.com)  
   M-Z Brenda Hirst 754-8496 [jim-hirst@shaw.ca](mailto:jim-hirst@shaw.ca)
- email: [nanaimodrygrad@hotmail.com](mailto:nanaimodrygrad@hotmail.com)
- website: [www.drygrad.ca](http://www.drygrad.ca)

**10. School Planning Council:** no meeting to report on in the last month

**11. Principal’s Report:** Online satisfaction surveys will be going out to Grade 10 and 12 students soon. Results will be available in June. Basketball season is completed. Grade 9 Boys came in second in Islands and will be competing in provincial play. The Honour Roll Assembly was held last week and 57% of Wellington students qualified for Honourable Mention, Honour Role or Principal’s List. Events for March are as follows.

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Mar 5  | P.E. 12 ski trip to Mt. Washington   |
| Mar 6  | Provincial Exam results available online   |
| Mar 6  | Parent-Teacher meetings at Wellington in the circle, 7:00-8:30PM   |
| Mar 11 | Information meeting for Gr. 7 parents on course selection for Sept 2008  |
| Mar 12 | Spring Fling Student Council dance in the Wellington Gym, 6:30-10:00PM   |
| Mar 12 | ICBC presentation on drinking and driving for Gr. 10s and 11s, 10:30-11:30, in the Multi-purpose Room; parents welcome |
| Mar 12 | Wellington Choir performs at St. Andrew’s Church   |
| Apr 26 | Grade 12 Prom across the District – Wellington’s event to be held at the Coast Bastion                                 |
| Apr 28 | Pro D Day  |

**12. DPAC Report:** no report this month

**13. AOB:** Books for Kids, a book sale that provides funding for school library books, is being held this year at Port Place Thursday Mar 13 to Sunday Mar 16. Student and adult volunteers are needed, especially to sort and set up on Thursday night, and to man the tables on Friday through Sunday. Donations will be accepted at the Wellington Library until Wednesday Mar 12<sup>th</sup>. If you can volunteer a couple of hours or more, call our librarian, Ms. Sansoucy-Jones.

Ideas for a guest speaker in April were discussed. The May guest speaker will be our School Trustee, Teri-Lyn Saunders.

**The next meeting of the Wellington PAC will be on Wednesday April 2, at 7:00 p.m. in the Library.**

Doug Blackmore made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04pm. It was seconded by AnnaRita Best and carried.

Respectfully submitted by  
Lana Fitzpatrick  
Secretary, Wellington Secondary P.A.C