

DeBeck PAC Meeting Minutes

December 7 at 6:30pm

Zoom Meeting ID: 815 6062 1898 | Passcode: DeBeck

1. Call to Order and Welcome

- Chair: Poonam
- Treasurer: Kevin
- Secretaries: Leah and Lisa
- Call to order @ 6:31pm.
- Adoption of Previous Minutes – Motion passed by Audrey; Seconded by Lisa.

2. Attendance

- Poonam Kaler, Lisa Schwartz, Cori Anderson, Mike Charlton, Kana Shorin, Audrey Lavers, Maloy Navarro-Ocampo, Theresa Wong, Kevin Lim-Kong, Lisa Santos

3. Seismic Update from the District

Project team

- Mike Charlton, a member of our seismic upgrade team, joined our meeting to share information on DeBeck's seismic upgrade. Mike is the advocate for leads of the school. He works closely with our admin team regarding phase moves, etc.
- Project team also includes Thinkspace Architects; Unitech Construction Management Ltd. (Construction Manager); Darren Porritt (Site Superintendent); Jose Pelayo (Project Manager).
- Project value is \$20.74 million. Anticipated project duration is from Dec 2023 to Aug 2025.

Proposed timeline

- There will be 6 phases: south end is phase 1 (Dec 2023) and phase 2 (April 2024); gym in phase 3 (summer 2024); other side of school is phase 4 (Sep 2024); library is phase 5 (Feb 2024); and office phase 6 (summer 2025).
- Currently awaiting building permits to be granted by the City of Richmond.
- The school will be kept open while the project is done with as minimal disruption to learning as possible.

What will be done?

- To mitigate against seismic risk, there will be structural upgrades, new flooring, new MDF on walls, new t-bars, etc. Work is extensive. Adding in rafts of concrete beneath the school. Walls will obtain blocking and bracing. Shear walls for strength (not typical drywall). Sub-floor upgrades.
- There will also be removal of the divider wall between the media and library area; conversion to gender neutral washroom; a new sink in the medical room; new double-paned windows; restoration of wall/floor/ceiling/exterior finishes; some mechanical and electrical upgrades; replacement of sprinkler heads; new LED lights; etc.
- Non-structural elements like hvac, plumbing, lighting will get restrained seismically so they do not fall down.
- A brand new daycare will also be built (beside the existing daycare) once all materials are removed.
- Front parking lot will be enlarged and the driveway improved.

How will it be done?

- Typically try to keep younger students within the main building. Older students move into the “swing space” (i.e., portables). Once classrooms are upgraded then move classes back.
- Typically with each phase, 4 classes move out at a time.
- Classroom needs to be packed up completely before the seismic upgrade project can move in.
- Construction materials are kept inside fenced areas (located at the front and back of the school and near portables)
- Work areas and active areas for learning will be separated by hoarding walls, dust barriers, and sound barriers.
- Active construction sites get messy and will be noisy at times. DeBeck has a steel structure building (not wood like other schools), so the team will monitor noise and smells. If too noisy then will schedule that work outside of when schooling is happening.
- **Staff, students and parents must respect safety requirements.**
- Quality education continues while construction is in progress.
- The team will consider wishlist items when working with the school. They try to add the most value for money in the common areas of the school (e.g., library, learning commons, gyms).

Question and answer

- HVAC teams will monitor the school. If overheating, then the HVAC team will correct. However, construction should not change the temperature.
- Deliveries will be made before and after school hours so should not impact traffic.
- Pathways to portables will be created.
- Portable washrooms may be brought in.
- Single tall lockers will be replaced with double lockers. All students will then be able to have a locker.
- Paths or grass will be upgraded if damaged.
- A new path connecting Dayton to DeBeck is a City based question. This area is beyond the school boundary.
- A lot of the brick will remain at the school. The building exterior is functioning well.
- Cannot install door stoppers to exterior classroom doors due to fire safety hazard.

4. Updates from our Principal and Vice Principal

- **Gym Capacity Update:** We reached out to our Works yard and Maintenance crew for an update and clarification about our gym capacity. Sitting in chairs and on the floor, the maximum capacity is 501. If everyone is standing, the maximum capacity is 940. This is helpful information to have as we plan school community events.
- **December Evening Performance to Celebrate our Hip Hop Learning:** Hip Hop lessons are happening this week. We have 7 groups learning a routine to share with all DeBeck families on Friday night at McRoberts Secondary. Doors open at 5:10 PM with the performance starting at 5:30 PM. This evening performance was scheduled in response to feedback that some families are unable to attend performances that happen during the workday. We want all families to have the ability to see their children perform.
- **Swimming Lessons:** The City of Richmond has changed the maximum number of students that can attend a lesson set, to 30 students for each 45-minute lesson. Our grade 2 and 3 groups are our biggest cohorts. This year, we will be sending grade 2's only to swimming lessons. Our confirmed dates are May 13-24 with no lesson on May 17th or May 20th. Our times are 10:00-10:45 and 10:45-11:30. Registration information will be sent to families in January.

- **Breakfast Club:** December Breakfast Club dates will be December 8, 15 and 22. We will have a special breakfast treat on December 22. We have spent \$2900 for 6 breakfast clubs. The money that pays for breakfast club is called Feeding Futures and comes from the government. Specifically, it is to feed children who need it the most delivered in a stigma-free, flexible way. We have spending criteria that need to be followed when using this money. We may need to look at funding the breakfast club in a different way or having a different structure.
- **Volleyball:** The volleyball season ended last week with a home game and a tournament at Richmond High for our grade 7 players. We are so impressed with the improvement we saw in all the players. There will be a pizza lunch to celebrate a successful season on Friday in the gym. We are grateful to the coaches Ms. Adjei-Achampong, Mr. Rymar, Ms. Kilby, Ms. Tseng, and Ms. Kim.
- **Basketball Season:** Basketball will begin after Winter Break. Ms. Greenwell will coach the girls and Ms. Chiu will coach the boys. More information to come in January.
- **DeBeck Cares**
 - Winter Clothing Drive:** As a leadership initiative, Division 1, 2, 3 and 4 have joined forces to collect winter clothing for our neighbour organization at Richmond Family Place.
 - Cards for Kids:** Division 6 (Ms. Poonawala's class) is continuing the tradition of selling cute and crafty student-made cards for the holidays and donating the money to BC Children's Hospital.
- **DARE Graduation:** DeBeck grade 5s and Division 4s grade 6s just completed the DARE program with Constable Tammy Walker. DARE is a substance abuse education program as well as a decision-making framework.
 - The D.A.R.E. Mission: "Teaching students good decision-making skills to help them lead safe and healthy lives"
 - The D.A.R.E. Vision: "A world in which students everywhere are empowered to respect others and choose to lead lives free from violence, substance use, and other dangerous behaviors." We want to say a big congratulations to all the students that graduated from DARE last week.
- **Student Leadership and Spirit Week:** Our student leaders (Connection Crew) are organizing a week of Spirit days for the last week before winter break. The leadership students brainstormed and voted on the following spirit days:
 - 18 Hat Day or Holiday Hats
 - 19 Wacky Hair Day
 - 20 Pajama Day
 - 21 Spirit Day- Twin Day/ Duplicate Day/Multiple
 - 22 Winter Wear Day- Comfy sweaters and cozy fleece
- **UPCOMING EVENTS**
 - DECEMBER
 - Week of the 11th - Cards for Kids by Division 6
 - 11 Hot Lunch-HiFive Chicken
 - 12 Fire Drill
 - 12 Staff vs Grade 7s Volleyball Game @ Lunch
 - 15 Winter Clothing Drive (to Div. 1 by Dec. 15th)
 - 20 Learning Updates posted on MyEd
 - 20 Winter Sing Along @ 2pm in the Gym and PJ Day
 - 21 Winter Fun Day and Frozen Yogurt Treats from the PAC
 - 22 Last day of classes before Winter Break

5. Treasurer Update

- Operating account is about \$14k.
 - Gaming account is about \$22k
 - Hot lunches raised about \$3k this term! Thank you to Vivian, Audrey and all of the volunteers!
 - We are awaiting the invoice for the iPad cart.
 - **Motion to increase staff allocation to \$200 for staff and \$300 for band and library. Motion passed by Audrey. Seconded by Lisa.**
6. Fundraising Activities to Support School Initiatives
- Hot Lunch: We will increase the frequency of hot lunches in the new year. This allows us to increase the teacher allocations.
 - Direct Drive: Spread the word! Our goal is to reach \$5k for iPad carts.
 - Purdys: Purdys orders were ready for pick-up on Dec 7. Raised about \$780.
 - **Raffle: Motion to approve to apply for gaming license for raffle (\$25). First place prize \$500; second \$250; third \$100. Motion passed by Maloy; Seconded by Kevin.**
7. School Activities
- **Swimming Lessons for Grade 2s in May 2024. Motion to cover transportation costs of \$1300 for buses. Motioned passed by Maloy; Seconded by Audrey.**
8. Grade 7 Committee
- Fundraising via after school snack sales. Krispy Kreme fundraiser on Friday December 8th after school.
 - Discussed tentative budget.
 - Grade 7s will be voting on their year end event. Vote on food for luncheon.
 - There will be opportunities for Grade 7 parents/guardians to be involved.
9. Q & A
- No questions or comments.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:45pm.