

CANYON HEIGHTS

EST. 1956

On Behalf of the Parent Advisory Council (PAC), Welcome to Canyon Heights!

PACs play a vital role in schools and local communities, encouraging a positive partnership between community and school to enhance our children's education. All parents/guardians at Canyon Heights are members of the PAC. There is an elected Committee that coordinates PAC activities.

Throughout the year you will frequently hear from the PAC about many different activities within the school that we support, including fundraising and social events, parent education, hot lunch, safe routes to school, communicating with parents, parent education, and volunteer opportunities.

For more information about the Canyon Heights PAC, please visit our website:
www.canyonheightspac.ca

Below is some useful information about the PAC. If you have any questions, please visit our website or feel free to contact our PAC Chair. The website is updated frequently with new information so please visit often to stay up to date!

About the PAC

Each parent/guardian at Canyon Heights is a member of the PAC and we encourage you to get involved! There are many ways to volunteer and participate in PAC activities throughout the year, and as a member of the PAC Committee. We currently have some open positions on the Committee and are always happy to welcome new members.

PAC meetings are held throughout the year. These are a great way to hear about what is going on at the school and often include an update from our Principal, and news of upcoming special events and activities. These meetings are a forum for you to be informed, as well as to contribute your thoughts to help shape PAC activities. A schedule of this year's PAC meetings will be posted on our website in September.

Getting Involved at Canyon Heights

Parent volunteers play an essential role in organizing and chaperoning many school activities, including fundraising and social events, hot lunch, sports day, crossing guards, International liaisons, class reps, field trips, and PAC Committee members. Volunteering is also a great way to meet other parents and make a valuable contribution to the school community.

We know families are busy and finding time to volunteer is challenging. We have many opportunities to volunteer throughout the year that can fit all schedules, with time commitments varying from just a few hours to ongoing responsibilities. Please join in!

Fundraising and Social Events

The PAC aims to help sustain a strong school community, by building engagement between parents, students, and the school administration and staff. One of the ways we do this is by hosting fun social events throughout the year, such as movie nights and ice cream socials; as well as fundraising events and partnerships with merchants like Cobs Bread, Mabel's Labels, United Way, Two Rivers Specialty Meats, and the Early Investor Program.

The funds that the PAC raises each year are used to support a variety of enrichment learning activities and events at the school, including the purchase of new technology equipment and an innovation fund. Contributing to our fundraising activities is entirely voluntary, but many of the programs that we help fund, including Dance in Schools and Makerspace, would not be possible without the generous support of PAC.

Hot Lunch

Through the Munch-a-Lunch program, we provide the opportunity for families to order hot lunch throughout the year. Ordering is done online and there are a variety of lunch options to choose from, which are typically served once per week. The hot lunch program is one of our most popular fundraising initiatives, while providing parents with a convenient and easy alternative to making lunches everyday – a win-win!

Safe and Active Routes to School

Canyon Heights Elementary is recognized across the North Shore as a leader in promoting safe and active routes to school by encouraging families to walk or roll instead of drive. This includes our fun Freedom Fridays, which you can read about in this article: www.vancitybuzz.com/2016/02/freedom-friday-biking-to-school/

Parent Education

The PAC promotes the education, safety and well-being of students and families in the school. An important part of this is providing educational resources to parents on a variety of relevant topics, such as anxiety and staying safe online. We provide links to articles and resources online, as well as information about parent education events in the community, and will often host guest speakers throughout the year.

PAC Communications

The PAC communicates with parents throughout the year in a variety of ways, including PAC meetings, the PAC website, emails, newsletters, posters, surveys, and the PAC board located outside the school office. At the start of the school year you will have the opportunity to sign up to receive emails and notifications from the PAC. Look out for the form that will be sent home in early September and please opt-in to receive these important updates!