

## **October 21, 2025 Dry Grad Parent Committee Meeting Minutes Cariboo Hill Secondary School**

**Attendees:** Katrina Craig (co- chair and treasurer), Laurie Kravski (co-chair and communications), Meena Mangat (vice principal), Lisa Young (committee member), James Choo (committee member), Karen Bajwa (committee member and minute taker) , Julia Craig (grade 12 student and grad council co-chair); (Simranjit Kaur grade 12 student and grad council co-chair), Farked Butty (parent and observer), Ava Wong (parent and observer)

**Regrets:** Rahul Haridwar (committee member), Namita Sahni (committee member)

### **Agenda**

#### **Welcome & Introduction**

1. In addition to her duties as treasurer, Katrina Craig will act as co-chair with Lauri Kravski, who is also responsible for communications
2. grade 12 student parents, Farked Butty and Ava Wong, attended the meeting as observers

#### **Review of Previous Action Items**

1. VP Meena has confirmed with the Pinnacle Hotel, that as an available venue for the grad dinner and dance (generally scheduled from 6 to 11pm), it is not available past 1am, if it were also to be used as the venue for dry grad. The committee therefore needs to address with the dry-grad chairs whether the plan is to remain at the Pinnacle, following the dinner and dance, and celebrate dry grad from 11pm to 1am only, or choose an alternative dry grad venue that is available past 1am.
2. More volunteers are needed for the dry grad event– please reach out to your contacts.

#### **Grad Council Update**

1. **Introductions:** Julia Craig and Simranjit Kaur introduced themselves to the parent dry grad committee and observers as the dry grad council co-chairs;
2. **Venue**
  - The co-chairs confirmed the majority (roughly based on the 40 to 50 students that voted) votes to remain at the Pinnacle until 1am, with a transition from the dinner and dance to an introduction of dry grad activities at roughly 11pm.
  - In a grad-council meeting, VP Meena had students view an advertisement for “the Metro” as an example of an alternative venue option, however, the

students confirmed their preference to remain at the pinnacle for dry grad until 1am only, and allocate any extra funding that may result from a joint venue for both events, toward a more elegant or special experience.

- The Pinnacle hotel is therefore confirmed as the chosen dry-grad venue.
- Dry grad activities are not yet confirmed but suggestions, to date, are: an on-site casino and door prize draws with prizes geared toward post-secondary academic endeavors and needs i.e. iPads and travel items.

### **3. Dry Grad Council Fundraising Activities and Funds Allocation**

- Grad Council will hold pizza sales, to be scheduled in the third week of each month, with generated funds tentatively allocated toward dinner/dance or DJ costs; however, Katrina, as treasurer, advised that before funds allocation is finalized, the school's funding responsibilities for the dance and dinner associated costs (i.e. gifts and entertainment) should be confirmed and distinguished from those responsibilities of the grad council.
- Julia informed that dry grad council will likely hold a Crispy Cream fundraiser in November of 2025.
- Katrina confirmed that the parent committee is running a Purdy's fundraiser in November.
- Grad council will hold a Halloween breakfast on the morning of October 31, 2024, and they will be selling tickets at 12:00 pm on Thursday October 23, 2025.
- Grad council is working on securing additional fundraisers. An option under consideration is a baked goods sale, through a small business such as "Bak'd" in New Westminster or "Crumb Cookies" in Port Coquitlam. VP Meena may have a lead with Bak'd.
- Grad council exited the meeting.

### **4. Further Venue Discussion**

- The primary priority is to secure the Pinnacle as the chosen venue for both the dinner/dance and dry grad.
- As the intent is to use the Pinnacle for both events, VP Meena, and not a parent committee member, will connect with the Pinnacle to arrange a contract with the school (and not the parent dry grad committee).
- Once VP Meena has confirmed the venue availability and booking, she will update the parent dry grad committee.
- Katrina requested a copy of the contract, if possible, so that the parent committee can confirm the post-dinner and dance, dry grad activities in accordance with the terms and timelines set out in the contract.

- The dry grad committee intends to provide transportation home at 1am for the students that are attending the dry grad event.
- The committee decided to proceed with booking transportation now, through the usual provider, Lynch buses (contact information available on the Dry Grad Committee Google drive). There is a need to secure the service before it gets booked up. The number of scheduled buses can be revised once attendee numbers are confirmed.
- Students who are not attending the dry grad event can leave on their own after the dinner/dance ends and before the dry grad event begins.
- VP Meena shared that the principal has informed that the dry grad committee historically asks for and receives a \$2000 contribution toward dry grad event costs from the PAC.
- Katrina explained that the total cost for the Pinnacle needs to be confirmed before the dry grad committee can confirm the amount it will request from the PAC.

#### **5. Budget Overview**

- Katrina introduced the budget format with an opening balance of \$3,220.00, held in trust with the school.
- PAC historically contributes \$2000 from its gaming account budget.
- The budget and fundraising targets are based on an assumption that roughly 100 out of 180 students will attend with a ticket purchased at \$55.00 and \$65.00 for a guest.
- Generally, the international students are invited to dinner/dance but not the dry grad event.
- The dry grad committee will aim to raise funds through fundraising.
- The clothing and bottle drive sets a fundraising target of \$1000; we should encourage the school community to return bottles to the designated school account with Return it depot.
- Government liquor stores also participate in fundraising for schools and the dry grad committee can expect a contribution.
- The online raffle (to be run by Katrina) is also expected to raise funds.
- It is mandatory that the budget apportion \$1000.00 towards a student scholarship and \$2000.00, as the opening balance for dry grad in the following 2026 grad year.

- Before the treasurer can estimate or refine the projected budget for dry grad costs and confirm the extent of fundraising that will be required:
  - We will need to confirm whether the venue costs for the dinner and dance cover the rental until 1am, or if there will be an additional cost for the dry grad event, from 11pm to 1am. VP Meena understands the dinner and dance contract covers rental of the venue until 1am so we do not expect an additional cost.
  - We will need confirmation on what costs and activities will be covered by the school under the dinner and dance budget before the dry grad costs and budget can be confirmed. The costs and activities from 6 to 11 pm have historically been covered by the school.
  - The dinner/dance costs \$165.00 per attendee and the dry grad costs \$55.00 per attendee. Katrina noted that if there are funds remaining from the dinner and dance costs (out of the funds from the purchased tickets) they could be apportioned toward post-dance, dry grad activities.
  - Katrina noted that, for example, if the dry grad committee saves roughly \$8500.00 from not having to rent a separate venue, and funds from having to provide one-way transportation (home), it is possible that the committee could fund snacks for the dry grad events, or provide more costly door prizes, or not charge a dry grad fee.
  - More information on venue costs and the division of cost responsibilities will also help the dry grad committee determine the extent of fundraising that will be required.
- Kartina and VP Meena also noted that as the dry grad is not at a separate venue from the dinner and dance, this raises a logistical challenge in ensuring that the kids, who are not attending dry grad, leave after the dinner and dance. This also raises a concern about potential security or safety concerns and student vulnerability. For instance, students that have not RSVP'd to attend the dance may be told to leave by the school or dry grad committee, but they may remain in the area or return.
- There is an important need to have a transition plan in place.
- Administrators and teachers generally leave at the 11pm mark and chaperones generally assume responsibility from 11pm to 1am.
- James asked what the dinner and dance component looks like. VP Meena explained that generally, students mingle, eat dinner and dance, watch a slide show, and parents take pictures. Grad council may fundraise for additional activities or services at the dinner and dance i.e. tattoo booth, DJ, photo booth.

## 6. Key Dates/Timeline

- **Purdy's fundraiser:** Katrina will run the fundraiser from **November 7 to 22, 2025**; She will deal directly with Amber as opposed to Laurie (communications); the purchase pick-up will be on **December 4**. If an organization generates \$5000 in sales, it can earn a 25% profit;
- **Clothing and bottle drive** will be run by Namita and Rahul on **January 10, 2025**. Students will circulate flyers in the week of **December 15**;
- **Venue:** VP Meena will book it ASAP.
- **Bus Transportation:** James will reach out to LYNCH ASAP to book bus service from the Pinnacle to the school.

## Next Steps/action items

- In addition to the above-noted plans, Laurie (communications) will post fundraiser information.
- **The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18 , 2025 at 7pm.**
- contact email [drygrad.cariboo@gmail.com](mailto:drygrad.cariboo@gmail.com).