Our goal is to spark a conversation within our school community through the school year. Our topic of interest is Internet/social media safety and digital literacy. This is a topic brought forward repeatedly to our PAC meetings and via email.
The Braefoot PAC would like to help host (along with Doncaster Elementary) an evening of parent education with a presentation by Dr. Allison Rees. Her 2-hour presentation, "Sidestepping the Power Struggle," is a great opportunity for parents to learn concepts in communication with their children. As she teaches understanding and working with a range of children's temperaments, we believe her presentation would be beneficial to all parents of our school community.
Ecole Central Middle School is a diverse, multi-cultural school. The funding will be spent on guest speakers and workshops to help support the learning of our students. Providing parent education helps to strengthen bonds between the school and its community, as well as solidify the connectedness and partnerships between educators and parents.
Each year the Cloverdale Traditional School (CTS) PAC hosts between 4-5 free Parent Information Nights in which all parents and guardians of students at our school are invited to attend. Parent Information Nights provide an excellent opportunity to create a strong sense of connectedness and community within our school culture, while providing parents with access to information and resources related to education and parenting. For the 2017-18 school year, we will include: PISE; Life in Middle School (winter); Family Fitness Night (fall) and Internet Safety with the Saanich Police (spring).
"Your Kids, Your School" - Esquimalt High has had a changing of the guard within the Parent Advisory Council as older members have "graduated." Grade 9 enrollment has increased and a large cohort of new parents are becoming part of the school community. "Your Kids, Your School" is an early evening networking and parent resource education event inspired by the VCPAC "PAC 101" sessions and some of the ideas promoted by Superintendent, Piet Langstraat.
A focus of Lake Hill School's administration this year is self-regulation. The PAC would like to give parents and caregivers an opportunity to learn more about this topic, how it may be used in the classroom and things they can do at home. A presentation will be made through UVIC entitled "Promoting Healthy Living for Children Through Self-regulation and Emotion Regulation."
We will bring a guest speaker to the school for the purpose of parent education. There are a variety of topics of interest that were identified by the parent community in a recent poll/survey. The area most requested was in regard to bullying. We will host the presentation in our gym and open it up to the rest of the Spectrum Family of Schools. This presentation aligns with our initiative to bring a guest speaker for our students to talk about a 21-day Small Act Big Impact challenge (presented by Morgane Mitchell) in February prior to Bullying Awareness Day.
The Mt. Doug PAC plans to host a public education event for parents with regard to smartphone and social media use. This event in response to expressed parent interest in understanding and responding effectively to their children's use of mobile devices, with particular emphasis on social media apps used most frequently by their children, e.g., Snapchat. We will hire an engaging speaker with expertise in these issues and to facilitate a discussion among parents about effective ways of influencing, and when necessary, intervening in their children's use of mobile devices and social media.
Allison Rees will do a presentation on adult and child communication. This event will promote school connectedness by bringing parents together to discuss a topic of shared interest and uses the school as a community venue to support parent/child education. We are partnering with Strawberry Vale to host the event.
We will be inviting Dr. Paul Mohapel from Royal Roads University who will present "The Impact of Digital Distraction on Developing Brains." The impact of technology on our students inside and out of school is a recurring topic of interest and discussion around the Oak Bay PAC table.

In February 2017, the Vic High PAC hosted A Gender Diversity for Families workshop led by Ambit Gender Diversity Consulting. In a supportive setting led by two professional consultants, parents shared some of their struggles, concerns and success stories about parenting gender-diverse youth. The event included basic training regarding gender awareness as well as suggested resources for continued support. Our PAC would like to host a similar event in the 2017/18 school year as the need for such support within our community is ongoing.
Our PAC would like to host a Family Board Games Night. Our goal is to host a screen free social night where parents, care givers and students can come together around the tables to chat and have fun. This event provides the opportunity for parents to support their child's literacy and numeracy explorations through the use of a variety of games. Parents will learn how to foster engagement of learning through relevant game situations, table talk and the sharing of strategies. One of our goals this year is to be inclusive of all families. We will have games for all ages and skill levels, and we will welcome families to bring games from home and share with and teach the other families.