

Vancouver Waldorf School

High School Development Committee

Mandate

Version 1.0
March 22, 2016

Founded in 2016, the Vancouver Waldorf School (VWS) High School Development Committee works collaboratively with parents, students, faculty and administration in many areas of High School life, offers a place of initiative and social renewal and supports the impulse of Community & Resource Development.

Vision

A valued parent body actively engaged and working in collaboration with the VWS community to stimulate new thought and ensure trust and confidence in the High School.

Mission

The mission of the High School Development Committee is to:

- Be a portal for High School parent participation in the school's development activities.
- Provide a forum for stimulating new thought and ideas in relation to High School development.
- Put in action High School parents' strengths and interests in order to support creative activities designed to enrich the life of the school community.
- Foster Waldorf Education by inspiring and facilitating adult learning opportunities specifically as they relate to the teenage years and the parent's role in addressing adolescent expression (as also addressed by the curriculum).
- Create a bridge of communication between the VWS faculty, staff, students, parent body and the broader community.

Values

The High School Development Committee adopts as its fundamental values a commitment to promote and work in synergy with the underlying principles of Waldorf Education. We have a commitment to generate, welcome and honour parents' participation in school life. We value the work and efforts of faculty and staff and will approach collaboration in a respectful manner, and in consideration of school policies and procedures.

Structure

The High School Development Committee is composed of parent volunteers who are willing and able to commit to participating in the Committee's meetings and ensuring its activities are undertaken within the context of the Committee's Vision, Mission, and Values. High School Development Committee meetings occur as agreed upon by Members with regular communication as needed via telephone or email.

The High School Development Committee works in collaboration with the Development Office and in alignment with the school's development plans, policies and procedures. The High School Development Committee copies agendas, minutes and attachments to the Development Office.

The High School Development Committee will also work in collaboration with the High School Faculty, College of Teachers, Student Council and Parent Council to ensure alignment on ideas and initiatives.

The Committee will report regularly to the High School Faculty.

The High School Development Committee will not have a treasury; instead using the existing processes established in the VWS Parent Council for managing any incoming funds and approved expenditures.

The High School Development Committee operates and makes decisions collaboratively. Decisions are reached through consensus whenever possible. When consensus is not reached, those opposing a proposal shall be granted an opportunity to voice their position, after which a second attempt at consensus shall take place. If consensus cannot be reached after two attempts, a proposal shall be decided by a show of hands of Members and is approved by a majority, defined as sixty percent of the Members personally present.

Membership

The High School Development Committee strives for Membership to include a parent representative from each of the Grades 7 through 12. A representative from the Development office and a VWS High School Faculty representative (on a rotation basis if needed) are also welcomed. The Committee shall invite other guests as needed. There is an expectation that the Committee Members have been Waldorf parents for at least one year.

High School Development Committee Membership is based on a one-year term reviewed annually, ideally at the beginning of each school year. High School Development Committee Members are responsible for searching, nominating, evaluating and training new Members.

Each year the Members will select individuals for the roles of Chair and Secretary and other roles as required.

When an individual expresses interest in joining the High School Development Committee they will be invited to participate in three meetings after which a decision by the existing group will be moved to confirm Membership.

Responsibilities

Members of the High School Development Committee are responsible for the following:

- **Communication Strategy for the Committee**
 - Determining how ideas and initiatives will be communicated to the Committee from the VWS community.
 - Determining how the Committee will communicate to the VWS community, including who to, how often and through what medium.
 - Determining how the Committee could assist with communications to the broader community in an effort to increase enrolment.
- **Research**
 - Research into the greater Waldorf community to stay current on trends and activities in Waldorf education with a particular focus on High Schools and their development activities.
- **Engagement**
 - Determining ideas and initiatives for enhancing both student and parent engagement within the VWS High School community.
- **Ambassador for the High School**