

Anne Montgomery - Biography

I was born and raised in Ontario, with brief stints in Montreal and Alberta, before moving to Vancouver 30 years ago to further my education. I fell in love with the beautiful west coast, and even found my husband here, although he is also from Ontario originally.

When my two sons were born I became a stay-at-home mom, working only part-time as an artist and then as an after school art instructor for the Vancouver School Board before being hired as the Community Schools Team Leader at Brock Elementary, a position I held for 3 years.

I have spent almost 15 years as a PAC Executive member – 3 years as the Fundraising Chair at my sons' preschool, 6 years as Secretary and then Fundraising Chair at General Brock Elementary, 2 years as Co-Chair at John Oliver Secondary, and the past 3 years as PAC Chair at John Oliver. In each of these positions, I have worked hard to strengthen school communities, support children and their families, nurture relationships with teachers and supporting staff, and create equitable learning conditions for all children in the context of great socio-economic inequality.

Among the accomplishments I am most proud of are securing the funds for an outdoor classroom at Brock, my role as a parent representative on the school planning committees at Brock and John Oliver, and educating Trustees and VSB administration about alternatives to school closures; I played a large role in convincing the Trustees to remove John Oliver from the school closure list last year (a list it had been on for the past 10 years).

While at John Oliver I have been involved in trying to get the school back on the VSB's school re-build list; spoken at LRFP (Long Range Facilities Planning) meetings; have written countless letters and emails to political leaders, the Ministry and School Board officials reminding them of the necessity of seismic mitigation in all schools, of the need for equitable resources between westside and eastside schools in Vancouver, and of the need to prioritize education funding.

I fully support the mandate of DPAC and feel that I would be an asset with my strong communication and organizing skills, and previous PAC experience. I enjoy working with diverse populations and am respectful of differences. I am encouraged by the current level of commitment by families and school staff to engage, and feel that DPAC is in a strong position to help make positive changes within our education system. If I am elected to the DPAC Executive, I look forward to working with everyone, promoting safe schools and equitable education for all.