

## March PAC Meeting Agenda 2026

### Welcome:

- **Welcome and introductions: Alyssa Davies**
  - Attendance: 6 attendees + 3 staff + 4 exec + 1 zoom = 14 total
- **Adopt agenda**
  - 1st: Jenn
  - 2nd: Dana
- **Adopt minutes**
  - 1st: Jenn
  - 2nd: Jacky

### **Presenters and Reports:**

**Presenter** - None

### **SD71-**

- **Trustee Report: Sara Jane Howe**
  - A totem pole project is underway at Nala'atsi School in partnership with Dawn to Dawn, the City of Courtenay, and local carver Everson and his team. Students have been observing the carving process and learning about Pentlatch territory. The pole will be installed in Simms Millennium Park once complete.
  - Comox Valley wrestlers had strong results at the BC School Sports Provincial Championships, including a historic girls team championship for GP Vanier.
  - An SD71 team advanced to nationals for the first time at the Island Improv Championships.
  - The district musical Beetlejuice Jr. runs March 10–14 at GP Vanier Secondary.

#### **Three-Year School Calendar**

- Draft calendars for the next three years are posted on the district website. Families can review and provide feedback until March 14.

#### **Inclusive Technology**

- Trustees received a presentation on inclusive technology tools (such as text-to-speech and speech-to-text) that support accessibility and remove learning barriers. Ongoing training is being provided for staff.

#### **Budget Update**

- Planning for the 2026–2027 budget has begun.
- Key points: About 476 responses received in the early budget survey.
- Feedback will be shared at a Public Engagement Session on March 10.
- Slight projected decrease in K–12 enrolment (~20 students) and growth in online learning.
- Final provincial funding details are expected in March.
- Budget consultations with partner groups and the community will continue before final approval by June 30.

- **DPAC Report: Erika Davis:**
  - Any interest in the 2026/2027 DPAC Rep Role?

- DPAC shared information about upcoming BCCPAC events, including a Community Gaming Grant presentation (March 11) and the Parent Leadership Conference & AGM (April 24–26 in Richmond).
- A presentation on Inclusive Technology in SD71 highlighted tools such as text-to-speech, speech-to-text, and assistive technologies that help remove barriers and support student learning.
- The Executive Report noted ongoing work with district committees, partner groups, and discussions around the district budget. Treasurer position remains vacant.
- Anti-Racism Committee met with district leadership to discuss upcoming initiatives and collaboration to strengthen anti-racism practices across schools.
- Speaker Series upcoming events include the SEEN documentary screening (March 13) and a virtual presentation by The White Hatter on AI safety for youth (March 18).
- Superintendent update: SD71 is supporting expanded use of inclusive technology, continuing budget consultation with over 500 survey responses received, and launching a pilot project with BC Parks to create “re-wilded” outdoor learning spaces at five schools.
- Trustee update: Public engagement session on the 2026/27 budget scheduled for March 10. Recent board discussions included inclusive technology, school safety, and enrolment trends.
- DPAC is developing a Code of Conduct for the Executive to clarify roles and ensure transparency.

### **Arden-**

- **Principals Report: Andrew Ferneyhough**
  - We have been playing with a ‘rest and reset’ room
    - This is a de-regulation room designed to help teach kids about regulating themselves.
    - This is being presented and talked to with teachers tomorrow.
    - \$1500 has been provided by inclusive-ed
  - Guest Speaker - ‘Resilient Rhythms’ was awesome – Thank you to PAC for your support
  - The March 3rd Student-Led conferences went well on our side. Thank you for PAC support for this day. Please let us know if you have any feedback for next year.
    - Feedback: Changing the conference day to a Monday or Friday instead of a midweek day.
    - Conversation was had about family’s taking a ‘long weekend’ and not attending so there is more thought to be had from a teacher and parent perspective.
  - Thank you to Mr. Lamont for leading us through a very exciting, very extended basketball season.
  - The K/1 team is holding an ‘Eye Spy Night’ from 5-6 on March 17th
  - The K/1 team have also been inviting new parents to join them for forest walks on Tuesdays and Thursday.

- Arden ordered a 10 pack of ipads for the new year to replace some of the 17 being decommissioned
- Thank you for the friendship dance!
- **Chair Report: Alyssa Davies**
  - No official report - things below are to be discussed!
- **Treasurer Report: Kendall Packham**
  - Chequing Balance: \$4,254.11
  - Gaming Balance: \$12,183.19
  - Dance raised about \$460!
  - Deposit has been paid for the bouncy castles. The prizes have all been purchased for penny carnival.

### **Committees and Team Leads**

- **Hot Lunch Report: Nicole Mann**
  - The Hot Lunch representative was not in attendance. No report was provided at this meeting.
  - Oven is working!
- **Green Team Report: Jesse Sheridan**
  - A Green Team representative was not in attendance. No report was provided at this meeting.
- **Fundraising Report: Kendall Packham**
  - No official report - things below are to be discussed!

### **New Business / Updates:**

- **Friendship Dance - Post Review**
  - We will maybe plan another one?
- **Teacher / Staff Appreciation Lunch - Wednesday March 18th**
- **Kids Maker Market - Saturday April 18th**
  - 10 tables booked so far, will open up to local schools, contact PACs
  - We will be looking for volunteers to help with concession!
  - We will be doing a bake sale - looking for volunteers to help with this!
  - Potentially sell any additional plants from Growing Great Smiles.
  - Will be reaching out to other schools (under Grade 7) to fill up the remaining tables.
- **Growing Great Smiles - Spring Fundraiser - Delivery: Friday April 17th**
  - Can be picked up during Kids Maker Market to help draw in shoppers!
  - Will need volunteers to help organize the plants, and prepare them for pick up the following day at the Kids Maker Market.
  - We will purchase extra plants to sell at the Kids Maker Market
- **Penny Carnival - Thursday May 21st**
  - Needs: Donations or purchases of RAFFLE ITEMS
  - Potentially looking at each class and doing individual baskets to raffle off
  - Andrew to create/edit a donation letter to be used to get silent auction items
- **Calm/Reset Room Update**
  - Visit to Royston Room, Feedback from Staff/Teachers, Room/ Budget Planning

### **Old Business/ Ongoing:**

- Playground replacement: update as information develops
  - No further updates on the playground
  - Look into basketball hoop for the primary kids. Not a temporary one but one that will be used for the smaller kids.
  
- Ipad discussions: 17 units needed by year-end
  - \$5300 was the cost for 10 ipads. Mr.F would love to have some funds to go towards the cost if possible.
  - ACTION- Mr.F to look at what the cost of 7 ipads will be vs. what another 10 would be.
  - ACTION- PAC to look at if the funds can be used from Gaming Account

**Open Floor for questions and discussion**

**PAC Parent of the Month Parking spot draw**

Hailey is the winner of the parking spot!

**Adjourn**

- 1st: Kourtney
- 2nd: Jenn