

Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
GP Vanier Secondary School  
Date: February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Recognition of Traditional Territories - Karma Taiji.

In attendance: Karma Taiji, Hayley Dato, Laura Farnan, Jennivieve McRae-King, Bev Wilkie, Rae Walsh.

1. Call to order 6:32 PM. Introductions.
2. Review and Adoption of Agenda – motion by Bev, second by Laura; carried.
3. Adoption of January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, PAC minutes (sent by email and posted online). Motion by Hayley, second by Jennivieve; carried.
4. Unfinished Business:
  - a. Nil
5. Reports
  - a. Chair - Jennivieve McRae-King. Jennivieve reached out to Lorraine (copied DPAC) regarding the request to provide an addiction/harm reduction workshop/naloxone training and suggested speaking in DPAC instead for a larger audience.
  - b. Administration – Karma Taiji (see below)
  - c. DPAC – Rae Walsh/Hayley Dato. Discussed how to effectively and timely disseminate information to the parents (newsletter, website, email?) A week before the PAC meeting an email will be sent to Susan Quinton/Karma with information from PAC/DPAC.
  - d. Trustee – Michelle Waite. N/A
  - e. Treasurer – Bev Wilkie. Met with Erica Black to explore what gaming grant is looking for 50/50 draw.
6. New Business
  - a. Fundraising for teacher appreciation lunch. Will change the bank, start an e-transfer fundraiser.
  - b. Discussion of the DPAC Best Practices Guidance Document (Rae Walsh/Hayley Dato) during the first meeting. Suggestion to review Roberts rules.

7. Q&A
8. The next PAC meeting is on Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm in the library of GP Vanier School. PAC meeting to end at 7:30 pm promptly.
9. Adjournment 7:35 PM.

### **Vanier Admin PAC report February 2026**

1. **Course selection** is finishing up this week. A reminder was sent home to do course requests on MyEdBC. Majority of students did not complete this and so admin helped to complete requests this week. This is important to allow us to plan for next year and for knowing what students want to take.
2. Staff had a presentation this month from a student from Vanier's **NEST** (Nurturing Empowerment for Student Thriving). NEST is a student run organization focused on building community among students and giving a voice for tangible change to the student body. We learned about what students are feeling and how they would like to change the school.
  - The purpose of the group is to empower every person in our building (including both youth and adults) to feel responsible for the community we are all a part of. Every person should be taking an equal amount of responsibility for their own actions within the context of the community we are building. Every person should be empowered to call out anti-social behaviours that negatively impact the community and to support and encourage pro-social behaviours that improve the community.
  - NEST's mission statement is "to create a community where the voice of students can create tangible change in the school system and surrounding community."
  - NEST's vision is to have "peer-led groups organized around common goals focused on agency and change in their community. This is a space where students are given an opportunity to connect and grow socially and emotionally
3. The **school growth** team is doing a lot of great work around looking at the school goals and growth plan. The school growth team currently has leaders from AI and Assessment, Humanities, Fine Arts, Inclusive Education, PHE, and ADST.

We are looking at how to share it better with families and students. Our current focus is on personalized learning and social emotional learning.

Our current growth plan says: "Embracing personalized learning is vital for the success of all students at Vanier. Finding areas of passion, showcasing learning in their own way is core to all students. Whether it is the many programs, classes, electives, or clubs, students need to connect and feel that their learning is preparing them for life beyond school. Being able to advocate for themselves is core to this belief. Mental wellness and a sense of belonging is also necessary for learning to happen. More

than ever, students are struggling with their mental health and finding a place to belong. Students need to be supported and supportive to those around them.”

4. The info about **PAC funding** was shared with all staff so that they can make effective requests. There are a few new requests this semester that PAC will go through. PAC asked for a proposal from MUN as it aligns nicely with PAC’s goals.