



MARK R. ISFELD

SECONDARY SCHOOL • ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE

PAC Minutes - General Meeting

Monday March 9th 2026

Isfeld Library at 7:00pm

The Mark R. Isfeld PAC respectfully acknowledges that the land we gather on is on the Unceded Traditional Territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.

Attendance: Jennifer Fisher, Dana Beatson, Sarah Jane Howe, Brian McCaskill, Leanna Warman, Mike Godbout

1. Call to Order: 7:01pm
2. Approval of Agenda -March 9th 2026 Mike, seconded by Dana
3. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes - January 2026 - motion Dana, second Mike
4. Reports:

- **Principal's Report**

1 – 2026/2027 Course Programming

- Course Selection complete
 - 48 students to track down, rest in
- Staffing Allocation - after budget is done

2 – Grad 2026

- Dessert Night Success – Next up Grad Celebration Week May 19-22
- Grad Timeline
 - Dwayne met with Grad's last week, bursaries, valedictorian

3 – Projected Enrolment 2026/2027

- 966 submitted (up 14 from last year)
- Francophone requests – currently waitlisted (currently 15 grade 8s)

4 – Advanced VTRA Training for PVP/Counsellors

- March 11th
 - Admin (brian, dwayne, jennifer) and both Counsellors
 - lockdown drill was moved until after spring break

5 – Student Advisory Council Survey

- Stress at School and What would you change?

- teachers and staff determine student, vote avoided to bypass the popularity contest aspect
- survey of 200 students (20% of student body) root cause of stress was academic pressure (75%) and self/home (33%)
- positive way to deal with stress - physical activity, mental health days, keep working away at academic tasks
- most common reason for stress is having everything due at the same time across classes

Q: Could there be more time in between classes?

A: Could be done but may mean the lunch gets shorter

Q: How can tests and deadlines be managed better?

A: Could have more communication between teachers on their deadlines

6 – Flexible Learning Environments

- Hub/Program
- Classrooms
- Removed Independent Learning Centre, looking to replace with a program that may be some online and some in person to help out with mental and physical health needs
- some teachers are looking to include flexible learning opportunities within other senior classes

Q: How many parents opted out of the SheBang sexual health presentation?

A: None

Q: Could this be done in the first semester to get more student participation?

A: Yes

- **Trustee Report**
- District Highlights
 - A totem pole project at Nala’atsi School is underway in partnership with Dawn to Dawn, the City of Courtenay, and local carver Everson and his team. Students have been able to observe the carving process and learn about teachings connected to Pentlatch territory. The pole will be installed in Simms Millennium Park once completed.
 - Comox Valley wrestlers had strong results at the BC School Sports Provincial Championships, including a historic team championship for GP Vanier’s girls wrestling team.
 - Success at the Island Improv Championships, with an SD71 team advancing to nationals for the first time.
 - The district musical “Beetlejuice Jr.” runs March 10–14 at GP Vanier Secondary — get your tickets before they sell out!
- [Three-Year School Calendar](#)
 - The draft school calendars for the next three years are now posted on the district website. Families are encouraged to review them and provide feedback before March 14. Community input helps inform the final calendar that will be approved later this spring.

- **Inclusive Technology Presentation**
 - Trustees received a presentation from Jane Rondow and Shannon Hagen (Learning Services) about how inclusive technology tools are expanding access to learning across the district. These tools including text-to-speech, speech-to-text, and other accessibility supports help remove barriers for students who experience challenges with reading, writing, or communication. Many of these tools are based on universal design, meaning they can support all students. The district is also continuing to provide training and support for teachers and staff so these tools can be used effectively in everyday classroom learning.

- **Budget Update**

The district has begun planning for the 2026–2027 operating budget. Key updates shared:

- The budget survey received about 476 responses early in the consultation process.
- Feedback will be summarized and presented publicly on March 10 at the district’s Public Engagement Session.
- The district is forecasting: A small decrease in K–12 enrolment (about 20 students)
Growth in online learning enrolment
- The provincial government will release final funding instructions in March, which will help determine the district’s budget planning.
- Trustees also met with partner groups this week to hear presentations and priorities as part of the consultation process.
- Budget discussions with partner groups and the community will continue through the spring before the final budget is approved by June 30.
- Sara Jane won’t be running to be a trustee for next year - but hoping to be able to support kids in the future

- **Treasurer Report**

- Account Balances
 - Chequing account (formally Salad bar) - \$no change
 - Grad account - \$1774.96 (\$5 bank account fee since last report)
 - Gaming - \$17,613.45 with \$6327.00 pending for academics and athletics

- **DPAC Report - kari sends regrets**

White Hatter presentation on March 18 - knowledge on how AI is affecting youth experiences
 Seen documentary - partner with the Child Development Centre
 BCCPAC doing community gaming grant presentation
 Anti-racism group with new district lead teacher - connecting with district and community

5. New Business

6. Adjournment: motion to 7:53pm

Next PAC Meeting: Monday April 20th, 2026.