

David Thompson Secondary School

PAC MEETING

October 19, 2021 • 7-8pm

Online via Zoom

EXECUTIVE

Vice Principal:	Germaine Tsui
Teacher:	Ms. Reddy
Chair:	Regina Prakash Singh
Vice-Chair:	Manj Mand
Treasurer:	Altan Uludag
Secretary:	Shazmin Zahir Akbanie
Members at Large:	Noor, Melody, Amy,

GUESTS:

15 Parents attended the meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Welcome

- 1.1. Welcome and Acknowledgement from Regina
- 1.2. Adopted Meeting Agenda, Manj approved Minutes from last meeting and Altan Seconded it
- 1.3. Principal Rick was absent, and Germaine Tsui the Vice Principal attended the meeting

2. Principals Report from Germaine Mars

- 2.1. The First Truth and Reconciliation Day was very successful, the teachers presented a lesson, and many students wore orange. Many activities took place to include all students in the school and teachers and students learned about the importance of the Truth and Reconciliation Day.
- 2.2. Successful fire drill on October 7, weather was great, and all 1300 kids went in and out of the school in an orderly manner.
- 2.3. Interim Reports are now available for parents to read; report cards are not printed. One must log into the myed portal, instructions were sent home. If you have challenges, please send the counsellor an email and they will help you out. It's advised to keep the login details "shareable" between the child and parent.
- 2.4. Student Council held a virtual club day, (second year on a row) they had a webpage that listed all the clubs, and you could add it to your cart. The coding club requested to use the auditorium as they had 50 students sign up. Clubs' day was on from Oct 11

to Oct 18, if your child missed the opportunity – they can speak to their counselor and they will help them out.

- 2.5. Earthquake drill tomorrow, Oct 20, it's a district drill and will not be cancelled
- 2.6. October 22 is a Professional Day; student will not be at school – teachers will be engaged in specific subject areas.
- 2.7. School Photos are completed – proofs are online at Artona and can be purchased from their site directly. Grad Photos are taking place through Custodial Photography – Custodial is a DT Alumni – Graduates should book their photo appointment online.
- 2.8. FIT time – new to the school this year; there's been 4-5 periods during this time students are in classrooms working, or in the cafeteria and have the opportunity to speak to their teachers. Parents should be proud of their kids – they doing great!

3. Teacher's Report

- 3.1. Germaine covered some topics of discussion
- 3.2. FIT is great time for students – they can make up tests, do labs. The library is available for space to work on group projects and individual projects. There may be Guest Speakers during this time and school wide assembly during this time.
- 3.3. Grade 8 orientations have been taking place during FIT time – but will be completed by the end of the month
- 3.4. Student feedback for the semester schedule: Senior students prefer the semester system, where they can focus on core subjects, - so far there's been positive feedback
- 3.5. In regards to safety – all kids are following all guidelines, wearing their masks and are continuously sanitizing their hands (as sanitizers are continuously being refilled)
- 3.6. Timetables have been adjusted, and it's working very smoothly
- 3.7. Sept Pro D Day – Staff learned quite a bit from the Multicultural workers, and it's helping them work with ESL students.
- 3.8. The Collective Agreement expires June 2020 – it's a lengthy process to reach an agreement – but it's in the works and there is nothing to report at the moment. The collective agreement is an agreement between the Province and the BC Teachers Federation (40,000 teachers belong to the federation). The Teachers Federation and the body that negotiates on behalf of the Government is called the PCPC.
- 3.9. At DT there have been no notices about children being exposed to COVID, the notifications sent home comes from the Vancouver Coastal Health – does not include notifications from Parents. Most school exposures have been in the Fraser Valley and not Vancouver Coastal. So that's good news!

4. **Treasure's Report**

- 4.1. We received the gaming grant for the year 2021/2022, it's based on enrollment and there have been no significant changes – therefore the school PAC received \$25,480 for 2021/2022 which brings the gaming total to: \$48,313.90.
- 4.2. A cheque for Athletics was issued in the amount of \$2575 for Sports Insurance.

5. **Gaming Grant Expenditures**

- 5.1. The Gaming Grant is spent on the students in supporting their extra-curricular activities at the school.
- 5.2. The PAC sends out an application to teachers who run/sponsor/support clubs or activities at the school and the student/teacher submit the application requesting \$X. amount of funds and explains how the funds will be used.
- 5.3. Currently the PAC has received 5 applications – the deadline will be extended. The PAC will meet prior to the next meeting to discuss and finalize the distribution of the funds.
- 5.4. Applications may also be accepted in the Spring

6. **Other Items**

- 6.1. **New Face Leaders** - These are students that help the Grade 8's learn about the school and guide them to their classes. They wear turquoise t-shirts and can easily be found as many can be overwhelmed with a new/big school
- 6.2. **New Parents** – welcome to all new parents, we are very happy to see you join the PAC, it's a great way to learn about the school – the PAC parents are all volunteers who dedicated their time to help the school – Thank you all.
- 6.3. **Principal Rick** – he's awesome and always happy to answer any questions via email or phone.
- 6.4. **PAC Executive:** PAC Chair: Regina, Vice Chair: Manj, Treasurer: Altan, Secretary: Shazmin and 3 Members at Large: Melody, Noor and Amy.
- 6.5. **Soccer:** There is no soccer this year, as they were unable to find a coach. The goal is to have a Girls Soccer Team in the Winter, and the Boys in the Spring. – This can be confirmed later.
- 6.6. **Student Concerns:** if your child has any challenges with lockers, or finding rooms, or trying to understand the technology – please reach out to your counselor they will help your child get sorted and answer questions. Microsoft Teams is the best portal to get information about the school and reinforce messages. Check out the All-Students Page Announcements. No children should feel lost.
- 6.7. **Technology:** Students are not required to have any sort of technology at school – examples: phones or laptops (kids may tell you otherwise). It's not mandatory – it's optional.

Meeting adjourned just close to 8pm. Next PAC Meeting November 23, 2021 at 7pm.