



ŠX^wƏX^wA?ƏS THUNDERBIRD

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ŠX^wƏX^wA?ƏS THUNDERBIRD PAC MINUTES

Wednesday, January 8, 2025 6:10-6:59 pm in the school library

Attendees:

C. Iverson (Fundraising Coordinator), J. Iverson (Chair, minutes), D. Than (Treasurer), B. Toews (School Principal), R. Wong (Fundraising Coordinator)

Call to Order and Territorial Acknowledgement The meeting of the Thunderbird PAC (the “PAC”) was called to order at 6:10 pm on January 8, 2025 by J. Iverson, Chair.

Agenda The January 8, 2025 agenda was adopted by general consent.

Meeting Minutes The December 4, 2024 meeting minutes were approved by general consent.

Business Arising from the Minutes B. Toews provided an update on translation services. He consulted with the District Principal of Learning and Information Technology, who said Google Translate functionality is built in to VSB websites, but had no suggestions for translating outgoing communications. B. Toews will add a “please translate” note to newsletters in languages most commonly spoken by families (Arabic, Mandarin, Cantonese, Spanish, Vietnamese, Tagalog) and link to Google Translate. **Action: J. Iverson to post in PAC Facebook group to crowdsource ideas.**

Principal’s Report and Important Dates B. Toews provided the following report:

School Organization

- 187 students
- 8 divisions

What’s New

Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather and schools closing, we have an extreme weather closure plan that includes the principal and building engineer reporting to work.

Closure announcements will also be posted on VSB/school websites and district social media channels, as well as local media being notified by 6:30 am.



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Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI)

The Vancouver School Board has partnered with the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at UBC to invite students to take part in completing the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI). The MDI is a self-report questionnaire that asks children in grades 4 to 8 about their thoughts, feelings and experiences in school and in the community. The survey questions align with the BC Ministry of Education's K-12 curriculum which includes a focus on promoting children's personal and social competencies.

The questionnaire will be **administered to grade 6 only** between **January 14 and March 14, 2025**.

Student Learning Survey

The Vancouver School Board, District #39, and its students, staff and parent community are participating in the 2025 Ministry of Education's electronic and anonymous **Student Learning Survey** in cooperation with all other school districts throughout the Province. Parents/Guardians of grade 4 and 7 students at Thunderbird can complete this electronic anonymous survey **any time before May 2, 2025**.

This survey is intended to help the Ministry of Education and school districts plan—allowing parents and students to tell us about their education experience in their school and district. Students in Grades 4 and 7, and their parents and all staff in B.C. public schools are invited to take the annual online satisfaction survey about their school experience.

AIRS Program (Artist in Residence) – Intermediate

Thunderbird will begin our intermediate Artist in Residence program for grade 6 and 7 this January with Red Buffalo Nova Weipert. Nova is an Anishinaabe Ojibwe Two-Spirit and transgender interdisciplinary artist, writer, director, educator and storyteller. Nova is a proud enrolled member of the Pinaymootang First Nation located in Treaty 2 territory and is a recent graduate of the Master of Fine Arts program at Emily Carr University of Art + Design. Nova will be exploring the medium of film with our students.

Black Excellence Day

Next Wednesday is Black Excellence Day. As a lead-up to Black History Month, Black Excellence Day is a day to rejoice Black history and learn



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about Black stories, Black art and Black people, and a day to stand in solidarity with Black Canadians. Black Excellence Day was created by Ninandotoo Society and takes place on January 15 each year, or the preceding Friday if it falls on a weekend or holiday. January 15 is in honour of the great civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who was born on January 15, 1929. We also celebrate the contributions of Black Canadians and the ongoing civil rights struggles of Black Canadians that often go unacknowledged in our history books and school curriculum. At Thunderbird, we strive to bring diverse histories into our teaching and reflect upon historical wrongs, to help us not repeat the shames of our past.

Communication Translation

After discussing the issue of translation of school communications with district staff, there is no easy way to translate other than putting the newsletter into AI from the consumer's end (i.e., the receiver of the email). School website and its pages are easily translated; however, PDFs are not.

Important Dates to Remember

Monday, January 20, 2025

- Professional Development Day – no school

Friday, January 31, 2025

- Books for Breakfast

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

- PAC meeting @ 6 pm in the library

Friday, February 14, 2025

- Professional Development Day – no school

Monday, February 17, 2025

- Family Day Stat Holiday – no school

Monday, February 24, 2025

- Pink Shirt Day

Friday, February 28, 2025

- Books for Breakfast
- Parent Reading Workshop (Kindergarten to Grade 2) @ 9-10:30 am in the lunchroom
- Ramadan begins



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Wednesday, March 5, 2025

- PAC meeting @ 6 pm in the library

Monday, March 10, 2025

- Report card #2 goes home

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

- Family Learning Night 4-6 pm

March 17-28, 2025

- Spring Break – school closed

Monday, March 31, 2025

- First day back from Spring Break

Chair's Report

J. Iverson provided the following report:

- a. Community engagement initiatives
 - i. Next coffee stand is TBD.
 - ii. Family Learning Night is Wednesday, March 12. School needs help grocery shopping and serving food. **Action: C. Iverson to grocery shop; R. Wong to create a flyer soliciting volunteers.**
 - iii. Bike Fest is Wednesday, June 4. R. Wong is reaching out to Our Community Bikes (OCB) for bike mechanics. May need to pay a mechanic if we can't secure OCB's services. Need to decide how to spend \$500 grant (ex. door prizes, human resources/services, etc.). Members suggested gamifying riding to school that week. All students receive one ticket minimum with an opportunity to earn one additional ticket each time they ride to school. Will require volunteers to track riders and hand out tickets. Prize: Playland gift card (amount and number TBD). Members will continue discussing next month.
 - iv. Spring Carnival is Wednesday, June 18. Members discussed booking Red Fox Society again. The Carnival will also include: other games, food, BINGO, decorations (keep for graduation ceremony the next day). Members will continue discussing next month. **Action: J. Iverson to contact Red Fox Society.**
- b. Upcoming PAC initiatives and deadlines
 - i. A bottle drive is underway. A flyer has been emailed to all families and B. Toews confirmed teachers and students are aware. All funds raised benefit grade 7 graduation activities.



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Fundraising Initiatives

Astrofoods fundraiser was a success! Total profits: \$410.18. All things considered, Astrofoods was a more profitable fundraiser than Purdys. The PAC will keep Astrofoods on the radar for next year. Would like to see more orders from school families.

Members discussed other possible fundraisers, including pho and bubble tea + bubble waffle coupon sales (partial proceeds would benefit the PAC). **Action: R. Wong and C. Iverson to pursue latter idea at different dessert spots.**

Treasurer’s Report

D. Than provided the following report:

- a. As of December 31, 2024, balances of PAC accounts are as follows (see full details below):
 - Gaming: \$3,974. 81
 - General: \$10,051.98
 - VSB Cash Online: \$300
 - Return-It: \$38.30
 - Cash Float: \$258.35

Other Business

None.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 5, 2025, 6-7 pm in the school library.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm.

GAMING: December 1-31, 2024			
	Amount	Date	Note
Opening Balance	3,980.81		
Expenses	6.00	December 2, 2024	Monthly fee
Deposits	N/A		
Withdrawals	N/A		
Closing Balance	3,974.81		



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GENERAL: December 1-31, 2024			
	Amount	Date	Note
Opening Balance	10,265.73		
Expenses	3.75	December 2, 2024	Monthly fee
Deposits	N/A		
Withdrawals	210.00	December 2, 2024	Chq #78 - Cash (babysitting for Dec 2024-Jun 2025)
Closing Balance	10,051.98		

Thunderbird PAC Monthly Events Calendar

To volunteer for any event, please contact pac_tbrd@vsb.bc.ca.

Dates and events are subject to change.

Date	Event	Time	Location	Volunteers needed?
January 2025				
Wednesday, January 8	PAC meeting	6-7 pm	School library	No
January 6-10	Bottle drive	All week	School	No
February 2025				
Monday, February 5	PAC meeting	6-7 pm	School library	No
March 2025				
Wednesday, March 5	PAC meeting	6-7 pm	School library	No
Wednesday, March 12	Family Learning Night	4-6 pm	School	Yes
April 2025				
Wednesday, April 2	PAC meeting	6-7 pm	School library	No
April 21-25	Bottle drive	All week	School	No
May 2025				



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Wednesday, May 7	PAC meeting	6-7 pm	School library	No
Friday, May 30	Afterschool treat stand - TBC	2:30-3:30 pm	Undercover area	No
June 2025				
Wednesday, June 4	Bike Fest	TBD	School	Yes
Wednesday, June 4	PAC AGM	6-7 pm	School library	No
Wednesday, June 18	Spring Carnival	4:30-7 pm	School	Yes