

Van Tech PAC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday September 22, 2026
In person in the Van Tech library

In attendance:

PAC Executives: Lindsie Tomlinson (current Chair); Kelly Hamilton (current Vice Chair); Julie Cole (current Treasurer); Pam Dean (current Secretary); PAC Members: Van Tech Parents/Caregivers & family members

Van Tech Staff: Roberto Moro (Principal); Catherine McLean (Vice Principal); Leanne Hagglund (Gr9 Counsellor & teacher rep for the PAC)

Meeting start 7:01 pm

1. Welcome and introduction by Lindsie Tomlinson, PAC Chair

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

2. Accept minutes from last meeting, May 2026

Motioned by Kelly, seconded by Julie. Accepted.

3. Introductions and General Remarks from the PAC Chair – Lindsie Tomlinson

Overview of what the PAC does. Biggest thing we do is to allocate the gaming grant money. The school receives the money based on the number of students in the school. Teachers submit funding requests to the PAC. The requests for Semester 1 will be discussed and voted on at the October PAC meeting and Semester 2 requests at the February meeting.

We do a little bit of fundraising to cover a few things that are no longer able to be supported with gaming grant funds (due to gaming grant restrictions). We did a fundraiser last year through Donald's Market that provided bursaries to 2 graduating students.

Otherwise, programs at the school do their own fundraising (Summit, Flex, sports teams, etc)

We also try to create a space for parent involvement and a school community and welcome parent ideas on programming that we can provide to school families.

4. Financial update – Julie Cole

- Last year had \$46,487.86 funds available to allocate at the start of the school year. We actually spent \$32,003.55, leaving a balance of \$14,484.31 as of Aug 31. However, about \$5000 more came through in Sept (requests from last year that were spent last year but didn't receive the receipts until now), leaving about \$9000 in our account.
- Hope to get another ~\$32,000 this year from the gaming grant (will find out exact number in early Oct)
- General account funds: \$5,016.80 for those things we can't use gaming grants for
- Full financial report amended to the end of the minutes

5. Principal's Report – Roberto Moro

- Reminded parents that research shows when parents get involved in the school, not only is it beneficial to your students but also to the school as a whole

- 1630 students this year. Stable enrollment numbers.
- Introduced our new Vice Principal Catherine McLean. She had been at David Thompson Secondary the last couple years and was in Ontario before that. She looks after grades 9 and 11, and the French Immersion, Summit, and AP programs
- Other VP Mr Cacchioni looks after grades 8, 10; while Mr Moro looks after grade 12
- It has been a smooth start to the school year and grade 8s are settling in
- Food is a big topic.
 - Cafeteria. Can go buy lunch there. Another option is the LunchSmart program (<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/vancouver-technical/vsb-lunchsmart-program>) with \$9.50 per meal per day that can be prorated for what families are able to pay. Either physical card or virtual cards are available through Mr Moro.
 - Breakfast club is every day and available to any student.
 - There is a communal fridge in the hallway near the counselling area with fruit.
- Electronic devices. Conditions placed on students bringing devices into school. The real issue is more possession rather than just having the phone out of sight. Now implementing putting 'cell phone hotels' in place where the phones need to go at a designated area in the class. This has been going well; see less students with phones in the hallway.
- School photos were done the first week of school. Go Cards (Student ID) will be given out this week (tomorrow in period 1) to all students. These are used for general ID, for taking out books in the library, ID at Van Tech events.
- Photo retakes Nov 3
- Grad photos are separate and by appointment at Artona; can also book a group sitting
- Athletics are up and running
- Student council elections happening Sept 29 – Oct 2. Grade reps needed.
- There are now transaction fees on School Cash Online payments and also if you pay by cash (because its kept track of in School Cash Online). The school agrees this is not ideal and there has been some pushback. Note that donations should be made directly to the office to avoid fees.
- ProD Day this Friday Sept 25.
- There is a parent event on Mon Sept 28 (Leanne will talk about more)
- Sept 29 - Truth and Reconciliation assemblies
- Sept 30 - No school; Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- Oct 16 - Interim reports (general comments from teachers)
- Oct 23 – ProD Day
- Oct 27 – next PAC meeting

Questions:

Are there any parent-teacher meetings? Yes, one per semester. Sign up online to book a time slot with specific teachers. The Semester 1 meetings will be Oct 29

Issues with MyEd? Passwords need to be changed every 3 months (need to make sure if one in the family changes the password, everyone has to be aware of the change).

6. Teacher representative update – Leanne Hagglund (school counsellor)

- Leanne will be the liaison for teacher funding requests (compiles requests from teachers and provides them to the PAC ahead of the funding allocation meetings)
- The school has in the past put on several Family Nights, some based on the 'Screenagers' trilogy

- We have the first family event of the year coming up on Monday. This event sponsored by PAC, about supporting your child online (parental controls for social media, etc and how to do this without causing conflict with your teen)
- Presentation 7-9pm by The White Hatter in the auditorium
- Registration is open; have invited some other neighbouring schools as well

7. PAC Executive Elections

- Lindsie, current chair, will continue as Chair this year but will be stepping down at the end of the school year as this is her last year as a parent at Van Tech.
- Looking for a Vice Chair that could shadow Lindsie and take on the Chair role next year
- Current treasurer, Julie, and current secretary, Pam, both agreed to stay on in their current roles.

The following were nominated, seconded, and elected:

Chair – Lindsie Tomlinson

Vice-Chair – Assa Sabouhi

Treasurer – Julie Cole

Secretary – Pam Dean

DPAC (District PAC) rep – (not filled)

Members at Large – Kelly Hamilton, Arvind Ghataurah, Kirk Perris

DPAC rep is voted in by secret ballot. They are the go-between from the District PAC and the school PAC. Each school can provide one rep who can have a vote on issues, etc. DPAC general meetings are once per month online. Still looking for someone to take on this role.

8. General Comments

It was noted that there is a dead link on the website to fill out the yearbook release form (allowing your child's photo to be in the yearbook). Mr Moro made a note and will look into.

9. Closing Remarks

To get in touch with the PAC, email questions, comments, and suggestions to chairvt@gmail.com

There is a Van Tech family Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/vantechfamilies>

Next meeting will be for funding allocation for Semester 1 and will be on Tues Oct 27 at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54pm

Van Tech PAC Financial Statements

2025 - 2026 School Year

August 31, 2026

Van Tech PAC Gaming Account

Account Balance at August 1, 2025	14,287.86
2025 - 2026 BC Gaming Grant - Received October 2025	<u>32,200.00</u>
Total Gaming Funds Available for 2025 - 2026 School Year	46,487.86
Gaming Account Disbursements	
October 2025	(4,227.48)
May 2026	<u>(27,776.07)</u>
Total Gaming Account Disbursements	(32,003.55)
Van Tech Gaming Account Balance at August 31, 2026	<u>14,484.31</u>
Gaming Funds Approved (but not Disbursed) for 2025 - 2026 School Year	
Approvals from 2024 - 2025 not yet paid (9,542.16)	2,494.68
October 2025 (22,067.84)	2,685.56
February 2026 (14,873.18)	<u>9,299.39</u>
Total Gaming Funds Approved (but not Disbursed) for 2025 - 2026 School Year	14,479.63
Total Gaming Funds Available at August 31, 2026	<u><u>4.68</u></u>

Department	Amount
Athletics Total	17,502.20
BASE Space Total	70.65
Connections Club Total	196.32
Diverse Learners Total	25.00
E-Sports Total	1,000.00
Indigenous Department Total	1,454.25
Library Total	1,421.83
Leadership & Resilience Program Total	1,568.18
Math Contest Total	230.80
Music Department Total	3,300.00
Newcomers Club Total	443.99
Pep Rally Total	191.50
Yearbook Total	371.35
Grand Total	27,776.07

Van Tech PAC Financial Statements

2025 - 2026 School Year

August 31, 2026

Van Tech PAC General Account

Account Balance at August 1, 2025	396.64
Account Transactions	
October 2025 (	(47.90)
April 2026 (Deposits from Donald's Market Fundraiser)	8,760.00
May 2026 (Payment to Donald's Market)	(7,740.90)
Transaction Total for 2025 - 2026	<u>971.20</u>
Van Tech PAC General Account Balance at August 31, 2026	1,367.84

PAC Funds Held in Trust

Account Balance at August 1, 2025	2,000.00
Details	
Fundraising	2,448.96
Donations	200.00
Bursary	(1,000.00)
Total General Account Transactions for 2025 - 2026	<u>1,648.96</u>
Balance of PAC Funds Held in Trust at August 31, 2026	3,648.96
Total Funds Available in General and Trust Accounts at August 31, 2026	<u><u>5,016.80</u></u>