DLG DPAC Newsletter – March/April 2026

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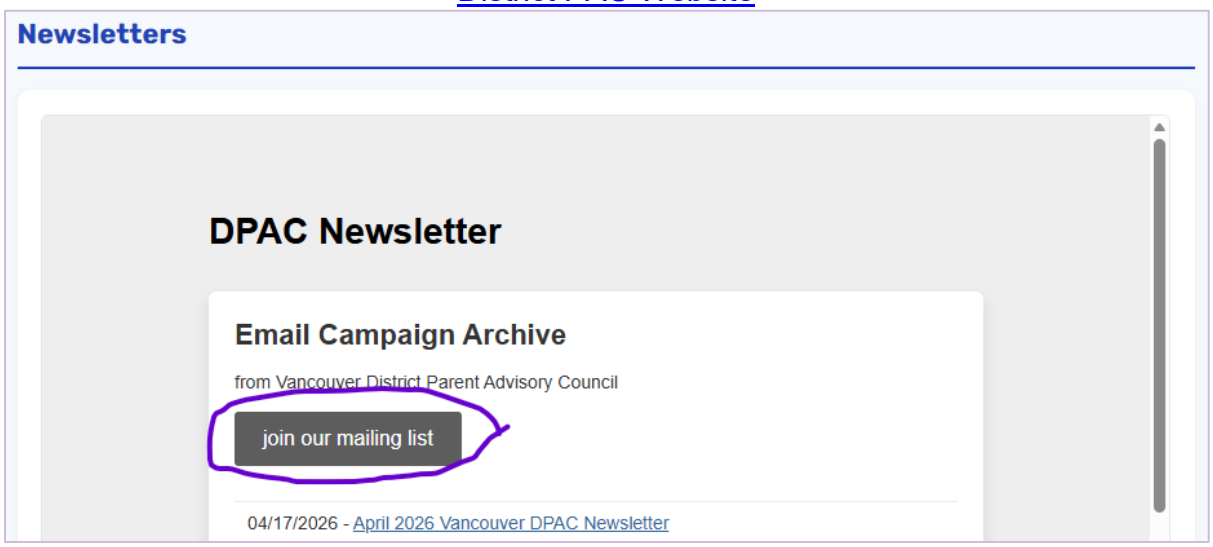
District PAC Website

Hello, My name is Jennifer Durham. I'm the **District PAC Representative** this year on the DLG PAC. In each newsletter I'll provide some information about how DPAC works. Then I'll summarize the most recent DPAC general meeting and highlight some upcoming events.

Does the DPAC have Newsletters?

Yes – you can sig up to receive DPAC newsletters at the DPAC website. Click on the "Newsletter" heading or scroll down to the "Newsletter" Section. Once there you will find links to past newsletters and to sign up for upcoming newsletters.
District PAC Website



Important!

The next **DLG PAC meeting will be Tuesday May 4, be 2026 at 6pm** in the school library.

The Vancouver School Board (VSB) has issued their Draft 2026-2027 Financial Plan. You cand review the plan by clicking on this link and scroll down to page 7 to find the start of the Plan. Also, here is a link to the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning approved in October 2025. It highlights the stated goals and priorities of the VSB.

The DPAC has acknowledged in their April Newsletter that the timeframe that the VSB provided for individuals and groups to:
- review the DRAFT Financial Plan, and
-request the opportunity to present regarding the Draft at the relevant City Council meeting,

was extremely short. They outlined the ways that DPAC executives were able to provide comment and input. They also acknowledged having received feedback from parents about their concerns regarding the short review timeline as well as the cuts that have been proposed.
DPAC April Newsletter: April 2026 Vancouver DPAC Newsletter.

March/April DPAC Meeting Summary:

Two individuals gave a presentation and took questions regarding indoor air quality in schools. One of the people who presented is a parent who participates in DPAC health and facilities working groups. They provided a good deal of information that supports the importance of air quality.
Ventilation systems were discussed; however, all building ventilation systems rely on bringing in air from the outside. If there is outside air pollution, such as wildfire smoke, ventilation alone is not effective in ensuring good indoor air quality.
Air filtration addressed this concern.
There is agreement as to the standards that should be met in providing indoor air quality in new construction. There is also BC Ministry Funding for maintenance and upgrades to existing systems. However, similar to funding seismic upgrades, the flow of money is insufficient to fund air quality improvements to all schools that need it at once. Unlike with seismic upgrade funding, there has not been an effort to create a priority list. This makes it difficult for schools and PACs to obtain funding for specific schools.
The speakers summarized some advocacy strategies that have been successful. These include combining advocacy with learning. For example – it is possible to acquire air quality monitors, and for classes or clubs to conduct testing as part of a project. This establishes a baseline and an understanding of the air quality in classrooms. DIY portable air filter units are effective and can be made as a classroom or after school project. Actual filters must conform to the VSB list of approved products. PACs have been successful in obtaining a list of approved filters and committing to supply them for the student built portable air filters. Advocacy is likely to be more successful if all classrooms receive portable air filters, rather than only the classes involved in a project.
As a newer school, DLG mechanical ventilation and air filter systems would have been required to meet current codes and standards. A monitoring project could nevertheless be informative and educational.

We also heard that two DPAC executives are on leave. One leave initiated after the February meeting. The other had been in place for a while.

As part of the larger discussion regarding the roles of remaining DPAC executive, it was discussed that in the recent past, the Vancouver School Board included a budget amount from which the DPAC could draw for expenses, such as running a DPAC website, attending conferences, providing refreshments at in-person meetings, or engaging professionals as needed to assist with advocacy activities. The VSB has stopped providing a budget for DPAC expenses. The only funding available to the DPAC is a $2500 fixed amount available from the BC Gaming grant.

Upcoming Events

All parents and guardians are welcome to attend DPAC meetings and working groups, which are typically held online. The calendar of meetings and a list of working groups, is available on the DPAC website – District PAC Website
The May DPAC general meeting will be on May 28, 2026 at 7pm.
The current working groups are:
Inclusive Education * Health & Safety * Facilities & Childcare * Food Framework * Active Transportation & Safe Routes