

David Thompson Secondary School

PAC Meeting

Date: November 20, 2024

Location: Online via Zoom and In Person in School Library

Principal: Mr. Nick Akrap

Vice Principal: Mr. Albert Mann and Ms. Katherine Mclean

Staff Liaison: Ms. Yashoda Reddy

Chair: Regina Prakash Singh

Vice Chair: Manj Mand

Treasurer: Sheila Tham

Secretary: Shazmin Akbanie

Members at Large: Bee Bee Wong, Cathy B, Jas Bagga, Judy Ga, Kathy Lee, Taiwo Afolabi, Ama Weerasinghe, Lydia, Mandeep, Rajvir Singh

Guests Attending Meeting:

7 people in the Library

12 people online

Meeting Started 5:36pm

1. Welcome

- a. Welcome everyone to tonight's PAC meeting, this will be our last meeting this year, as we will not meet in December. The next PAC meeting will be in January.

2. Approval of Minutes for October 2024 approved by Manj and seconded by Nick B.

3. Update: Staff Liaison: Ms. Yashoda Reddy

- a. Lots of successful events took place at the school in the month of October.
- b. The Good Guys ran a Halloween Photo Booth and the proceeds were used to make sandwiches to help feed people in the Downtown East side. Students bought the ingredients, promoted the event and made the sandwiches.
- c. Medical Club – held a cooking decorating fundraising, the proceeds went to Breast Cancer Awareness.
- d. The Grade 12 students took part in the Literacy Assessments.
- e. Photo Retakes for students took place in October.
- f. Grad Committee organized a senior dash for Grade 11 and 12s and it was very successful.
- g. Student Council hosted the Haunted Harvest, took place after school, there was games and activities. Many students dressed up.
- h. This year Diwali was on the same day as Halloween – Very interesting write up about Diwali is on the school website, this article is written by: Maya Kumar and Ryken Singh. This article can be found on the school website.

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- i. For teachers, Oct 24 – there was Pro D Day, the teachers participated in many workshops and seminars. Also, during collab time the teachers were in meetings to help develop skills and upgrade skills.
- j. New Staff: Mr. Nick Desantes teaching in the ELL Department, Mr. Jordan Buffy teaching English and Socials this and next semester.
- k. In November there was Remembrance Day assemblies, and it was focused on indigenous day. It was a very nice assembly.
- l. Students collected over \$300 in the poppy fund, and that was donated to the Royal Canadian Legion
- m. Mid Term Marks will be available tomorrow on My School Ed, followed by Parent Teacher Conferences on Dec 3.
- n. Today New Face Leaders organized fun activities for the Grade 8 students, (today was hot dog lunch and movies in the gym).

4. Update: Principle: Mr. Nick Akrap

- a. Grade 8 Hot Dog Day was really well organized, myself and Mr. Mann attended the event.
- b. A couple weeks ago the pumpkin carving event was also lots of fun, a great way to make the Grade 8s' fit in.
- c. Presentations for Grade 10 and 11 Students took place by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) during FIT
- d. Core Competency reflections took place in early November on the District App Space EU. This way students can see the involvement on Space EU. Schools are trying to get parents access to this site. It's a great way to monitor goals.
- e. On Halloween a student let go of a firework inside the hallway and it ended up injuring 3 students; 2 students had some ringing in their ears temporarily and 1 student got some damage close the eye and was taken to the hospital. The student is doing okay, however has some surgeries coming up as there was some damage to the retina of the eye. The student has returned to school. Teachers accommodated the student to support the student.
- f. The student who let go of the firework has been found, and is under going disciplinary action. This was not a targeted event.
- g. As a community there was some concern from parents about their children. The school is safe, all students attended assemblies reminding students of the school's code of conduct and reminders of safe actions.
- h. Mid Terms will be published tomorrow and parents can start booking appointments with teachers tomorrow at 6pm.
- i. If appointments fill up, parents can email the teachers anytime to meet the teacher in person or online.
- j. Dec 3 is the parent teacher conference night, Mr. Mann did send an email with more information

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- k. Next Wednesday there is the Winter Concert at 7pm at the school's auditorium Hope many parents and students can attend. Attendance is by donation.
- l. Monday – there is post secondary institution day happening on Monday so students can learn about registration requirements and learn more information about their programs. Parents can email Ms. Dhaliwal for more information if parents would like to attend.
- m. Grad is on June 5, 2025.

5. PAC Update

- a. The executive is meeting tonight to look over the gaming applications, over 40 applications have been received. This will be to allocate funds received from the gaming grant.
- b. The report for next year funding has been sent
- c. Thanks to the executive for staying back and your input.
- d. There was a positive Mental Health talk that took place at the school, it was very well attended. Many surrounding high schools attended. It talked about how teenagers used their screens.
- e. Happy Holidays everyone, thank you for attending our meetings. Stay safe over the holidays and we will see you in the New Year.

6. Roundtable Questions

- a. Parent – the U-Turn sign is not very effective is there any other action being done by the school? - Sometimes teachers will volunteer to stay out and remind parents not to do U-turns and to follow the sign. An email reminder was sent out to parents.
- b. A parent attended the Mental Health Talk and found it very beneficial and shared that it was a positive meeting and the auditorium was full.

Meeting Adjourned – 6:00pm