

**David Thompson Secondary School**

**PAC Meeting**

**Date:** February 21, 2024

**Location:** Online via Zoom

**Principal:** Mr. Nick Akrap

**Vice Principal:** Mr. Albert Mann

**Staff Liaison:** Ms. Yashoda Reddy

**Chair:** Regina Prakash Singh

**Vice Chair:** Manj Mand

**Treasurer:** Sheila

**Secretary:** Shazmin Akbanie

**Members at Large:** Lydia Cheng, Rajvir Kaur Singh, Ama Weerasinghe

**Guests Attending Meeting: 12**

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*Meeting Started 5:34pm*

**1. Welcome**

- a. Welcome Everyone to tonight's PAC meeting, Regina is away and Manj will be leading the meeting today. Ms. Yashoda Reddy is away today and will be at the next meeting.

**2. Approval of Minutes** postponed as the minutes have not been posted on the website and will be approved at the next meeting.

**3. Update from Nick and Albert**

- a. Parent Information Night took place and there was really big turnout, it was nice to see lots of parents come in. New Face Leaders took parents on tour and answered questions.
- b. Semester 1 has ended, and semester 2 has started successfully. Very few students needed to change courses, so that was good as the staffing is determined last year when students pick their courses. All students have settled in very well.
- c. Articulation Meetings have begun – this where the staff at DT connects with the staff from the elementary feeder schools and gets all necessary information for the grade 8 students starting in September. This helps the school understand the support that is necessary.
- d. New Faces Leader will work with the Grade 8s to assist and help them feel comfortable in high school
- e. The Lunar new year was celebrated with the Line Dance and the school had a packed cafeteria with students. It was a very cool event.
- f. There has been nice weather in Vancouver recently, and teachers are noticing that students are starting to slack or miss signing up and leave the school – however, teachers are catching them and are stopping them and notifying parents. Plea to parents please ask your kids what they are doing in FIT and reinforce them to use this

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time wisely and meet teachers and use this time to their advantage. The older students use this time very well, but the grade 8 and 9 needs corrective behaviour.

- g. School Connects will no longer be available as of this month, the VSB did not renew the contact so parents will no longer receive the automated phone call that their child missed class. However, the school is looking at a way to keep parents informed and now instead of getting a phone call, parents will receive an email informing them of their child's attendance. Please allow 1-2 days for this change to take place. On Tuesday, there is workshop for staff
- h. Feb 22, there is lunch with International Education Students. DT has 40-50 international students, they are adding to school culture and adding positivity to our community. They will be learning and connecting with students and will give these students an opportunity to connect.
- i. Friday, there is a crime stopper presentation for Grade 8's and on Monday it will be presented to the grade 9s. The Crime Stopper Presentation goes over bullying, social media awareness and how to report a crime during FIT. This is targeted to these grades as this where most incidents take place. So, we try to give them these workshops.
- j. March 5 – White Hatter Presentation on digital literacy and internet safety for teenagers. These are for Grade 8s and 9s.
- k. March 7 – the intern will be published in the portal for parents to see how students are performing.
- l. March 5 to 7 there will be the theater performances, it will be advertised in the WAG – please come and support the students.
- m. Spring Break will be March 16 to April 1, this includes the Easter Break

#### **4. PAC Update**

- a. PAC has now allocated 12,044.00 to the teachers,
- b. The Athletic department has asked for more funds, and because PAC had some money aside for emergency – the PAC decided to give the funds to the department this year and increased the budget. The PAC will re evaluate this matter next year.
- c. PAC always pays for the athletic department insurance, and must continue to do so going forward.
- d. The Direct Drive letters went out and were advertised on the WAGS the PAC received \$623.00, thank you parents for your contribution. Parents can always contribute as there will be an option on School Cash Online. This money goes into the PAC operating account and not the Gaming account and will be used for items the Gaming Account does not cover.

#### **5. Roundtable Discussions**

- a. Ramadan starts on March 10 till April 10; many students may be a little tired and some students who attend the nightly prayer they may come to school a little late in the am. Towards the end of the month students are generally tired.
- b. Next Meeting on April 17, 2024 at 5:30pm

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- c. Please NO U-TURNS on Commercial Street and follow the sign, the school does not want to give out tickets but will need to look at doing that if parents don't continue to adhere to the rules.
- d. Have a fun and safe spring break everyone, see you in April!

*Meeting Adjourned – 6:05pm*