

David Thompson Secondary School

PAC Meeting

Date: February 28, 2023

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: None

Secretary: Shazmin Akbanie

Members at Large: Dr. Bashar,

Guests Attending Meeting: 22

Meeting Started 5:40pm

1. Welcome

- a. Welcome to all to tonight's meeting
- b. Apology from Regina in missing last meeting, thanks for exec for carrying the meeting forward.

2. Approval of Minutes from January 2023 by June Liang and seconded by Dr. Bashar

3. Staff Update – Yashoda Reddy

- a. Beginning of January, we had the Trojan invitational after a couple years. A great tournament and lots of positive school spirit.
- b. February – switched from semester 1 to Semester 2
- c. Vancouver School Board has moved forward to continue with the semester system vs the linear system. This was based largely from the feedback of students
- d. Students are doing course planning
- e. Lots of fun events in Feb – Black History Month, Documentary on Anything is Possible, Valentines Day – Student Council put on Match Maker – fun event for a number of years. Time and Effort club had a candy jar guessing game, Feb 22 was pink shirt day, and nail polish painting, keychains were sold with positive messages, exhibit no more about Opioids – exhibition put together by the government.
- f. 8 new student teachers started their practicum at DT this year, they started in the library and are working with other teachers in the field of science, socials, and PE
- g. Pro – D Day teachers focused on planning and implementation of the new Indigenous Studies course which is a requirement for Grade 12's to take this year. This course will be taught during English.

David Thompson Secondary School

PAC Meeting

Date: February 28, 2023

Location: Online via Zoom

4. Principal Update – Nick Akrap

- a. Lots happened in the school this month and lots to happen this year, its nice to see things open up again as everything was online or not available due to COVID. Its great to see students having access to outside presentations and participating in community events.
- b. Theatre Performances happening this week, please come out and support your peers. Tickets can be purchased at the door.
- c. Weekly WAG – week at glance is something new that will be emailed out to parents on a weekly basis
- d. Grade Dates – May 25: Rehearsal, June 1: Grad, June 8: Grad Breakfast, June 23: Prom more information will be coming to parents in a letter/email after spring break.
- e. Opioid Tour was very popular its good for students to have this knowledge
- f. BC Lions came in to present Anti Racism Presentation for Grade 8 and 9 Students. Very good and informative for students.
- g. Ignite Presentations for Grade 10 & 11 tomorrow where students can learn what or why people choose the career they have today, the school will have lawyers, doctors, artists, dentists visit the school and present.
- h. 2 good films presented to students for Black History Month on ReelCanada. These movies are filmed and produced in Canada.
- i. Pink Shirt Day – TLC cards with the code of conducts on them, given out to students who perform/carry the code of conducts well and then names out into a draw to win a gift card. Last week new TLC cards were created for Pink Day – and were given out instead to create a Bully Free Atmosphere.
- j. Breakfast of Champions – (not an honour roll ceremony) students get recognized and nominated in these categories (determination, creative measure, class improvement, leadership and diligence).
- k. Interims will be posted next week – update on how kids are doing in their classes.
- l. Hold and Secure event at the school last week, had some intruders enter the school that were high schooler from another school. They came looking for a specific student and were carrying bear spray. As these students were leaving the school, they sprayed the Bear Spray which made it unsafe for students to leave their classrooms. Therefore, when the 3rd period bell rang, the students were asked to Hold & Secure. This means the students are not allowed to leave the classroom and the school doors are locked so no one can enter the building. Please note that classes are still being taught. The police arrived at the scene right away and the students were apprehended. This was not a lock down and was a hold and secure.
- m. The following week the same student came to the school again, and the student was taken into the office and decided to walk away. There was PA miss announcement made saying that the students should be held for a few minutes before its safe to go home. However, that was not necessary and a proper system has been put into place.
- n. The student is now banned from coming to the property and if seen again, the student can be arrested for trespassing. Police are aware of the incident.

David Thompson Secondary School

PAC Meeting

Date: February 28, 2023

Location: Online via Zoom

- o. All visitors must report to the office as they arrive, if there are any unknown activity students report to staff right away. There is also admin staff at lunch time to monitor the students.

5. Introduce VP – Albert Mann & the Survey

- a. Started in January 2023
- b. Was a student teacher in 1995
- c. Happy to be part of the school and community
- d. School Learning Survey for Grade 4, 7 10 and 12 – this will happen on April 10 and 12 during FIT time. There is also a staff and parent survey for Grade 10 and 12. Its to help inform the Ministry of Education to individuals' schools to help develop policy and guide the student learning. Please take the survey.
- e. We are school district 39.

6. PAC Update

- a. Our treasurer Minh had to leave for a new job in Nanaimo and we wish her all the best.
- b. Is there any parent who would like to be treasurer for PAC – no volunteers raised hands or nominated anyone.
- c. We would like vote in Sheila Tham for Treasurer. – No objection. Sheila Tham Voted in by Dr. Bashar and seconded by Manj.

7. Scholarships

- a. Please speak to the Grade 12 counsellor. Please ask teachers for references and make sure you give teachers at least a week to write you a letter. If there are students that need bursaries please speak to your counsellor or Mr. Mann and he will guide with the application as there is Donor willing to support students.
- b. PAC will provide 2 \$500 scholarships for DT Students

8. Roundtable Discussions

- a. Cannabis Store application that was supposed to open within the 300m school perimeter – the application has been denied.
- b. Please speak to the City if you see something like this happening.

Meeting Adjourned – 6:40pm