

**David Thompson Secondary School**

**PAC Meeting**

**Date:** October 25, 2022

**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:** Minh

**Secretary:** Shazmin Akbanie

**Members at Large:** Dr. Bashar,

**Guests Attending Meeting: 19**

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*Meeting Started 5:30pm*

**1. Welcome**

- a. Welcome to all to tonight's meeting, thank you all for joining us
- b. Thank you making this meeting work, needed to change due to our treasurer being busy.

**2. Approval of Minutes** from November 2022 by Dr. Bashar and seconded By Josef Lam

**3. Principal Update – Nick Akrap**

- a. Happy Birthday to Nicks Mom 😊
- b. Clubs' day was very successful last Friday, and pick a club to be part of and meet the sponsor teacher. Clubs are meeting during lunch or after school. The list of clubs is up on the DT website.
- c. Student Settlement Workers – putting together a Chinese Translation event within the community. Nick will email more information
- d. Lots of Halloween Events happening within the school, and grad trying to fundraise and building community spirit.
- e. Cultural Events – on Monday was Diwale acknowledgement and recognition. There were sweets shared with students and staff members.
- f. Next Month there will parent teacher conferences, mid year report cards will be out on Nov 18. Right after that the online sign up for parent teacher conferences will be open and the conference date is Nov 24. It will on Microsoft Teams and online.
- g. Can always reach out to any teacher anytime, emails are listed on the DT website.
- h. Confirmed teachers who will teaching the BC First Nations 12 course, will also have an English First Nations Course in Grade 11.
- i. Starting next year all students will have the required course taken in order to meet the graduate requirements.

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- j. Odyssey info night was in person for the first time in 3 years, and it was very successful and packed.
- k. UBC & SFU student teachers are in the building at the moment for their practicum.
- l. Collaborative Time is tomorrow – students will be released at 1:42. The school will have a send off or celebration for Mr. Lopez. Collaborative days take place once a month and alternate from early dismissal to a late start.
- m. The New School Growth Plan, the school plan will evolve will align with the new education plan with VSB. Making sure all students feel welcomed and feel that they belong to the school and the community. Over 50% felt welcomed and warm at DT, and of course less than 50% said they felt unsettled., The goal is to make every student feel welcome and safe at the school. These values are being added to the school plan this year. The school is doing a survey with the students to understand better.

#### **4. Roundtable Discussions**

- a. Clubs – have sponsor teachers, if you are concerned about your kids staying after school, you can reach out to the club sponsor teacher to confirm they have a meeting or after school event. Kids are generally safe and with a teacher.
- b. Concerns about the Russia/Ukraine war and if it can affect students' safety – well we have lots of entrance points at the school, all visitors have to sign into the office. Sometimes you have other students visiting but teachers are aware and they address the issue. Mostly, all kids are safe. We don't lock any doors as its unsafe in case there is an emergency, they need to be able exit the building.
- c. Parent Teacher Meetings/Conference will be used online using a link [myappointments.com](https://myappointments.com) and you set up an account, identify your child, and set up a meeting your child's teacher. If you run into any difficulties, you can reach out to Germaine Mar, and she will help you out. You can set up an appointment regardless if you child is doing great or struggling. This is your right to meet the teacher.
- d. Surprise for Nick can be open to 1-2 PAC members, and to the rest of the parents you can send Rick an email.
- e. Grad hoodies will be ordered before the holidays, and Grad photos will be coming up.
- f. AP courses are not currently listed on the website, Nick will look into it. AP courses are offered at DT. Every school is different, DT offers 7-8 AP courses. A grade 10 student can take an AP course, the Grade 12 will have priority over a Grade 10 student. Students should have this conversation with their counsellor and discuss what AP courses they are able to take and select courses. This usually happens in February for the September year.
- g. The Family Portal – every student is given one email address. Suggestion is best to put in a parent's email. As there is one email address connected to the portal. Nick can speak to IT if more parents are concerned. MyEd Family portal – the password can be reset. Students who are late – speak to the teacher with some you can be marked late if you are walking in when the bell rings. Keep communication open with the teachers if you r child is late or absent.

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*Meeting Adjourned – 6:15pm – Next Meeting Nov 24, 2022 at 5pm.*