DAVID THOMPSON SECONDARY SCHOOL

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2026

Meeting date	October 21, 2026
Location / format	online meeting
Chair	Kelvin Fong
Vice-Chair	Manjit Kainth

1. Attendance

Kelly Egilsson — Vice-Principal, Sarah Dianne Ng — School Librarian / Teacher Representative,
Kelvin Fong — PAC Chair, Manjit Kainth — PAC Vice-Chair, Bee Bee Wong — Treasure, Lydia Cheng – Secretary,
Savoy Williams — Vancouver Coastal Health, Support and Connecting Youth Programme
Kathy Lee, Ramraj, and others, total 18 people online joined the meeting

2. Call to Order and Welcome

The Chair welcomed attendees and opened the October PAC meeting. Meeting started at 5:30pm.

3. Chair's Report

- Three students were recognized in connection with a Vancity cheque presentation supporting the food share market: Caitlin (Hunger Bites), Rebecca Liu (Time and Effort), and Agnes Lau (Fellowship).
- Roxley Games made the library's first board-game donation; additional donations were anticipated.
- Nico Yamada of Marpole Safeway donated gifts for visiting exchange teachers and their tour guide.
- The Chair thanked PAC members and parent volunteers for supporting the staff appreciation breakfast.
- The PAC operating account had approximately $600. Donations were requested because some expenses cannot be paid from gaming-grant funds.

4. School Administration Report

Vice-Principal Kelly Egilsson provided updates on recent activities and upcoming events.

Recent activities

- Grade-level assemblies reviewed the code of conduct and behaviour expectations.
- A careers programme assembly was held for Grades 11 and 12 students considering trades pathways.
- New Faces Leaders organized a Grade 8 conference and barbecue.
- The school hosted its sister school, Yokohama Science Frontier Middle School.
- Grade 8 students viewed Screenagers, reinforcing discussions about cellphone and social-media use.
- Truth and Reconciliation Day learning included an interactive foyer display.
- The school held a club fair and Grade 8 student council elections.
- Grade 12 literacy assessment preparation was underway.

Upcoming dates and reminders

- October 22 — Odyssey Programme Information Night.
- October 23 — Provincial professional development day.
- October 29 — Grade 8 pumpkin carving and related club activities.
- November 4 — Grade 12 literacy assessment.
- November 10 — Remembrance Day assemblies.
- November 16 — Block rotation switch to 2-1-4-3.
- Midterm reports were expected during the week of the next PAC meeting and would include grades and comments.
- Parents were encouraged to check their email address in MyEd BC; reports are sent to the address listed there.
- Other planned activities included a student council haunted house, a Mothers Against Drunk Driving presentation for Grades 11 and 12, and a barbecue for Indigenous families.

5. Treasurer / Financial Report

- Gaming grant funds received: approximately $29,000.
- PAC operating account balance: approximately $600.
- The gaming grant application deadline was stated as November 6, 2026.
- The PAC requested reminders to staff to submit applications promptly so grant allocations could be planned.

6. Guest Presentation: Building Bridges Workshop

Savoy Williams from the Support and Connecting Youth Programme, a collaboration between Vancouver Coastal Health and the Vancouver School Board, proposed hosting a Building Bridges workshop for parents and caregivers.

- The workshop is approximately 90 minutes, with two hours reserved for the evening event.
- Topics include substance-use awareness, harm reduction, risk and protective factors, and practical ways to strengthen communication with teens.
- The workshop is free and is intended for parents and caregivers; youth do not attend this session.
- A possible date in the new year was discussed. Savoy offered to provide a poster and registration form for distribution through PAC and school communication channels.
- The Chair asked Savoy to email the PAC chair address so the proposal could be followed up.

7. Student Safety Discussion

- A parent raised concerns about vaping in school washrooms.
- The Vice-Principal said the school's first concern is student health. Responses may include contacting parents and referring students for support or counselling.
- Students are encouraged to report concerns, including anonymously through the ERASE website. Staff monitor washrooms and reinforce expectations for safe, welcoming spaces.

8. Teacher Representative Update

Sarah Dianne Ng introduced her role as the school librarian and teacher representative on the PAC. She noted that teachers would be watching for potential impacts of changes in school-board trustees on classroom conditions, funding, and teacher workload.

9. Adjournment

The Chair thanked attendees and adjourned the meeting at 5:58 pm