

David Thompson Secondary School

PAC Meeting

Date: February 23, 2026

Location: Online via Zoom

Principal: Mr. Nick Akrap

Chair: Regina Singh (successor Manjit Kainth shadowing)

Vice Chair: Manj Mand (successor Kelvin Fong shadowing)

Treasurer: Bee Bee Wong

Secretary: Shazmin Akbanie (successor Jessica Paik shadowing, not in attendance)

Members at Large: Janet Au, Kathy Lee, Cathy Babineau, Judy Gao, Taiwo Afolabi **PLEASE CONFIRM WHO WAS ATTENDING**

Guests Attending Meeting: 13

Meeting Started 6:00 pm

1. **Welcome:** Welcome, tonight's meeting will be led by Regina (PAC Chair).
2. **Approval of Minutes** January meeting minutes approved by Kathy Lee and seconded by Kelvin Fong.
3. **Update from Nick**
 - a. **Articulation Meetings:** Ongoing meetings with feeder elementary schools to support transition of Grade 7 students into Grade 8. Identification of student supports and coordination with counsellors and NFL (New Faces Leaders).
 - b. **Semester 1 Completion & Semester 2 Start:** Semester 1 marks published. Semester 2 began in early February.
 - c. **Course Selection:** Students required to submit course selections this week via MyEd BC. Accurate selections are critical as they determine staffing and which courses will run (minimum 24–25 students required per class).
 - d. **Course Change Evenings:** Held February 2–3. Grade 11–12 students attended February 2; Grade 8–10 students attended February 3 to address timetable conflicts.
 - e. **Interim Reports:** To be published next week. Reports include teacher comments only (no percentages or grades).
 - f. **Student Learning Survey:** Ministry-issued anonymous survey. 85% student completion rate (currently highest among Vancouver schools). Parent survey link to be distributed. Focus areas include belonging, safety, study habits, extracurricular involvement, and substance use trends.
 - g. **Odyssey Program:** 28 offers sent; all accepted. 12 in-catchment students and 18 cross-boundary students confirmed for next year.
 - h. **Lunar New Year Celebration:** Lion dance performance held in cafeteria and hallways; strong student engagement

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- i. **Breakfast of Champions / Heart of a Trojan:** Recognition of students in areas including diligence, creative measure, improvement, class inclusion & leadership, and grit. Transitioning from breakfast format to “Heart of a Trojan” recognition.
 - j. **Grade 8 Hot Dog & Movie Day:** Hosted by NFL; strong participation and positive student feedback.
 - k. **Pink Shirt Day (Feb 26):** School-wide initiative promoting kindness and anti-bullying. Students contributing positive messages to a foyer display.
 - l. **Screenagers Part 2:** Student viewing scheduled for March 2 (mental health and digital device focus). Parent screening scheduled for April 2.
 - m. **Theatre Production:** School production (Alice in Wonderland-style spoof) running Tuesday–Friday; tickets available at the door.
 - n. **Fresh Roots Garden:** External funding discontinued. Program likely ending unless new funding is secured.
 - o. **Cell Phone Policy Reinforcement:** Staff asked to reinforce policy during instructional time and FIT. Introduction of “cell phone hotels” in classrooms to support focus and reduce distractions.
- 4. Grad Updates**
- a. **Graduation Ceremony:** June 3, 2026
 - b. **Prom:** June 19, 2026
 - c. **Winter Formal:** Non-school sanctioned event successfully held. Approximately six parent chaperones. Excellent student behavior. Venue upgrade and full catered meal provided.
- 5. PAC Update**
- a. **AGM:** Schedule for April 16, 2026. Elections to formalize Kelvin Fong (Chair) and Manjit Kainth (Vice Chair). Current Chair will run AGM as per governance procedure
 - b. **Treasurer’s Report:** Reminder Teachers must submit receipts by June 1. Late receipts will not be reimbursed. Treasurer has received limited submissions to date.
 - c. **Japanese Exchange Program:** 15–16 students participating and departing mid March. PAC open to supporting gift for partner school (details pending) but clarification requested regarding cost breakdown for future reference.
- 6. Roundtable Discussions/Questions**
- a. **Camp Choice (Sajac Ranch):** Youth leadership and mental health camp supporting personal growth. Cost approximately \$1,000 per student. Recent gala raised \$30,000 in 10 minutes, funding 30 students. Strong positive testimonials shared. Further information to be explored.
 - b. **Safety Procedures Review:** Clarification provided regarding Hold & Secure vs. Lockdown protocols. Annual drills conducted with VPD. Staff trained in VTRA (Violent Threat Risk Assessment). Reassurance provided regarding school safety procedures.

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7. **Next PAC Meeting** April 16, 2026.

Meeting Adjourned – 7:40 pm