

David Thompson Secondary School

PAC Meeting

Date: October 16, 2025

Location: Online via Zoom

Principal: Mr. Nick Akrap

Vice Principal: Ms. Catherine McLean

Vice Principal: Ms. Jolene Mergens

Staff Liaison: Stephanie Tusi (Grade 10 Counsellor/Teacher Liaison for Today's Meeting)

Chair: Regina Prakash Singh (successor Manjit Kainth shadowing)

Vice Chair: Manj Mand (successor Kelvin Fong shadowing)

Treasurer: Bee Bee Wong

Secretary: Shazmin Akbanie (successor Jessica Paik shadowing)

Members at Large: Janet Au, Taiwo Afolabi, Kathy Lee, Judy Gao, Cathy Babineau, (successor Allie Munaik shadowing)

Guests Attending Meeting: 31

Meeting Started 5:31 pm

1. Welcome

- a. Welcome Everyone to our October PAC meeting. Tonight's meeting will be led by Regina (PAC Chair) alongside Manj (Co-Chair).
- b. Happy Diwali!

2. Approval of Minutes: September minutes approved by Allison Muniak. Seconded by Bee Bee Wong. June 11th meetings minutes were unavailable and will be approved at the next meeting after following up with Shazmin.

3. Update from Stephanie (Grade 8 & 10 Counsellor)

- a. **Screenagers:** Parent viewing on Nov 10, 7PM (Doors open 6:30PM). Student screening on Nov 13. Objective is to encourage family discussion on tech use and self-regulation. Please RSVP by October 29th. Part 2 screening (mental health focused) is planned for Spring 2026.
- b. **Student Resources/Support:** Increasing student struggles with tech addiction, poor sleep and conflicts at home. There is limited public health resources for screen addictions. Counselling team is seeking advocacy support to approach Vancouver Coastal Health for additional youth mental health programming

4. Update from Nick

- a. **Calendar/WAAG:** Please calendar or WAAG for events happening at school. Upcoming Friday Pro-D Day (Provincial wide)
- b. **Collaborative AM/PM:** Monthly (usually 1st Wednesday). Teachers collaborate, students start late (10AM) or leave early (2PM).

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- c. **Grade 8 Election:** Held successfully last Friday elections and newly elected reps are working with student council on spirit week and haunted house for Halloween
- d. **Interims Published:** recently shared (comment based only). Midterm Reports with marks are coming in a month.
- e. **Grad Committee:** Organizing Halloween Movie Night and Boo Bash Dance
- f. **Clubs Day:** Strong turnout, many students joined clubs
- g. **Odyssey Information Night:** October 23 – for parents and prospective students
- h. **Careers Program Assembly:** Grade 10 should attend during FIT
- i. **New Faces Leaders (NFL):** Pumpkin Carving Contest for Grade 8s on October 30
- j. **Literacy 12 Assessment:** November 3-7. Please check Teams to see what day your assessment is. Students wanting to go to UBC will need a 3 or 4. Students may rewrite exam. Mandatory for all Grade 12s.
- k. **Block Rotation:** November 12 schedule changes for all students
- l. **Core Competency Reflection:** Begins November 12, all students complete via Spaces EDU app

5. PAC Update

- a. **PAC Chair (Regina/Manj)**
 - i. Applications to be Reviewed
 - ii. New PAC email has been set up
 - iii. Manj will be leading next month's PAC meeting.
 - iv. We have added Kelvin, Allie, and Manjit as new Members at Large
 - v. Direct Drive – Possibly Nick or Kate can help us add these as an option.
- b. **Treasurer's Report**
 - i. Teacher Appreciation Breakfast – successful event, small expense covered.
 - ii. Gaming Funds Received in September: \$28,340K. Funds available. For upcoming school and PAC-supported initiatives (counselling event, clubs, scholarships)
- c. New Members at Large: Kelvin, Manjeet, and Allison.
 - i. Motion to add new members moved by Manji, Seconded by Kathy and Shazmin

6. Roundtable Discussions/Questions

- a. **Upcoming dates:** Diwali (Oct 20), Halloween (Oct 31), Remembrance Day (Nov 11)
- b. **Applications:** new email will be updated. No new grant applications have yet been received; likely some may have been sent to the old PAC email. Requested that Nick remind teachers to use the new email address for future funding applications.
- c. Direct Drive: Discussions to reactive online parent donation option on School Cash Online to collect parent contributions for grad scholarships and school activities.
 - i. BeeBee/Nick to contact Kate about enabling the online donation link.
 - ii. Nick to include a notice in the weekly WAG once link is live
- d. Clarification new PAC email is a Gmail account and all grant forms and PDFs will be updated to reflect the new email address.

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- e. Regina to check PAC mailboxes for any paper grants submissions
- 7. **Next PAC Meeting** Next PAC Meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2025. Nick will circulate the agenda and minutes before the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned – 6:12pm