GES PAC Meeting Minutes – February 2025

(Meeting in person at GES Library)

*Date: February 11th 2025 5:30 PM*

*Present: Brit, Robyn, Melissa, Sally, Lynda, Sandra, Emily, Crystal, Jude, Yi*

*Regrets: Ryan*

1. Welcome, Introductions and Land Acknowledgement (2 minutes)
2. Approve Agenda for tonight’s meeting. (2 minutes) First Melissa, Second Sandra.
3. Approve minutes from the last PAC meeting (*January 14th 2025*). (2 minutes) First Sally, Second Melissa.
4. Reports
	1. Treasurer Report – Sandra.

Ryan is away, so tabling Exec Budget review.

* 1. Principals Report – Lynda.

Showed us the school growth plan, a living document that outlines school strengths and stretches. Document looks at opportunities to connect and facilitate belong among students. Includes vision for the school and connections with the core competencies. Data collected from MDI, and student surveys.

Q to GES staff: How can we at the PAC help to support the growth plan, and facilitate belonging in the school?

* 1. DPAC Report - Emily.

DPAC report from Jan 23, 2025 minutes:

1. Suggestion made from DPAC to inquire at our individual PAC meetings about school budget/growth plans as this is budget consultation feedback time.
2. Regulations in Circulation: Honoraria and Health and Safety Regulations circulating to February 19th, 2025 . To provide feedback from your PACs to the board, regarding these circulations, SD46 ask that we use the online of the Draft regulation response or the fillable version and send to questions@sd46.bc.ca
3. <https://sd46.bc.ca/district-information/board-of-education-and-governance/policies-bylaws-and-regulations/regulations/>
4. DPAC has asked SD46 for support in bringing an Advocacy Training 101 program to our district’s families and caregivers. The goal is to empower parents and caregivers to engage more effectively and strategically in the educational process, enhancing the partnership between families, schools, and the district. Stay tuned for how this is or isn’t supported.
5. Jan 30th Understanding Dopamine: Exploring Problematic Screen Use in a Dopamine Saturated Society workshop with Matty Devenish, funded by DPAC and hosted by KES at the Early Years Centre in Sechelt. It was well attended and well received. If anyone is interested in content I took some notes and am happy to share.
6. BCCPAC Conference and AGM will be in Prince George from May 23—25 2025.
7. Ombudsperson investigating Exclusion of Students from BC Public Schools: Parents and caregivers whose children have been affected by school exclusions are encouraged to contribute their experiences through a confidential questionnaire.  If you or your family have been impacted by school exclusions, we encourage you to participate by April 1, 2025. You can [complete the questionnaire](https://bccpac.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=5ce4c360a02f3e3d90abca386&id=4900d0ed42&e=2e30429f75) or choose to speak directly with an Ombudsperson investigator by providing your contact information in the questionnaire.
8. From Healthy Schools Committee: Reminder about the availability of the SCRD Life Passes (leisure inclusion for everyone). Applications are available for individuals and families and SD46 is a referring agency: <https://www.scrd.ca/financial-assistance/>
9. Up to 5 DPAC members were invited to participate in the SD46 Pro-D Day sessions on Friday Feb 7th, 2025. This was a lovely invite from the SCTA president, Allison Liddicoat. Good opportunity to learn and network.
10. I’m going to be handing over DPAC rep position after this school year. If anyone is interested, or wants to learn more, please reach out! It’s been a great experience for the last 4 years.
11. Hot Lunch updates – Sally and Melissa have created a calendar with the PAC hot lunch meals and order dates on it.
12. Systems for Communication discussion (How to get the word out to families: Calendar, Lisa Email) - Will move forward with sending out a PAC calendar. Action: Have a print-out copy pf the calendar by the office. Would like teachers to be able to add items to the calendar – eg. class fundraisers.
13. Fundraising/ Upcoming Events – Melissa

Spring Market will be April 5th. Students $10 a table, Parents $20, and outside vendors $30. New and Used items indoors and outdoors, with a PAC concession.

?Movie Night? - will be postponed until next year

Family Fun Day – for Primary classes – get out gym equipment, and family potluck… ) – Robyn to look at dates, and move forward or table until after Spring Break.

Spring School Clean up and Beautification - around April 22nd Earth Day Tuesday – Tabled discussion and action items until next meeting - (Emily will volunteer but unable to make the next meeting).

1. Letter from Parent – full discussion tabled until next meeting. Letter raised question of how PAC, and school community can support students during recess and lunch to feel more included.

Linda – in the past have set an EA in the wolf den to run indoor programs, but at times not well attended, and kept that EA from being outside with the larger numbers.

Q: Can a parent run a club? Yes, with criminal record check.

Ideas included parent volunteers coming in to help run activities, or sports.

Tabled to future months:

May 5th – Teacher Appreciation lunch

End of May – Active Transportation week

Grade 7 Grad dinner / ceremony

Sports Day

1. School Store brainstorm - tabled

Meeting adjourned: 7:01 PM

Next meeting: March 11th 5:30 PM 2025 (GES Library)