

# Douglas Road Elementary PAC Meeting

NOV 18, 2025 / 6:30 PM / IN-PERSON & ONLINE

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

## Attendees

Principal - Nadia Volpe

Chairperson - Abby Pond

Vice Chair - Jenny Wong and Nicole Jappy

Treasurer - Jenny Wong

Secretary - Rachel Burch

DPAC representative – CJ Liu & Brandon Pond

Munch-A-Lunch and Events Coordinator – Christina Yee and Abby Pond

Social Media Support - Abby Pond & Rachel Burch

Bottle Recycling Assistant - Abby Pond & Nicole Sprauer

## Absent

Head Teacher - Ms Yiu

Chairperson/Bottle Recycling Assistant - Nicole Sprauer

DPAC representative - Tim Burch

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 9339954814833

Passcode: Qv4agkgKzfT24Gm3E8

## Agenda

### Land Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the land on which we live, work, and play is the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθkwəy̓ əm (Musqueam),

Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səjílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.

### Principal's Update - Nadia Volpe

- SFU Hockey team came to school today to teach and play indoor hockey with the students. They are coming again on Thursday (Nov. 20). They have told us that if families are interested in going to any games, they have left information with us for how to do that.
- Some upcoming events and activities include: Winterfest on December 11, tennis at the end of December, and dance in January. Cost of tennis and dance is still being considered.
- Staff Update - Sabrina Bharaj will be training with Ms. Sandberg at the end of December and will begin in January as the new secretary.

- The fire alarm that went off twice earlier this month was due to a faulty heat sensor issue in the gym under the crawl space. It has now been repaired.
- A group of teachers want to do a school garden initiative.
  - They will move the garden bins from the back to the front.

### Updates from PAC:

- Winterfest:
  - We need twelve Grade 6/7 student volunteers to help with stamp stations
  - What is the teacher's involvement?
    - We will find out more after the faculty meeting tomorrow (Nov. 19)
  - Each class will be decorating one station. Need supplies?
    - We will put out a call by the end of the week for craft supplies to be donated by Monday, Nov. 24.
    - Debating whether to have glitter as a craft supply or not.
  - We are also asking for donations for the prizes for the event.
    - We are looking for toys (new, in package; used toys will not be accepted) or giftcards.
    - Abby has also been approaching businesses regarding donations.
      - BCAA donated a \$100 giftcard.
    - Prizes in the form of gift baskets?
  - We did not get a gaming license in time, so all prizes will be by participation by merit.
  - Another school is doing a bigger, community-wide Winterfest. Abby and Brandon might go to get ideas for next year.
  - Menu:
    - We are trying to see if a drop down menu on Munch A Lunch is possible for combo and donation options.
    - Abby's friend Dan has experience working in a kitchen and has volunteered to run the kitchen for this event.
- School Recycling – Once per week volunteer
  - Return-It Recycling Fundraiser has been running for about a year now though the Burnaby Regional Recycling depot on Still Creek Avenue. Through this recycling fundraiser, we have raised around \$1000.
    - Milk cartons from the lunch program have been a huge contributor.
  - We are looking for volunteers to help collect recycling and take it to the Depot.
    - Friday's would be the best day to come, so it doesn't sit over the weekend.
    - The process:
      - There are three places in the school to collect recycling from
      - At the depot, you park in the Fast Drop spot
      - You provide the attendant with our phone number and give them the recycling.
    - A notice will go out soon asking for a rotation of volunteers to help with this.

- We are also wanting to bring back Monday collections - where families bring their own recycling from home.
- More clarity on the \$15,000 Affordability Fund we lost?
  - It was a little under \$15k for the past two years combined.
  - Each district was allocated a specific amount of funds, and from there, it was distributed to the different schools.
  - It was created to help offset the cost for things such as school supplies, class field trips, school sports or other activities, etc. for families who might struggle with these expenses.
  - How the PAC can help bridge that gap:
    - Continue fundraising for certain events/activities as we've been doing.
    - The Beedie Foundation funds will also help fill this gap.
- Rescheduling movie night to the end of Jan/Feb.
  - Considering combining the February treat sale with the movie night
  - Nadia will look into booking the gym for February 13 (Friday) or February 26 (Thursday) .

#### **Additional Discussions:**

- DPAC Meeting Update from Brandon Pond
  - Please see Brandon's notes at the end of minutes.
- Bulletin Board vs Sandwich Board
  - If we do decide to purchase one of these, Nadia will acquire chains to secure them to the fence for us.
  - Talked about getting a vinyl poster for PAC with a QR code on it to attach to the fence.
  - Also discussed the possibility of adding a page with a QR code in it to the school's planner
    - This would be additional to something else, as not every class uses the planner.
- School-Wide Field Trip
  - Need to decide what we are doing. If we want to go to Otter Co-Op, we will need to finalize by January, so everything is prepped and booked in time.

**Upcoming Dates:**

**Pancake Breakfast:** December 8, 2025

**WinterFest:** December 11, 2006

**Valentine's Treat Sale** - Feb 13, 2026

**Movie Nights:** Jan/Feb and April 10, 2026

**Walkathon and Treat Sale** - May 29, 2026

**Sports Day:** June 13, 2026

**School Wide Field Trip:** June 19, 2026

**Year End Assembly:** June 23, 2026

**Leaving Ceremony:** June 24, 2026

## DPAC Meeting - Nov. 17

- Speaker Kristin Schnider (Chair of Board of Education)
  - Updates on various efforts being made in regards to funding at the Municipal, Provincial and Federal level
  - Some Q&A
- Speaker Lucky Saini (District Principal, Education and Technology, Burnaby School District)
  - Presentation on AI as it pertains to the school district and the use and education of it with the students. Included topics on Ethics, Privacy and Digital Literacy to help our children navigate this growing technology.
- Approval of Minutes
- A movement to have more round table discussions during DPAC meetings so we can have less rigidity and more community to help us find common issues to bring to the table.
  - APPROVED.
  - Starting next meeting.
- Point
  - the Meeting Behavior Policy did not get emailed out early enough to vote on it. This is a null point as the minutes are being changed to reflect that there will not be a vote on it today, as it is going into further review.
- Minutes Approved
- Constitution and Bylaws (C&B)
  - Speaker Melanie Wilkins-Ho
    - She helped Alpha, as well as a non-profit, redevelop their C&B and has some legal training
  - The C&B was last updated in 2011 and contains many gaps in terms, financial matters and election procedures
  - Old DPAC C&B dictated preference of Reps (inappropriate), considered school size (unfair), required past Chair to remain Exec. (unsustainable), and gave too much power to the Execs.
  - It is not worth adjusting the old document, so a whole new C&B will be voted on that will help DPAC run smoother
  - New C&B will clean up formatting, as well as give more tools and power to the member base
  - She went over the legal structure and provincial legislation that created PACs and DPACs
  - Major Takeaway: by legislation that allows PAC to operate, we are only allowed to nominate one DPAC representative; the vote must be a secret ballot vote and must be voted on once a year. All other positions can have longer terms based on our Douglas Road PAC C&B, but the DPAC representative is specifically singled out
  - IMPORTANT: the DPAC needs to vote the C&B in before May or we will be under the old structure going into the new year; we must keep that vote on track
- Meeting Behavior Policy
  - As noted in the objections, the Executives have admitted to it being too punitive and heavy handed; they will review and send out a new document for voting

- DPAC Update and Report
  - This was mostly skipped over as time was running long
  - The main point of topic was the DPAC survey and making sure it was sent out to all parents
- Show and Tell
  - Parkcrest Elementary invites everyone to their Winter Market on November 29
  - Burnaby Mountain invites everyone to buy tickets to their first musical this year, 'High School Musical'
  - Alpha's boys volleyball team made the provincials - the girls team almost always does, and they are proud of their boys for stepping up the competition
  - The Meeting Head reminded everyone that some of the best ways to maintain inclusive education is through picture books and they can be a good tool at many ages; he gave out a copy of *The Dark Cloud*
- Free Programs
  - Gilpin is using Kind Minds from Kelti Foundation; this is a free program that is available to schools that encourages conversations about emotional stability and mental health
  - Another school mentioned a free program called Scwist; it has workshops available and helps connect to different speakers and presenters with the costs being covered
  - Brantford Elementary added that the Canucks offer a free equipment offer for Floor Ball equipment
  - The DPAC will try to add these to their Resources website and would like to collect more suggestions like this and keep it on their webpage so we can all let out School Administrations know about them
- Meeting Adjourned