

Douglas Road Elementary PAC Meeting

2026 MARCH 10 / 6:30 PM / ONLINE ONLY

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Attendees

Nadia Volpe - Principal

Abby Pond - Chairperson / Munch-A-Lunch & Events Coordinator / Social Media Support

Nicole Sprauer - Chairperson

Jenny Wong - Vice Chair / Treasurer

Nicole Jappy - Vice Chair

Rachel Burch - Secretary / Social Media Support

Christina Yee - Munch-A-Lunch & Events Coordinator

Absent

DPAC representatives – CJ Liu, Brandon Pond & Tim Burch

Join the meeting now:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/21306393336278?p=4gFGcF6k6bWu1EF7YU>

Agenda

Land Acknowledgements

The Burnaby School District would like to acknowledge and thank the Coast Salish Nations of Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh, and Squamish, on whose traditional territory we teach, learn, and live.

Principal's Update - Nadia Volpe

- Had a good day with the snowy weather
- Recently went over fire safety protocol with the students
- The student learning survey
 - Was previously for grade 4, 7, and 10 families
 - Now is open to grade 4 and 7 students and families of all grades
- Information about illness protocols went out in the last newsletter
 - Let school know about absences, especially if related to sickness (don't need in-depth details), so the school can monitor
- An application was put in for Edmonds pool for the Year End trip for either June 18th or 19th
 - A tentative application was also put in for June 4th and 5th, in case the other dates aren't available

Updates from PAC:

- Valentine's Treat Sale Profit - Not as busy as previous sales, but \$230 is still great!
 - Sales were probably affected by both the rain and the fact that the treat sale fell so close to Valentine's Day when students were already getting a lot of treats in other ways
 - Next year, we might move the treat sale
 - Maybe to the week before Valentine's Day
 - Maybe to pink shirt day
- Application for Burnaby Playground Development - Jenny prepared - to be sent March 13
 - This is for the Indigenous Garden Project
 - Needs to be sent in by Friday, March 13th at noon, and is on a first come, first serve basis
 - The application asks them to match the funding we already have
- Primary Day of Music participation postponed
 - Primary Day of Music operates on a volunteer basis every year
 - This year, we didn't know where we would be in terms of music teachers
 - Mrs. Kwok has extended her LOA, but should be back by September
 - Our current two music teachers have now been confirmed for the remainder of the school year
- Zootopia 2 Movie Night rescheduled to April 10th - Are we still good with this movie?
 - Last movie night was canceled due to the increase of illness in the school
 - Zootopia 2 is still the chosen movie
 - A popcorn maker has not been ordered yet, but a specific one has been chosen and we have funds for it from the recycling funds
 - Munch-A-Lunch
 - We will stick with pizza
 - Discussed when to open MAL
 - Didn't think a lot of people would remember to order over Spring Break
 - But after Spring Break is over, with Good Friday and Easter Monday off, it doesn't leave a lot of time for people to order
 - Decided to have it open during Spring Break and to send out a notice before hand and reminders during Spring Break
 - Order Cut-off: Good Friday (April 3rd)
- How are movies chosen in class for students? Age rating is sometimes not followed.
 - Discussed how the movies for music class are watched due to a reward-based program

- Several movies have been shown to students younger than the intended audience
- Rachel spoke with the music teacher earlier today and asked her to let her know what movies are being watched beforehand, so she can decide if its appropriate for her kids
- Nadia noted that this was a good thing to look into
- Walkathon Flyers after Spring Break. **New Goal \$3500!**
 - We discussed how we didn't think a trip to Otter Co-Op was a good idea prize-idea due to cost, distance, etc.
 - The sundae bar we did last year is still the best option
 - The kids enjoyed it, it's cost effective, and it's easy for everyone to facilitate
 - Discussed whether Eliza will be monitoring funds raised somewhere visible
 - Last year, Mrs. Toy and Mrs. Mattu monitored the funds
 - Eliza is fine to do this this year
 - Discussed how in previous years Melanie would send home a flyer with each student
 - We requested to make our own take-home instruction sheet with School Cash Online directions
 - Rachel will make Flyers and IG post
 - Discussed making an announcement or possible handing out flyers about the Walkathon at the movie night
- New playground equipment 3 options to bring to the next meeting
 - Discussed the idea/need to have something specific we're raising money for - along with the amount - to show families a tangible need
 - We've been raising money for new playground equipment
 - Discussed narrowing down playground equipment to three options and letting parents vote on what we want to raise funds for
 - Nadia will get measurements for the empty area of the playground, so we can narrow down options more efficiently
 - Discussed what the funds PAC raises are used for in general
 - We use a lot of the funds for what teachers need in classrooms, field trips, dances, buses, extracurricular activities, etc.
 - We always have a contingency for things we may need
 - The budget information is available for parents to see at any point
 - Discussed having a binder or folder with this information readily available
- Track & Field: Do you need support this year? Canopy location.
 - One meet is on May 16th (at Swangard) and one is on May 23rd
 - Whether canopies are needed will depend on what the weather is like
 - Nadia will talk to the coaches, and they can be in touch with Abby or Nicole

- Walkathon Treat Sale: Freezies, cookies, chips, hot dogs, popcorn?
 - Discussed whether to do Costco hotdogs again this year
 - Decided we will decide this closer to the Walkathon
 - We will do popcorn, since we'll have the popcorn machine
 - Freezies are always popular, so we should have those again as well
- Year end Field Trip at Edmonds Splash Park 18 or 19th
 - See Nadia's notes on this
 - Nadia will ask Burnaby Parks and Rec regarding coming to do face painting
 - Discussed the idea of having a food truck - maybe White Spot or a donut truck
 - These usually have a minimum spend protocol
 - Wondered if these food trucks would be open to the public, and if so, if those purchases would go toward that spending amount
 - Nicole's husband's friend owns a potato truck - maybe she could ask if he would be available
 - Last year, the meal program lunch was sent on the Field Trips for students who were on it
 - Could do pizza or subway - something easy to transport
 - Discussed the idea that maybe this year, even the students who aren't on the lunch program can opt in for this day, or have a similar option
 - Nadia will look into this and get back to us
- Grad Ceremony
 - A parent reached out to Ms Bromley about grad preparations
 - PAC has allocated \$300 toward the grade 7 students
 - Little wooden grad caps are made for them
 - After the leaving ceremony, the school provides flowers, pizza, drinks, and cake from Costco for both the students and families
 - All of this comes out of school funds and is somewhere between \$300-\$500, though probably usually closer to \$300-\$350
 - If more wanted to be done than the above –
 - The grade 7 parents and guardians could create a sub-committee and operate under the umbrella of PAC
 - A plan would have to be created that can be done consistently from year to year, not just for this one year
 - If fundraising is done, it'd have to be for something specific, and, again, something that can be done again from year to year
 - There are on average about 30 grade 7 students

Additional Discussions:

- Upcoming PAC meeting dates:
 - April 14
 - May 12
 - June 16 (AGM)
- Update on Garbage Situation
 - The issue fluctuates - some teachers bring their classes out regularly to help pick up trash, while others sign up on a rotation or do it during recess
 - Two classrooms have taken charge of bringing two small trashcans out
 - One is placed by Ms. Mathys' classroom and one by Ms. Carlyle's classroom
- Pink Shirt Day
 - The school had a pink shirt assembly
 - Unfortunately, there wasn't time to invite parents to it
 - The primary's did a "Wrinkle In Your Heart" activity in class - the more mean words were said, the more they crumbled a paper heart; when they tried to straighten it out again, it was hard to do so, and the wrinkles (the effect of the words) were still there
- Who Shovels the Playground and Steps on Snow Days?
 - The school will generally put down salt, not shovel the snow
 - The district has a snow plan in place for schools, and if necessary for safety reasons, a principal (Nadia, in our case) will shovel
 - If the stairs are in too bad of condition, they are usually closed off
- Has An Artist Been Chosen for Front Facade?
 - Not yet; there are some new rules in place regarding murals on buildings
 - It has to go through an approval process, which usually takes about three months, and it has to go through the board
 - The Garden Project will probably be done in phases, and this would be one of the last phases done, most likely\
- Other Garden Project Discussion:
 - Nadia checked - PAC can purchase bins elsewhere if they want, but if they are purchased through the district, there's a GST rebate
 - We can do rubberized ground, but before anything could get underway, we would need to check to see if there's any wires, pipes, etc. under that section; once that is known, we can begin moving forward
 - It was asked whether this was something that could be done this year or if it'd be next summer
 - It depends on the cost/PAC fundraising
 - Maybe at the next PAC meeting, we can look more at the budget and/or come up with a yearly plan

- DPAC Meeting
 - See Tim's notes at end of minutes

Upcoming Dates:

1. **Walkathon and Treat Sale** - May 29, 2026
2. **Track & Field** - May 16, 2026 and May 23, 2026
3. **Sports Day:** June 13, 2026
4. **School Wide Field Trip:** June 19, 2026 (or TBD)
5. **Year End Assembly:** June 23, 2026
6. **Leaving Ceremony:** June 24, 2026

DPAC Meeting - February 18, 2026

- General Meeting Notes
 - Amended budget mid-fiscal financial update
- Purpose of the meeting
 - Looking at current year budget - looking back at first half of the school year and where we are looking to land by the end of the school year
- Flattering Enrollment Growth
 - Structural deficits last year was 4.8 million; \$966,000 this year
- 1-2% = 3.5-4 million reserve budget for building surplus operation reserve as mandated by government
- International education - does that influence the budget?
- The rising absence costs the teachers
- Is there a detailed breakdown available of where the money actually goes? I.E. How much each program, initiative, building, etc. costs to help parents understand how/where the money goes
 - This comes at the end of the year and can be accessed on the website
- Attended Management Confidence program
 - How to help teachers stay at work / be able to be at work
- Next Meeting: April 15, 2026
 - GM meeting about what programs have been cut
 - All are welcome to attend and ask questions
- DPAC is trying to find out how to create a newsletter, as there is a broad call to action for parents to advocate for more funding
 - Ideas for spreading and collecting news and information:
 - WhatsApp chat - to collect data
 - Potentially ask district to send emails
 - Post newsletter on the DPAC's website