

Minutes of the Kitsilano Secondary Parent Advisory Council (PAC) General Meeting - Online Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm with 6 participants and 2 guests

PRESENT:

PAC Executive:

Tina Pfeifer (Treasurer), Ishi Dinim (DPAC Rep), Kerry Kenwood (Secretary), Jennifer Sanchez (Newsletter), Jana Tesar (IT/website), Chris Abrams (Arts Liason)

Members:

none

Guests:

Benita Kwon (School Principal), Carol-Anne MacMillan (Teacher Rep)

PAC Executive regrets: Jessica Qui (International Liason), Monika Marcovivi (Social & Events), Maureen Campbell (Social Media), Patricia Ceron (Social & Events)

We acknowledge with gratitude that we live, work, play, and learn on traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved: Ishi Dinim

Seconded: Chris Abrams

APPROVED

2. Approval of last meeting minutes (Jan 27)

Moved: Chris Abrams

Seconded: Tina Pfeifer

APPROVED

3. Welcome and Introduction

What is the purpose of the PAC?

The purpose of the PAC is to represent parents with the goal of enhancing the education and well-being of students in Kitsilano Secondary School.

We volunteer to enhance the education for students by allocating funds to extracurricular activities, as well as hosting meetings and webinars to keep parents informed on post-secondary choices and other challenges.

Introduction of PAC Executive members:

- Tina - PAC Chair/ Treasurer
- Ishi - DPAC Rep
- Kerry - Secretary/ Athletics
- Maureen - Social Media

- Jessica - International Student Liaison
- Jana - IT Website
- Patricia - Social and Events
- Chris - Arts Liaison
- Jennifer - Newsletter

Openings on the PAC committee:

- Co-Chair
- Treasurer
- What's Next
- Athletics
- Special Events
- Member at Large

Interested in joining? Please email kitspac@hotmail.com (time commitment is about 3 hours a month, role depending).

4. School Updates

Student Council President - Aiden Chandler

Not present

Teacher report – Carol-Anne MacMillan

1. Drama (Mike Waterman)

Senior production ran from February 17 - 20th. Two shows, *Almost Maine* and *Lovestruck*, for two nights each. 30 student actors, 20-30 tech/crew/box office working behind the scenes. They all did an amazing job! Auditions for Spring ensemble show *Shakespeare in Love* are this week. Thanks!

PS: Ms. Lindsay and me (Ms. McMillan) went to the final *Almost Maine* production on the Feb 20, and it was FANTASTIC. The set design, the lighting; everything was so "profess". Everyone one was so well rehearsed, and their full-on adult characters were entirely believable. Shout out in particular to Quentin Cross and his partner for taking "real hits" to the head with an ironing board!

2. Hockey

A group of students participated in the Ross Cup for Senior Boys Hockey Feb. 18 to 20 in Mill Bay, B.C. The Kits Hockey Team didn't win any games, but was well supported by Community Coaches (and Kits Grad) George Beretanos and Richard Gee as well as Teacher Sponsors, Anna MacRae and Dave Sabourin. We had fun and the Kits parent Community really supported this! Thank you!!

3. Math Dept. (Scott Mullen)

We are starting a bike repair club in the next few weeks. It will be after school and focused on teaching skills to help maintain, tune and repair bikes. Spread the word to the PAC meeting for us!

4. Socials (Jonah Eckert)

A group of 6 Grade 10s are competing in the Regional International History Bowl competition (at U-Hill). We qualified for the nationals last month!

5. PE Dept.
Indoor track meet – March 5 and 6, 2026, a perennial favourite! Competition will be, as usual, FIERCE!!
6. Third annual door-decorating contest
Held today (Feb 24). This is generally fiercely competitive, but I haven't heard who won yet!
7. Black History Month activities
A variety of teachers offered BHM learning during FIT times throughout the month, including:
 - Sarah Garth, cinematographer for *Black Barbie* (documentary, currently on Netflix), discussed her work with several of Ms. McMillan's English New Media 11 classes on Feb 12 during Period 3 and FIT. This was arranged by TOC extraordinaire, Kirsten Rusko, who knows and works with Ms. Garth.
 - **Krystle Dos Santos**, singer (R&B and Soul), performed in the theatre during 3rd block on Feb 18.
 - BHM film festival during FIT on February 20.
 - Mr. Stevenson hosted a "Woman in Motion" presentation during FIT on Feb 23 and 24 "**Exploring the Life of Nichelle Nichols Uhara of Star Trek!**"
 - **Coming up:** Jamaican patty sales during lunch on Thursday, Feb 26. A STUCO and BHM Committee co-pro! Thank you, Elbo Patties!
 - **In early March**, Ms. McMillan, in the English First Peoples 12 class, will be exploring personal stories and documentaries from various **Black-Indigenous** communities across Canada.
8. Senior Winter Formal – planned by Grad Council
Was on Feb 12 and 234 seniors attended - It went very well! Activities like:
 - Dancing - Just Dance videos to help get people dancing
 - Photo booth – props, got photos on the spot as well as were texted to them

Principal's Report – Benita Kwon

1. Graduation Status Update
[Graduation Status Update](#) reports were published in [MyEducation BC](#) for all grades 10-12 students on February 20, 2026. The [Graduation Status Update](#):
 - tells you and your child about the different pathways to graduation in BC
 - shows your child's progress in completing all the courses and assessments they need to graduate
 - helps your child select courses
 - makes you and your child know earlier about any possible problems with graduation
2. Semester 2 Interims
Semester 2 interims will be published on Friday, March 6. Reminder that if parents have any questions about the class and/or child's progress, that they can contact the teacher at anytime.
3. Student Core Competencies Self-Reflections + Goal Setting
All students in grades 8-12 completed self-reflections on core competencies and set goals in October and January. Parents can view their child's reflections and goals by asking their child to log into their SpacesEDU account. Students will complete their last two self-reflections/goal setting in April and June.

4. School Nurse

Sarah Ruthig is Kitsilano's school nurse. She is here every other Tuesday at lunch to support students with public health services and questions about general health and wellness, immunization, sexual health, harm reduction, navigating the healthcare system.

5. Ministry of Education Student Learning Survey

Grades 10, 11 and 12 students will be completing the Student Learning Survey in classes the week of February 23-April 17. Parents of grades 10, 11 and 12 students and staff will be invited to complete the Ministry of Education Student Learning Survey by **Friday, May 1**.

- Survey Link: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm
 - Go to "Parents" and use the Direct Access login where no password is required.
 - Under "District" select *39 Vancouver*
 - Under "School" select *Kitsilano Secondary*.

6. Questions about current and past items

In Career Life Education 10 – what is taught in the class (is mandatory)?

- A lot about careers and life skills
- Job searching
- Making a resume
- How to manage life after school
- Often have speakers from different careers come in
- Encourage kids not to rely solely on course work, but to also explore on their own

Ishi mentioned that there are resources out there to help identify your career path – helpful links:

<https://careerdiscoveryquizzes.workbc.ca/>

<https://www.workbc.ca/plan-career/explore-careers/career-profiles>

5. PAC Committee Reports

Treasurer – Tina

PAC funding this year:

- BC Gaming Funds = \$37,220
- Donations received as of Feb 23 = \$15,894.08 (thank you!)
 - Suggested donation per student was \$100

Last school year (2024/2025) donations received = \$30,369. Donations quite a bit less this year.

DPAC - Ishi

Previous DPAC Chair is currently on a leave as is the Secretary. The DPAC was left in a bit of a scramble (website/digital presence was inaccessible for example). However, there is a new Chair and Secretary now so things are getting back up and running. This change has been positive and the committee is very cohesive. DPAC welcomes anyone to participate.

Athletics - Kerry

1. Winter sports wrapping up. Some things to note:

- Grade 9 girls basketball got 3rd place at Provincials
- Grade 9 boys made Provincials which starts this week at Kits

- Senior boys basketball are headed to Provincials
- Girls Ice Hockey are in playoffs right now

2. Spring sports are starting up:

- Track and Field
- Girls Softball
- Girls Soccer
- Grade 8/9 Boys Volleyball
- Badminton
- Ultimate
- Rugby
- Golf
- Tennis

Check out the Kits Athletics Instagram for updates!

Arts - Chris

1. Theatre Department

- Senior Production by the Kitsilano Theatre Company:
 - "Love Struck" - Feb. 17th and 19th
 - "Almost Maine" - Feb. 18th and 20th
- Other theatre and film productions, dates TBA
- Kitsilano Showboat
 - TBD, sometime in June
 - Mr. A.J. has a Showboat performance in the works, further details will come out soon

2. Music Department

- Friday Morning Music:
 - Starting this Friday & continuing every week or every few weeks until the end of June
 - Contact John Wood if you or your band are interested in playing for ten minutes or so before school in the atrium
- Dog & Pony Show:
 - Tentative date sometime in April/May
 - Is a display of musical talent that takes place during the Grade 7 tour of the school.
 - Will be run in coordination with Link Crew.
 - Tour groups will enter and exit the music room quickly, so just need short snippets of really good songs to inspire young students to join the program.
- Final Concert:
 - Date: June 17th
 - Want ALL of our talent to be performing in the Final Concert.
 - Will be a celebration of all the improvement we've made over this year, showcasing FUSE, CME, and everyone else who elevates the program.
- Café Night:
 - Unknown date
 - Idea is for some kind of fundraiser night where students can sell baked goods while we play music in the background.
 - would require small groups of musicians who can play some nice background music.

3. Fine Arts

- Arts Night 2 – tentatively scheduled for the last Wed of May
 - Invite grade 7 families as well
- Dog & Pony Show – fine arts studios also open during the event for people to see work and ask questions.
- Café Night – fine arts also involved with small displays.
- Ongoing Art Displays
 - Art Charettes (shorter art explorations/activities) and work from the Life Drawing club monthly challenges.
 - Saving the major projects for Fine Arts Night.

Newsletter - Jennifer

Newsletter typically goes out at the end of the month after the PAC meetings (Feb issue, this Friday) with updates on PAC activities, a link to PAC meeting minutes, student activities, stuff around school, student wellbeing topics, etc.

Anything you would like in the newsletter, please email Jennifer Sanchez at jennifersalden@gmail.com.

6. Other Business

Vaping at school

Jana suggested to include information about the dangers of vaping in the student wellbeing section of newsletter. This led to a discussion about kids vaping in bathrooms and at school.

- School administration is doing what they can and it has diminished quite a bit (kudos Mr. Godfrey!). Lots of bathroom checks done by Administration.
- Ms. Kwon explained the consequences if students are caught vaping - vapes are confiscated, they talk with them, educate them about the harms, etc. – this has made a difference, but is still a problem though
 - is difficult to detect because vapes are small (the size of a stick of gum) and the smell is deceiving (different flavours/sweet smells)
- The chemicals in the vapes are harmful – don't know the extent of the health issues yet – and you can put THC in the vapes.
- A possible solution to get vaping out of the bathrooms was suggested – to create a space outside where students could freely vape (like school “smoke hole” back in the day)
 - Not sure how feasible this would be at Kits – not a lot of outside space for this, appearance to neighbours, garbage/cleanup, etc.
 - Ishi shared a resource link from a DPAC meeting (<https://www.mcs.bc.ca/>) - another school in the VSB has actually made an outside vape space and it seems to be working.

Use of cellphones in school

It is not permitted to use cell phones in school at all. Last year school staff noticed that kids attempted to get around this by signing out of class to go to the bathroom (they were allowed to take their valuables with them for safe-keeping) and using phones there. This year, a policy was created which is if students are caught using phones in school, their phone is taken away and kept in office for the rest of the day. The threat of losing their phone all day has seemed to really help.

7. Adjournment

Adjourn at 8:04 pm

Moved: Ishi Dinim

Seconded: Chris Abrams

APPROVED

Thank you for coming.

Follow us on Insta @kits_secondary_pac

Our next meeting is on April 28th 2026