



**SKSS PAC Executive Committee**  
**Cory L: Chair, Tanya P. Vice-Chair, Erin M**  
**(Secretary/Treasurer), Julie R (Past-Chair)**

**What exactly is PAC?**  
 The School Act gives parents the right, through Parent Advisory Councils (PACs), to provide feedback in their school. PAC is the officially recognized collective voice of parents of their school. A PAC, through its elected officers, may advise the school board, the principal and staff of the school respecting any matter relating to the education of the students and the school.

**What is the role of PAC?**

- To advise the school principal and staff on parents' views and feedback about school programs, policies, plans and activities.
- To organize PAC activities and events and endeavour to provide parent education.
- To encourage parent involvement in the school, and to support programs that promote parent involvement.
- To communicate with parents, and to promote co-operation between the home and the school in providing support for the education of children.
- To assist parents in accessing the system and to advocate on behalf of parents and students.
- To provide financial support for the goals of the PAC, as determined by its membership.
- To advise and participate in the activities of the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) and the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC).
- The business of the PAC shall be unbiased in respect of race, colour, religion, politics, family status, gender, sexual orientation or physical or mental ability. The PAC is not a forum for the discussion of individual school personnel, parents, or other individual members of the school community.

**SKSS PAC Meeting  
 Draft Minutes  
 Thursday January 14, 2021 7pm via Zoom**

1. **Call to order at 7:02pm.** Quorum present including 8 parents plus administration represented by Mr. Kirschner.
2. **Review of the Agenda.** Accepted as submitted
3. **Minutes from the Previous Meeting.** Moved by Tanya, seconded by Brenda. Accepted as submitted.
4. **Administration Report (Mr. Kirschner).** See attached report. Highlights of Mr. Kirschner's report included:
  - Thank you to everyone involved in helping to collect 2000 pounds of food items that were donated to the food bank.
  - Thank you to everyone involved with bringing the winter concert to the Sagebrush.
  - Thank you to St. Andrew's congregation for a donation that helped provide 18 Christmas hampers to titans families.
  - Thank you to PAC for providing desserts for the teacher's luncheon.
  - We are getting ready to start planning for course selections for the next school. Invitations being extended to partner schools now. There will be a parent meeting livestreamed for course selection.
  - Upcoming dates: project completion date on Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> (non instructional day to come in and work on assignments and tasks for Q2). The following day is the start of Q3 (Friday).
  - There is a formal evaluation available online to provide feedback on Mr. Kirschner as a principal and this is open for a couple of weeks.
  - Welcome to Dr. Rhonda Nixon starting July 1<sup>st</sup> as the new superintendent.



## **DECEMBER 10TH SKSS PAC MTG: PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

CURRENT ENROLLMENT IS: 900

**- Student/School events:**

- Christmas "live streamed" concert: Thanks to Ms. Fonseca's Drama class/Ms. McRae music program for their fun and spirited performance.
- Big thanks to: Peer Tutors, Leadership, Principal's Council and Ms Gillis/Ms Wright for all of the SKSS Xmas and community support. Over 2,000+ lbs of food from all of our Titan's for the Kamloops Food Bank. Youth Homeless support and 18 SKSS families supported with Xmas hampers delivered to their homes 😊
- Rev Steve Filyk and St Andrew's Presbyterian church for their \$1,000 donation to SKSS in-lieu of our Grab-n-Go breakfast program (on hold during Covid)
- Thank you SKSS PAC for the desserts and juice for our X-mas staff luncheon. Although spaced out physically, our staff had an excellent time 😊
- Upcoming calendar: 2021/2022 Student Course Selections (Mr. Simpson to attend February PAC meeting)
- Q2 ends Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> with Project Completion Day and Q3 starts Feb 4<sup>th</sup>
- Mr Kirschner evaluation: parent survey home on January 12<sup>th</sup> and closes on Jan 26<sup>th</sup>

*Presentation to PAC:*

- Dress Code update and Covid-19 updates**
- I.H.A. process and school communication**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
Walt Kirschner- Principal

**5. Old Business**

- a. *Course Selection and Navigating the MyEd platform.* Mr. Simpson will come to the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting to talk to us about course selections and the parent portal of the MyEd platform.
- b. Legacy Grant – (Mr. Kirschner) – Sue's machine is on the way and is due sometime at the end of February.
- c. Dress Code Project Update - (Mr. Kirschner).

**Next Virtual General Meeting: February 11 at 7pm via ZOOM**



- Draft policy was shared with staff Monday evening and is shared with us this evening. Goes to Principal's Council tomorrow. From there it will go to the Superintendent to be posted to our website for community review.
- SKSS is committed to providing students with learning environments that are safe and equitable.
- There must be mutual respect for everyone. This is regardless of dress.
- Judgements on the appropriateness of student attire is best made by students and their families. These decisions are intensely personal.
- Dress must conform with health and safety standards
- Dress must not promote drugs or alcohol.
- No profanity.
- No discriminatory languages or imagery.
- The dress code will be reviewed on an annual basis, effective Spring of 2022.
- Regarding hats: hats are not permitted in hallways so that if necessary, students can be identified and guided if there is worrisome or risky behaviour.
- We are not sure how feedback will be collected at this point (emails/survey monkey/etc). Admin will talk with students and get their ideas.
- Student committee will present the policy to us in March and by that point we will hopefully be close to ratification.

d. Educational Components to PAC meetings

- *February: Mr. Simpson – Course Selection and MyEd Portal*
- *March: Leadership Students – Dress Code*
- *April: Art Students (Art Calendar)*
- *May: Link Crew*

## 6. New Business

a. Understanding the Steps after a SKSS member tests positive for Covid-19 (Mr. Kirschner)

- COVID: notification yesterday at 445pm about the second case.
- Things are kept as timely as possible. There was a PA announcement this morning at the school: we will still take care of business here in a safe way with our chins up, and we trust the folks at interior health as they do the tracing.
- Walking through the process: We are notified and asked to submit class lists, attendance and seating plans once a positive comes forward. Beyond that, we are not involved in the process. IHA conducts interviews with the individual and the family. The school is not involved in any way, shape or form. The school is given a final list of the individuals they have spoken to, and then SKSS hands out a prepared letter to the individuals involved about the need for self isolation.

**Next Virtual General Meeting: February 11 at 7pm via ZOOM**



- For both of our cases: the tracing is complete at skss.
- For the asymptomatic individuals that are self isolating, they go through the same process through 811 if they start to show symptoms, and the family makes the determination for testing with 811.
- Right now we have 2 positive individuals, and their at-risk contacts who are self isolating.
- Again, the school is not privy to any interviews, we only hear the results from interior health. The teacher is only informed if they have a positive case in their class if they are at risk as well, otherwise nothing is shared (privacy and confidentiality considerations). Only Mr. Kirschner is aware of the names of the students who are self-isolating.
- Cleaning: When there is a positive case in the school, the district brings in a special clean team. A coverage of hard surfaces is done through the spray units (involving 7-8 custodians). Every classroom is covered. Major surface contact area coverage of the entire building happens.
- QUESTIONS: If you know your child is a close contact of a positive case, why aren't those students being told to self isolate, even BEFORE the student is contacted by public health? *Answer: Confidentiality and Privacy legislation means that we do not share who the positive case is. We are asking every student/family to do a daily self check and we are asking this to continue. If any family has concerns, 811 would be contacted.*
- Question: struggle to get assignments from the teacher when you are on isolation. *Answer: teachers can't do blended learning right now. However, we do need to have timely and meaningful follow-up to do work at home. This has been a tough week, but we will follow up with that faculty member asap to make sure there is work available so that when the kids re-engage we don't lose any momentum going into the last part of the term. Contact Mr. Kirschner directly if you have concerns that a teacher hasn't responded to.*
- Comment: The PA announcement this morning was helpful and students are grateful for the communication and straight-talk.

b. Legacy Grant – Spring Submission?

Parent Advisory Councils and Family of Schools groups may apply for funding of playgrounds, recreational or social space, cultural enhancement projects or sustainability projects.  
Funds are available from a School District No. 73 business company dividend, which have been put aside to assist with capital projects beyond the scope of School District funding.

Approved projects may qualify for matching funds to a **maximum of \$10,000**.  
Applications must support the purchase of technology, capital equipment, or construction costs.  
Applications requesting release time will not be considered.  
Applications as a whole will include representation of rural, urban, secondary and elementary schools.

The following criteria will be used to consider applications:

- Ability to sustain the project
- Evidence of collaboration among groups, schools, Family of Schools groups and the community

**Next Virtual General Meeting: February 11 at 7pm via ZOOM**



- Demonstration of alignment to the District Strategic plan, District Learning Plan, School Learning Plan, Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement
- Incorporates learner-centred experience
- Is accessible to a diversity of learners

Applications are reviewed twice a year. Spring application deadline: March 31. Fall application deadline: September 30. The Board of Education will determine the successful applicants, who will be informed by April 30 and October 31 of each year. Applicants will agree to participate in communicating about this project in the form of presentations and media interviews.

Applications are now closed for the Fall. Successful applicants will soon be notified.

The next deadline [application is](#) March 31, 2021.

**7. Treasurer's Report.** BMO continues to charge \$2.50/month per account. Erin has changed the general account to paperless, which saves \$4/month. Erin has a debit card for both accounts so she can print monthly statements for our account from home. It is important to note that all transactions will continue to require 2 signatures. Erin only has access to printing statements from the accounts.

**Funding requests:**

None new. All cheques written this month are from pre-approved motions. Two cheques were written, one to cover two disbursements from the Gaming Account, the other to cover the cost of desserts for the Christmas staff luncheon from the general account. They are highlighted below.

**2020/2021 SKSS PAC Gaming Funding Requests – January 2021 Update**

Requested By:	Department/Club:	Amt. Requested:	Amt. Approved:	Description of Request:	Cheques written to date	Still to be disbursed	Notes:
Susan Dumbrell	Mind Health Matters Club	\$40.00	\$40	For tea, hot chocolate and snacks for meetings	\$20.02	\$19.98	
Susan Dumbrell	Peer Tutors Group	\$250.00	\$250	Rewards, supplies etc.	\$20.15	\$229.85	
Amy Fonseca	Drama Club	\$4276.77	\$1,500	Drama room table & chairs	\$871.39	\$628.61	
Mrs Hay	Math Dept	\$250.00	\$250	Games etc., Rubik's Cubes	\$0	\$250.00	
Ione Poelzer	Math	\$1000.00	\$1,000	Math Contests	\$0	\$1000.00	
Sue Scallion	Technology Ed	\$10,000.00 approx	\$5,000	CNC Laser cutter/engraver	\$0.	\$5,000.00	
Corey Yamaoka	Athletics	\$19,391.00	\$5,000	Equipment & Uniforms	\$980.00	\$4020.00	
Lisa Yamaoka	Art Club	\$1966.57	\$1,500	Printing Calendars & Art Supplies	\$1,296.77	\$203.23	
NSF Fee		\$48.00	\$48		\$48	\$48.00	
S. Barker	Spirit Week/Leadership	\$300	\$300	Funds for running school spirit events (prizes and materials) and cover the costs of hot chocolates being given out to those in need	\$164.99	\$135.01	
<b>Total Commitments</b>			<b>\$14,888 (+\$30 in bank fees)</b>				
<b>Total Gaming Funds to still be disbursed (if we want to leave approx. \$250 leftover to</b>			<b>\$5112.00</b>				

**Next Virtual General Meeting: February 11 at 7pm via ZOOM**



SKSS PAC FINANCIAL REPORT – JANUARY 2021

Gaming Account	Details	Debit	Revenue	Balance
December 31, 2020				\$17,932.42
January 12, 2021	Drama Club – Table and Chairs	\$871.39 (out of \$1,500 approved)		\$17,061.03
January 12, 2021	Spirit Week/Leadership	\$164.99 (out of \$300 approved)		\$16,896.04
January 31, 2020	Monthly Plan Fee	\$2.50		\$16,893.54
<b>Est. Balance – Dec 31, 2020*</b>				<b>\$16,893.54</b>
<b>Total Commitments so far this year: \$14,888 (including bank fees)</b>		<b>Total still available to be committed: \$3,112 + \$2000 transferred from general fund</b>		

\*Italics indicate that debit has not yet appeared on monthly bank statement/cheque still has not been cashed by payee.

General Account	Details	Debit	Revenue	Balance
December 07, 2020	Monthly Plan Fee + statement	\$6.50		\$2,597.38
December 2020	BCCPAC fee	\$75.00		\$2,522.38
January 7, 2021	Monthly Plan Fee + statement	\$6.50		\$2,515.88
January 12, 2021	Dessert for staff Xmas Lunch	\$328.75		\$2,187.13
<b>Est. Balance – January 31, 2021</b>				<b>\$2,187.13</b>

\*Italics indicate that debit has not yet appeared on monthly bank statement/cheque still has not been cashed by payee.

Interior Savings Account	Balance
Est. Balance - July 1 2017	\$100.93

\*This amount is not included in any overall balance calculations. After 3 years of bank fees, it is likely that this account is almost zero at this point.

Est. Balance - January 31, 2021				\$19,080.67
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## 8. DPAC Report

- Next meeting is on January 19 at 6:30pm via Zoom
- SOGI presentation at the January DPAC meeting
- Askable Adult presentation coming in February with content for highschool students' parents
- The Board of Education has hired a new Superintendent of Schools for the Kamloops-Thompson School District, Dr. Rhonda Nixon, beginning July 1, 2021.

Dr. Nixon holds a Bachelor of Education Degree, a Master of Education Degree, and a Ph.D. from the University of Alberta, and she brings many accomplishments from her diverse, 30-year career as an educator in rural, rural-urban, and large school districts in Alberta and as a post-secondary professor at the University of Victoria. Dr. Nixon is currently the Deputy Superintendent of Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools, overseeing Inclusive and Early Education, English as Second Language, Indigenous Education, K-12 Curriculum, Distance and Outreach Education, Alternative Education Programs, Educational Technologies, and Data Management.

## 9. BCCPAC Report – Update for K-12 - January 8

A reminder that we post all our updates and the relevant materials and documentation on our Education Covid resources page: <https://bccpac.bc.ca/.../reso.../21-advocacy/861-c19-updates>

President Sinclair attended two meetings with the Minister and Education, other stakeholder presidents and Dr Reka Gustafson of the office of the PHO. She has and will continue to raise these key issues which are being discussed at the provincial table:

- remote and flexible learning options availability and continuance for those who have not returned to in-class learning
- adherence to the Guiding Principles ensuring that Special Needs students are receiving a full day/full week of education

Next Virtual General Meeting: February 11 at 7pm via ZOOM



- the resolution of the existing equity gap
- ensuring all students are receiving a full educational program in all districts
- plans to address the reality of learning loss being experienced by students across K-12
- continued plans and resources to address the mental health needs of students

Information from the Deputy Provincial Health Officer. President Sinclair attended an education partners meeting with the Ministry of Education and Dr. Reka Gustafson on Jan 6 during which two reports were shared.

The first report was from the EU CDC (<https://bccpac.bc.ca/.../EU-CDC-C9-in-children-and-the...>) regarding COVID-19 in children and the role of school settings in transmission.

#### Key Messages in the Report:

- There is a general consensus that the decision to close schools to control the COVID-19 pandemic should be used as a last resort. The negative physical, mental health and educational impact of proactive school closures on children, as well as the economic impact on society more broadly, would likely outweigh the benefits.
- In surveillance data, among childhood COVID-19 cases, children between 1-18 years of age have lower rates of hospitalisation, severe hospitalisation and death than do all other age groups.
- Children of all ages are susceptible to and can transmit SARS-CoV-2. Younger children appear to be less susceptible to infection, and when infected, less often lead to onward transmission than older children and adults.
- School closures can contribute to a reduction in SARS-CoV-2 transmission, but by themselves are insufficient to prevent community transmission of COVID-19 in the absence of other nonpharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) such as restrictions on mass gathering.
- Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 can occur within school settings and clusters have been reported in preschools, primary and secondary schools. Incidence of COVID-19 in school settings appear to be impacted by levels of community transmission. Where epidemiological investigation has occurred, transmission in schools has accounted for a minority of all COVID-19 cases in each country.
- Educational staff and adults within the school setting are generally not seen to be at a higher risk of infection than other occupations, although educational roles that put one in contact with older children and/or many adults may be associated with a higher risk.

The second report shared was from McMaster University in Ontario (<https://bccpac.bc.ca/.../McMaster-Rapid-Review-re-Schools...>)

#### Key Messages in the Report:

- Based on the published reports to date from both prior to COVID-19 lockdown and following re-opening, the risk of transmission from children to children and children to adults in primary school and daycare settings appears low, when infection control measures are in place. The certainty of the evidence is low (GRADE), and findings may change as new data become available.



- Within clusters and outbreaks, adult to adult transmission seems to be more common than child to adult or adult to child. Certainty of the evidence is very low (GRADE), and findings are very likely to change as new data become available.
- Implementation of infection control measures appear to be important to limiting spread as evidenced by several outbreaks where limited or no measures were in place. Across jurisdictions reviewed, there is wide variability in policies in place limiting the ability to evaluate the impact of specific infection prevention and control measures or make best practice recommendations for daycare or school settings due to variability in measures implemented.

**10. Other business/Correspondence received:**

Social Media Awareness, Digital Footprints, and Cyberbullying

Thursday, January 28th, 6:30 - 8:30 pm  
90-minute presentation following by a 30-minute Q&A

Description

This parent presentation will focus on all things digital. Your child has now entered into their digital media lives, where cell phone ownership doubles, video game use explodes, and they dive into the world of social media and hyper-texting.

Your child is rapidly developing their personal identity with cell phone in hand and you need to be prepared. Family rules, parental controls and developing a family tech plan will be outlined as well as recommendations for monitoring your teen’s digital life.

As a parent, you must lead the charge as a digital role model and help your child develop a strong digital citizenship foundation while reminding them that their digital footprint is a reflection of their real and online selves.

At this age, they will encounter situations that will challenge their independence, including cyberbullying (and more commonly – cyber-exclusion), the dangers of anonymity, privacy, sharing intimate images, and inappropriate websites, and you need to be there to provide support and guidance during this critical period.

Finally, to better equip you for your digital parenting strategy, a snapshot of the current trends and concerning apps will be provided.

Register here to receive your link: <https://forms.gle/UQRd1LhioB2DwDvU9>

\*You must register to receive the Zoom link for the presentation



Dear South Kamloops Elementary PAC Chair: ***Your school can help 818 children and their families in BC and Yukon, including 96 families from the Interior Health Region.***

*Did you know Canuck Place Children’s Hospice is famous for our homemade cookies?*

*Each year, our amazing staff and volunteers lovingly bake 100,000 cookies in the Canuck Place kitchen. These cookies provide warmth, comfort and lasting memories for children and families in the hospices. South Kamloops Secondary, by fundraising for Canuck Place, you’re directly supporting families that live in your community. You can help create lasting memories for families like the Skibingtons, who call the Okanagan home.*

*Due to the pandemic, the Canuck Place Cookie Day fundraiser is going to look a little bit different this year! First, it gets a new name, **Cookies for Canuck Place!** And it’s not about a bake sale. Cookies for Canuck Place gives your school the choice of where, when and how to fundraise in support of children with life-threatening illnesses and the families who love them.*



Dear South Kamloops Elementary PAC Chair

I’m writing from the [Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver](#) (also known as EFry) to ask for your support in sharing information about our free program, *Future Bright*, that helps families with net income of less than \$48,535 access up to \$3,200 in education

**Next Virtual General Meeting: February 11 at 7pm via ZOOM**





savings grants that are available to fund their child's education after high school. The said grants are in addition to child benefits, bursaries, scholarships or incentives that eligible children may qualify for.

Studies have shown that [having as little as \\$500 saved for post high-school education](#) can increase students' likelihood of attending or graduating college. Another study shows [substantial labor market outcomes](#) for college graduates in Canada.

Unfortunately, an average of 6 in 10 eligible children don't access the education savings grants.

**In one area of School District 73 where your school is located, there are 2,484 eligible children who have not claimed their grants.**

Future Bright helps families overcome the barriers to claiming these grants, which many people don't know exist:

- Claiming the Canada Learning Bond, valued at \$2,000, available for children up to and including age 16.
- Claiming the BC Training & Education Grant of \$1,200, available for children who are 6 to 8 years old.
- Setting up a no-cost RESP (Registered Education Savings Plan) for their child. The grants are deposited into the RESP account.
- Obtaining the necessary government ID needed to open the RESP account, at no cost.

In addition to live, personalized support by phone or Zoom, Future Bright has created a series of video tutorials to walk families through the different steps in the process. Families only need to watch the videos that pertain to their situation.

More information about Future Bright and our video tutorial series can be found at [www.myfuturebright.ca](http://www.myfuturebright.ca).

*The Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver*

#### **11. PAC Meeting Schedule for the remainder of 20/21 (Note: All meetings will be on Zoom)**

**February 11, 2021 at 7pm**

**March 11, 2021 at 7:30pm**

**April 8, 2021 at 7pm**

**June 10, 2021 at 7pm**