

Elgin Park Secondary School



PAC Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2025

Attendance: Kavita Sharma (Principal), Victoria Gootgarts (Co-Chair), Jennifer Mathieson (Co-Chair), Mike Jiang (Treasurer), Sheri Hardcastle (DPAC rep), 3 parents in class and a few parents online. Meeting was conducted in person, at school, and online via Zoom.

1. Call to Order 7:00

Victoria Gootgarts called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved as presented.

The motion was carried by unanimous consent.

3. Approval of Minutes, Nov 20th, 2024

MOTION: That the minutes of Nov 20th, 2024 be approved as presented.

Carried.

4. Reports:

i. Principal's Report

Kavita Sharma shared the following updates

- Hybrid Learning Initiative. Currently meeting with staff about concerns and issues. Staff has a working committee to see which courses and students it will relate to. Will put in course outline for September 2025 and students in Grades 10-12 can self-select.
- Extended Days. We are growing again but not at capacity yet. Grandview and Salish have implemented the variance and there are pros and cons; school culture, 2 lunches, separate staff. Later start can be beneficial as with early. Less parking issues. We will monitor the other schools and use their example if necessary.
- Learning Centre closure. Elgin sends only 2-3 students per year. Elgin first tries to build in flexible schedules, use other alternatives such as Hope program etc. before referring to the Learning Centre. The Hope Program is for high anxiety students, students with issues with attending, and uses outside doctors and a full committee to review each student. Ultimate goal is to re-integrate into mainstream school. We may have an Alternate education program onsite in the future. Keeping students onsite keeps connections with admin and support staff.

ii. Chair's Report

Following areas were discussed by the Chair.

- PAC Exec hosted Breakfast for the teachers, and was appreciated by the staff. We are looking forward to making it an annual tradition.
- Still looking for a Treasurer to join PAC Executive as soon as possible.

iii. Treasurer's Report

Mike Jiang shared the financial reports covering the period from November 20th, 2024 to January 15, 2025, and answered questions from the committee. No income was received during this period. There were no transactions during this period.

The bank balance and transaction spreadsheets are available to parents at any time, upon request. Please email elginPAC@gmail.com if you have any questions or wish to review the accounts.

- **PAC Funding Requests**

The Chair shared following funding requests made to PAC. Details were shared around each request along with the amount of funds requested.

PAC committee and parents present were asked to vote to pass this motion.

Each request was passed as a separate motion.

1. Ms Lindsey Ellett News Club is looking for \$150 in PAC funds for Starbucks gift cards and Temu gifts as prizes for student completed crossword puzzles as well as a tablecloth when they hand out physical newspapers monthly.

MOTION: That funds be allocated as requested / agreed by the PAC & Parents

2. Dry Grad – Request and update by Michelle Smyth.
 - a. Elgin has not had a dry grad in over 5 years. Goal is to bring it back as with other schools in the area.
 - b. Budget is \$50,000 which is in line with other schools in the area of this size. This includes prizes, food & entertainment.
 - c. Location is at the school right after the dinner/dance at Tsawwassen springs. Students come straight off the bus to school.
 - d. 80 tickets are currently sold out of 260 grads.
 - e. Requesting money in case funds are not raised through ticket sales and for students not able to afford ticket price \$180. \$6, 000 spent in deposits to date.
 - f. Request for estimated 14 students for tickets - \$2520
 - g. Dates may have a lower cost \$100 approximately.
 - h. Requesting safety net allowance.
 - i. Mike confirmed we can use Gaming funds for Dry Grad.

MOTION: Michelle to finalize an amount for the Safety funds required as well as determine a potential cancellation date if there is a lack of interest. Vendors would be contacted to put forward the deposits for future events.

Details around all the above requests are available to parents at any time, upon request. Please email elginPAC@gmail.com if you have any questions or wish to review the details.

iv. BCCPAC Update

No update for this meeting.

v. DPAC Update

Sheri Hardcastle (DPAC rep) provided an update from the DPAC meeting held on Wednesday Nov 27th, 2024. Some of the highlights from the meeting:

- Presentation from Surrey Teachers Assoc re: parent advocacy. Parents can advocate for funding for schools and raise other issues in education by talking to MLAs, and other government officials
- Teachers Collective agreement expires this year. Work conditions and learning resources are the issues.
- Next week is the monthly mtg. Presentation on diversity inclusion at our school. Making decisions to cover all equitably.
- DPAC is holding Training session PACs for PAC executives in February.

5. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Next meeting: February 19th, 2025

Questions or suggestions for future meetings? Contact: elginpac@gmail.com