

WGSS PAC Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

February 19th, 2026

WGSS Library

PAC Executive	Itzel Symonds (President), Valerie Steckler (Vice President), Amy Olson (Secretary), Stephen Northrup (Member at large), Shivani Khera (Treasurer), Tali Litvakkor (Member at large)
Parents	Elinor Kanevsky, Justine Trenholm, Wenzeng Li, Olga Shokina
Staff	Mr Mike Pue (WGSS Principal)
Regrets	Rebecca Hardin (DPAC Representative)

1. Call to Order & Establish Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 7:02. 7 members present, quorum established.

2. Welcome and Housekeeping

- a. **Territorial Acknowledgements:** we gratefully acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Kwantlen, Katzie, Matsqui, and Semiahmoo Nations.
- b. **Executive introductions.**
- c. **Reminders:** PAC meetings are run according to Robert's Rules of Order. With the exception of presenters and invited speakers, we will be limiting each person to two minutes so that everyone has an opportunity to speak and to keep the meeting on time.

3. Adoption of:

- a. **Today's agenda:**

MOTION TO approve the February 19, 2026 WGSS PAC meeting agenda CARRIED Shivani Khera/Itzel Symonds

- b. **Previous Meeting's Minutes**

MOTION TO approve the January 15, 2025, WGSS PAC meeting minutes CARRIED Itzel Symonds/Tali Litvak

4. Reports:

- a. School Administration: Capstone projects presented. Grade 7 visits. Always impressed by the GQ ambassadors. Winter athletics starting to wind down, provincials are happening. Curling team is out at provincials at Chilliwack. Junior boys and girls

basketball at provincial championships. Had a great senior night for the boys basketball. Course planning due tomorrow night. Lots of course offerings. ProD day last week, over 2,000 staff at LEC listened to Neil Sinclair about truth and reconciliation in learning.

Questions from parents:

- What was the reason for today's fire alarm: Mr. Pue clarified that it was an electrical fault, there was no actual fire. Reviewed the process for evacuation.
 - Is there a police presence at the school? Yes, WGSS has a school liaison officer.
 - Are the students prepared for a safety event such as what happened in Tumbler Ridge? Yes, they are as prepared as they can be.
 - How secure is the school? As secure as it can be while still helping it feel like a school.
 - Parent teacher interviews- have those come out yet? Mr. Pue went over the timeline for interim reports and parent-teacher interview appointments which will be mid-March just before spring break.
- b. PAC President report: We have approved 32 projects, which is exciting. Last meeting we discussed the PAC website, we did not review the domain hosting. Itzel did some research for Canadian hosting, web hosting Canada does allow for unlimited emailing. For 3 years would be \$117 with unlimited emails. Could have treasurer@wgsspac.ca for example. Received some thank you letters from the two students who received scholarships from the PAC last year. Have received a request from the scholarship committee asking if we can renew the scholarships for two students for \$1500 again this year.
- c. Treasurer: Currently around \$82,068. Did approve around \$30,000 in January for club funding requests, which will be coming out. GIC maturity date is February 27, 2026, Itzel and Shivani will go into the bank to consider reinvestment options. This money is for the scholarships. Discussion around size of scholarships, should they be split to ensure more students receive scholarships, such as 4-6 scholarships of \$500 instead of 2 scholarships for \$1500? Amy shared that there are many scholarships available across the school district, she attended the scholarship presentation last spring and was impressed at the number of scholarships available and the number of students who received them. Given the current cost of post-secondary education, providing \$1,500 in a scholarship provides more assistance than a smaller amount of \$500. Decision to maintain the 2 scholarships at \$1,500 for now.
- d. DPAC: DPAC representative is at a DPAC meeting so Itzel shared the DPAC report (attached to agenda). Survey open regarding stat holidays for next school year. DPAC constitution and bylaws are being presented at the meeting tonight, will be voted on in April. DPAC has 2 scholarships for graduating students of \$500. Reminder that DPAC will reimburse up to \$50 per parent per school year or workshops, seminars, or books on parenting. DPAC will reimburse up to 4 parents per PAC per school year for Food Safe. Question re: school calendar - is there a set number of days that students are required to be in school? Mr. Pue reviewed that yes, there are a certain number of instructional minutes that are required.

5. New Business

- a. Grad - cancellation of the parent coffee and dessert portion of the grad banquet. Parents in attendance asking about reasons for the cancellation.
 - i. One parent spoke up and shared how meaningful it was for them two years ago when their child graduated, and they are disappointed that it is cancelled this year.
 - ii. of the grade 12 students have signed a petition requesting this be brought back for this year.
 - iii. Mr. Pue recognizes the disappointment and doesn't discount the experience. There was a feeling out there that any parent who wanted to go could go, but in reality, because of the size of the venue they are not able to offer tickets for every parent to attend. In order to get a larger venue, this would be a larger increase in price for all students, and subsequently the ticket prices of the students would also then increase. When we can't allow all students that want their parents to be there, some kids miss out. Some kids miss out because they don't want their parents there; some miss out because parents couldn't get tickets. WGSS admin wants it to be fair and equitable, to provide a space for all parents to be able to attend. Additionally there have been some logistical issues, such as parents who weren't able to secure tickets still wanted to show up and try to get into the venue, which resulted in security and staff having to manage this, which caused challenges, and this impacted the experience of the students.
 - iv. To include as **lessons learned** moving forward - the surprise with the timing of how it was decided and announced.
 - v. Want to understand how the decisions are made about the grad events, if that is the grad committee or the administration? Mr. Pue reviewed the different grad events (Fall dinner, spring dance, dry grad and prom.) All parents encouraged to attend the grad planning meetings.

6. Ongoing business

- a. Motion to approve the expense of \$23.41 Canadian dollars from the expense account for the website domain.
 - i. Justine Trenholm/Tali Litvak Kor
- b. Motion to approve two \$1500 scholarships from our operating account to the scholarship committee.
 - i. Justine Trenholm/Tal Litvak Kori
- c. Hanlon's hockey - requesting funding of \$500 for equipment. Hanlon's hockey runs every Tuesday after school, to provide physical activity to young learners to create a recreational space where learners feel welcome. Approved unanimously.

- d. Correspondence from badminton team regarding shuttle launcher from last PAC meeting inquiry: the equipment will be shared between grade 8 and grade 12, about 64 students using it. Shelf life would be a few years up to a decade, only used from March to May, which should also extend its lifespan. \$1500 approved unanimously for badminton team.
- e. Did receive a thank you note from the open art studio, as we had provided them with up to \$800 to spend on art supplies.
- f. Motion to approve the new Canada hosting of the website for \$117 + tax. Approved unanimously.

7. Correspondence

- a. wgsspac.ca will be the new webiste

8. Questions from parents (reminder: two-minute time limit per person)

- a. A parent would like to acknowledge the hard work and support of Ivan Adrian who is a counsellor in the district. He is retired and comes back to fill vacancies when we have them here. This parent is very appreciative of the work he is doing.
- b. Concerns raised around PE when kids running the loop during inclement weather through the forest, and that some students may be left alone on the trail. Mr. Pue can bring that up with the PE department to find out what they do to ensure the safety of the kids.

9. Next meeting day: Thursday, April 9th, 2026 at 7 pm in the WGSS library.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

MOTION THAT the WGSS PAC meeting be adjourned CARRIED Itzel Symonds/Tali Litvak Kor
