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 Executive Committee

Elwira: Chair, **Cory** Past-Chair, **Erin M** (Secretary/Treasurer/DPAC Rep#2), **Allison T** (DPAC Rep#1), **Dana N** (Member at Large), **Amy B** (Member at Large

SKSS PAC Meeting
Minutes
Thursday September 18, 7:00pm via Zoom

1. Call to order 7:04 pm. Quorum present: Elwira, Erin, Jennifer, Kirsten, Allison, Katie, Jen, Paul. Admin Guest : Mr. Preymak.
2. Land acknowledgement
3. Adoption of the Agenda.
4. Adoption of the Minutes from May 15, 2025. Accepted as submitted.
5. Admin Report-Principal Preymak: Welcome! I want to welcome our parents and guardians to our first PAC Meeting of the 2025-2026 academic year. I look forward to working with the PAC in helping support South Kamloops Secondary to provide a well-rounded program for all our students.

Start to the Year: We have had a good start to the year. We kicked off with our Link Leaders leading our new Grade 8 students through a day of getting to know one another, the school and their course schedule.

New staff members

Mike Carson - continuing -English
Kelsey Harpman - continuing - Science/Math
Allisson Badger - continuing -English
Alanna Mounsey - continuing - Foods/English/Leadership
Dewald Van Der Merwe - continuing - Woodwork
Danielle Livingstone - continuing - Physics
Cameron Secret - term certain - Socials
Natasha Little - term certain - Math, Science, Socials
Drew Venables - term certain - English
Alisha Gotro - term certain – English
Mandeep Tatlay – term certain – Learning Assistance teacher
Sabrina Block – term certain - English

Next Virtual Meeting: October 16 - 7pm via ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting: Meeting ID: 873 1414 7246
Passcode: 888045

Michelle Bosman - Steno 1
Stacey Kinney - counselling steno
Annyssa (Andy) Levin -custodian (pm)
Brian Tommasini -VP

School Population: The school population is approximately 1155. 15 of those students are international students.

Fall School Sports: Volleyball, soccer, football and cross country have started.

Our junior football team is combining with Valleyview this year. The reason for this is because the number of students committed to play was lower than what we would reasonably need to field a team. In addition, finding enough coaches was a challenge.

Enhancement Fees: All the accounts have been cleared up to zero. These accounts include courses such as Foods, Textiles, Woodwork, Metalwork, Human Performance etc. Any course that has a course/enhancement fee associated with it.

Grade Meetings: We held grade meetings during the second week to discuss the School Code of Conduct and set a positive school tone.

Working through various start up challenges

1. We had some rooms in the school and two portables that were not cooling down enough during the early September heatwave. Both portable cooling systems had to be repaired. They are both working now. We still have one room in the school that is experiencing above average temperatures. A work order has gone in to have it repaired.

2. Our internet has been spotty throughout the school during the past three weeks. Our IT department is aware of it and trying to get a permanent fix.

Terry Fox Run: Tuesday, September 16th The students participated in a school wide run.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: Monday, September 29th Our school will acknowledge Truth and Reconciliation Day through classroom and school-wide activities and lessons.

Question from a parent. Will there be a Club Fair this year? Yes. A student is taking over organizing it.

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6. Treasurer's Report

SKSS PAC – TREASURER'S REPORT–SEPTEMBER 2025

Money situation at a glance:,	
Gaming Opening balance at start of 2025/26 school year (as of September 13, 2024): $6431.48 in chq account – ($5,615.01 still to clear for cheq 146, plus $202.77 held in trust for Music License 157822/157823) = $613.70 available to be spent.	$613.70
Gaming Grant for 2024/25 school year (note: 2024/25 was $21,380)	TBA
Current SKSS Gaming funds available:	**$613.70**
General Account Balance as of September 1, 2025 (before any disbursements) = $936.21	$936.21
Total SKSS PAC funds:	**$1549.91**
2024/25 Gaming License 157822 (raffle) & 157823 (50/50)– Class B raffle license annual series. December 18th and June 11th 50/50 and Raffle for Music Department. Dec 18th = $1693 (50/50= $553 (our half) Raffle = $1140). Cheq 232 on Jan 10th - $40.91 towards Jazz Combo Music. Cheq 240 on Apr 11 - $48.77 Sheet music. Cheq 240 on Apr 11 – 450.00 Ensemble Clinic. Cheq 241 on May 6 - $24.17 music mallet. Cheq 244 on June 18 $157.47 for Student Awards. June 11th: 50/50 = $400 (our half) + $1230 (raffle) = $1630 added to this line item. June 23 Cheq 245 for Music banners $971.68. September 3: $1427.23 for Sagebrush Rental for recital Cheq 146.	$202.77 remaining in gaming account
2025/26 Gaming License 165094 – Class B Football Raffle – Sept 15 to December 19	Ongoing
2025/26 Gaming License (Pending) – Class B Football 50/50 – Sept 25-November 7	Pending Licensure

General Funds: Currently $936.21 but holding $333.67 in trust for Green Club

Description		Amount	Date		Cheques Written	Remaining
Green Club		$155.84 $41.33 $21.04 $53.37 $62.09	Feb 04 April 09 May 07 July 03 Aug 05	TruEarth Direct Deposits	$0	$333.67
Minimum Balance Required (Per Bylaws)		$500				$500 HOLD
Cushion fiduciary obligations (per motion/vote)		$100				$100 HOLD
Bank Fees	BMO Bank Fees	$2.50/Mo				$60

7. Old Business

7.1. District Budget

We asked Mr. Preymak if the budget cuts impacts remain the same as discussed in May 2025. The library is now open at lunch. Still no intramurals but we might run some blocks in the colder months.

8. New Business

8.1. District Heatwave Response

During the first week of school, classroom temperatures at SKSS rose above 26°C in some portables and classrooms, with multiple A/C malfunctions. Students were relocated when necessary and water fountains remained operational, but questions remain about gym cooling and HVAC system controls.

PAC Executive noted that:

- The District appeared unprepared despite Environment Canada issuing heat warnings (Aug. 24 & 31) and a Ministry of Education newsletter (Aug. 29) with guidance from Dr. Delli Pizzi, Medical Health Officer.
- HVAC failures are considered “emergencies,” but there is little clarity about response times.
- The District has only a two-person maintenance crew, limiting their ability to respond quickly when multiple schools submit urgent work orders.
- Policies and facilities planning do not yet reflect the realities of climate change.
- The burden should not fall on students to identify or endure unsafe conditions. The District has a responsibility to ensure safe learning environments.

Public Health guidance (Aug. 29, via Dr. Delli Pizzi, MHO) was sent to school districts. It urged planning for late-summer heat and highlighted the need for extra attention to vulnerable students (those with disabilities, using mobility devices, on medications that affect body temperature).

At the September Board meeting, the Superintendent acknowledged equipment failures, thanked staff for managing during the heatwave, and committed to responding on a “day-by-day, minute-by-minute” basis.

At the September DPAC meeting, the SKSS PAC Chair brought these concerns forward. DPAC passed a motion to advocate for an Extreme Heat Preparedness Policy at the District level, and to seek targeted provincial funding for upgrades, similar to the seismic safety program.

8.2. Feeding Futures and National School Food Program

Funds remain unspent in the district. Please bring ideas to SKSS PAC or DPAC.

8.3. AGM

SKSS PAC AGM will take place on Thursday, October 16, 2025 - 7pm (via Zoom).
We will be electing our new 2025-2026 PAC Executive. The Executive will manage the Council’s affairs between general meetings.

The Executive must include:

- Chair (or “president”)
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- DPAC representative.
- Only the roles of Secretary/Treasurer may be combined.

The Executive may include

- Co-Chair or Vice-Chair
- other such members of the Council as the membership decides (“Members at Large”)

Please see SKSS PAC Bylaws and Constitution for Executive Duties.

8.4. Gaming funds allocation

SKSS PAC allocates BC Gaming Funds twice per school year. 75% in October and 25% in February using the BC Gaming Funds Matrix-guide can be found on our website.

At tonight’s meeting, the PAC Chair established an ad hoc committee to prepare a draft allocation plan for 75% of available gaming funds for the Fall 2025 semester.

- The draft will be posted at least one week before the October PAC meeting.
- In the interest of time, parents are encouraged to review the draft in advance and bring any proposed changes or concerns to the October meeting.
- If additional requests from teachers are submitted after the draft has been posted, then those new requests will be presented for the first time at the October meeting.
- The purpose of posting a draft is to avoid having to do the full scoring exercise at the October meeting; instead, discussion will focus on adjustments or concerns raised by parents.
- This ad hoc committee will be led by the PAC Chair. Parents who would like to participate are invited to email sksspac@gmail.com.

8.5. General Fundraising-Treasurer 101 resource.

Will be posted on our website under Bylaws and Constitution. Everything you need to know about fundraising, district administrative procedures and related School Board policies.

9. District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) update.

Discussion on Chair's report and the long list of provincial and local advocacy, rally for public education in town and Victoria, Question Period loaded with education questions, meeting with the Minister of Education, Interim leader of the Green Party, local councillors, letters of support to the Province, at DPAC's request, from TNRD and other local governments within our school district. Continued advocacy to prevent informal school exclusions in the district.

Chair McBride called a question whether the membership would like to remain on its course of advocacy or whether there is a call for her resignation whereby the Vice Chair would lead DPAC til the end of her term. The members voted to stay the course and to continue under Chair McBride's leadership.

The September agenda listed outstanding items from the May 2025 meeting such as symbolic non confidence vote in the School Board, trustee attendance at DPAC meetings, Board composition. Parents can email SKSS PAC to obtain DPAC minutes and give direction on how, and if, to proceed on any of these potential action items and motions.

Past DPAC Chair who was heading our Capital Funding committee no longer has a student in the district and we are looking for a member who would like to continue this Capital Funding and Facilities Committee. Mentorship offered.

DPAC is looking for a member to upload minutes to our website and another to be DPAC's Zoom coordinator.

Members passed a motion to ask the district to prohibit schools from charging parent chaperones to pay their own costs when attending school field trips. This is cost prohibitive and creates barriers to participation for families.

10. BC Confederation of Advisory Councils (BCCPAC)

10.1. BCCPAC Membership Renewal

Introduced by: Elwira, PAC Chair.

Motion

That the South Kamloops Secondary PAC not renew its membership with the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC) for the 2025–2026 school year, on the basis of concerns about financial transparency, governance, and accountability.

Carried

Key Concerns (reviewed with the PAC Treasurer)

The BCCPAC Board has stated that membership-approved budgets are only “advisory,” and it has spent beyond what members authorized.

Public messaging (such as the August 29 newsletter) gives the impression of strict accountability, but in practice decisions are made without meaningful member input.

Treasurer reports and financial details are not shared, and members are not informed when the Board deviates from the approved budget.

Legal advice and Ministry funding information that could be shared in redacted form remain withheld, limiting members’ ability to understand how decisions are made.

Taken together, this creates a culture of secrecy and erodes accountability to the PACs who fund BCCPAC through annual membership fees.

11. Correspondence

12. Next Meeting Date.
General meeting and AGM
October 16, 2025 - 7pm (via Zoom).
Meeting ID: 873 1414 7246 Passcode: 888045

13. Adjournment 8:26 pm

2024-2025 SKSS PAC EXECUTIVE

Chair: Elwira R.

Past Chair: Cory L.

Secretary-Treasurer: Erin M.

DPAC Reps: Erin M. and Allison T.

Members at Large: Dana N. and Amy B.