

École Secondaire South Kamloops Secondary School (SKSS)
Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting
Thursday, May 21, 2026 – 7pm via Zoom

1. Call to order 7:03 pm
2. Land acknowledgement
3. Adoption of the Agenda -adopted
4. Adoption of the [Draft Minutes from April 7, 2026](#) -adopted
5. Admin Report
 - 5.1. Admin Report

Principal's Report

Thursday, May 21st, 2026

1. **Titan Pride**

I am Frankenstein Theatre Production and Art Show was an amazing production.

High Performance Jazz Band, Sr. Concert Band, Senior Jazz Combo and Intermediate Jazz Combo all received invites to MusicFest Canada Nationals set to take place in Calgary in May of 2026.

A grade 9 student attended the Cariboo-Mainline Regional Science Fair yesterday. She was awarded a Silver Medal and trophy, the SCWST(Society for Canadian Women in Science and Technology) Award, and a SHAD Canada Award.

Her project, titled “Portable Bio-Waste Micro-Electricity Generators: Smart Microcontroller-Controlled Energy Harvesting for AI-Era Applications,” explored how bio-waste materials can generate small amounts of electricity and how smart microcontroller systems can improve the efficiency and usability of this energy. Through her research, she identified acidity as a key factor influencing voltage output and demonstrated how controlled energy management can enhance performance.

We have four of our spring sports teams off to provincials:

Senior Ultimate
Junior Ultimate
Tennis
Senior Rugby

Congratulations to these teams.

2. **Graduation**

The graduation ceremony will be taking place on Tuesday, June 23rd, at 7 pm at the Sandman Centre.

3. **Mental Health Week May**

Mental Health Week May 4-10

The Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) theme for this year's Mental Health Week is "*Come Together, Canada*". focusing on how small, everyday actions of connection can strengthen mental health and combat loneliness.

As part of Mental Health week, we had a few students come in early on Monday morning and put up a bunch of pink hearts around the school with inspirational messages. We also had a speaker in the library on Thursday as well as some destressing activities including colouring, petting zoo and Yoga.

4. **District Honours**

We have 12 District Honours students that will be celebrated on Thursday, June 11th at TRU.

5. **In Our Element Music Showcase**

I would like to invite you to our SKSS Music Department's '*In Our Element*' Showcase, **Wed., June 10th at 6:30 PM in the Sagebrush Theatre.**

Submitted by Chris Preymak, Principal – South Kamloops Secondary

5.2. Student Learning Survey results. These survey results are from April 2026, at which time approximately 60% of students completed the survey across Grades 10–12: [Grade 10](#); [Grade 11](#); [Grade 12](#).

- Discussion focused on overall positive results related to school safety, communication, social skills, and student belonging.
 - Areas identified for improvement included mental health supports and services, Indigenous learning opportunities and celebrations, financial literacy, and life skills education.
 - Principal Preymak advised that the school currently has two Indigenous Education Workers.
- Parents discussed survey responses related to racial discrimination and gender identity/sexual orientation discrimination, including questions about how results should

be interpreted within a predominantly white school population and whether demographic context should be considered when reviewing the data.

- Principal Preymak acknowledged that incidents of racism do occur within the school community and noted that survey results may underrepresent some student experiences.
- Discussion also took place regarding food insecurity, student comfort accessing school food programs, and possible future conversations around breakfast programs and reducing stigma around food access.
- PAC members discussed the importance of revisiting themes identified in the survey throughout the next school year and exploring ways the PAC could support school learning priorities, mental health initiatives, and student well-being efforts.

6. Treasurer's Report

6.1. [Full Report](#) – included as a separate attachment on our website.

- Treasurer raised concerns regarding recent changes to BC gaming licence requirements and advised that raffles with prizes valued over \$500 now require a Class A gaming licence rather than a Class B licence.
 - Discussion included the increased administrative requirements associated with Class A licences, including the need to submit PAC bylaws, AGM minutes, financial statements, and other organizational documentation.
 - PAC members expressed concern that the new requirements may create additional administrative burdens for PACs and school groups and may impact future school fundraising activities, including larger raffles and prize baskets.
 - The PAC discussed the possibility of sharing information about the new requirements more broadly through DPAC to support other PAC treasurers and parent groups.
- The PAC also discussed the practice of retaining \$500 in the PAC General Fund for the following school year, consistent with PAC bylaws. Members also discussed an additional \$100 that had previously been retained during a larger funding request process, despite not being required under the PAC bylaws, and whether those funds could instead be spent in line with PAC objectives.

6.2. At the April 27, 2026 public school board meeting, the School District presented a 2026-2027 Draft budget slide suggesting financial support for PACs at a rate of 78 cents/student. However, SKSS PAC historically received closer to ~ 50 cents/student. When we inquired about the discrepancy, the SD73 treasurer replied that “The formula for the PAC funding allocation is made up of two parts - \$120 flat rate per school that all schools get and an additional \$0.45 per student.”

- The PAC reviewed clarification provided by the district treasurer and questions were also raised regarding whether French Immersion schools receive additional funding allocations. The PAC noted it would seek further clarification from the district.

7. Old Business

7.1. Disc Golf Course Installation

- Principal Preymak advised that the district maintenance department would not approve permanent disc golf basket installation at SKSS.
- The rationale provided by the district included reduced staffing levels and considerations such as time required to mow and maintain around permanent structures.
- The district recommended the use of temporary removable baskets instead.
- Discussion took place regarding the practical challenges associated with temporary equipment, including the need for staff supervision after school hours to prevent theft or damage and the additional burden of setting up and removing equipment daily.
- The PAC Chair also advised that concerns regarding the rationale and decision-making process may continue to be raised with the district and asked whether parents wished to pursue any further action regarding the matter, including requesting the rationale in writing.

7.2. 2026-2027 Budget Consultation

- [First Submission](#) prior to first reading of the budget bylaw on April 27, 2026.
- [Follow-up letter](#) prior to second and third readings of the budget bylaw on May 11, 2026.
- [Response from the School Board](#) re 2026-2027 Budget Consultation Feedback.
- The PAC reviewed the Board's written response stating that "The Board received and reviewed all the budget feedback in its entirety." The PAC Chair expressed concern that this appeared inconsistent with discussion during the public board meeting, where trustees may have been relying primarily on staff-prepared summaries during deliberations.
- Discussion focused on continued reductions in school-based supports, including the ongoing absence of science assistants and librarian assistants.
- Principal Preymak advised that staffing allocations for the coming school year continue to present challenges and noted additional scheduling considerations related to French Immersion programming.
- PAC members discussed concerns regarding district priorities, including rebuilding reserve funds while schools continue to experience staffing and programming pressures.
- The PAC Chair advised that future correspondence would focus more specifically on concerns regarding district consultation and decision-making processes.

7.3. School Field Cleat Restrictions. Response from the School District:

SD73 Grounds Manager has provided the following information to Superintendent Mike St. John:

Historically, sports fields have always been opened in mid April. Experience has shown that early spring use, particularly cleated sports activity, causes excessive turf impairment at a time when fields are least capable of recovery. This damage often leads to prolonged closure periods later in the season and impacts overall field quality and player safety.

SD73 collaborates with the City Parks management to ensure alignment and consistency in messaging and operations. As a result of this collaboration, we jointly confirmed that all sports fields will officially open on April 13, 2026.

Non-cleated running shoes will always be acceptable in the shoulder season to help maintain student access to our fields.

We appreciate the patience and cooperation of PACs, staff, students, and community partners as we balance access with responsible field stewardship. Protecting our turf early in the season ensures safer, higher-quality playing surfaces for all users throughout the year.

BACKGROUND:

- The use of cleats on the school field has been postponed until mid-April due to field conditions and the risk of damage.
- Parents noted that the field is not artificial turf and that existing grass conditions are poor. Parents also raised concerns that student athletes do not limit effort during after-school training, which may increase the risk of injury under current conditions.
- The Principal advised that this is a district-wide decision and noted that preserving the field is necessary to maintain safe and usable conditions for all users, including physical education classes.
- The PAC Chair noted that an inquiry has been sent to the Superintendent regarding how decisions are made about the timing of restrictions on cleats use.
- Parents expressed interest in the potential for artificial turf and in collaboration between the School District No. 73 and the City of Kamloops to improve local field conditions.

8. New Business

8.1. Staff appreciation lunch.

- Principal Preymak advised that staff appreciation lunch planning was tentatively scheduled for Friday, June 12, 2026.
- Discussion took place regarding available PAC General Fund balances and possible supplementary donations to support the event. Parents interested in making a nominal contribution are encouraged to contact the SKSS PAC by email.

Motion

Moved that \$694 from the PAC General Fund be allocated toward the Staff Appreciation Lunch at South Kamloops Secondary School.

Seconded. Motion carried.

9. DPAC April Report.

- Discussion focused on concerns raised by parents across the district regarding communication, consultation processes, and transparency in district decision-making.
 - Topics discussed at DPAC included district resource room placements, consultation concerns related to KSA, playground replacement prioritization, and concerns regarding how criteria and decisions are communicated to school communities.
- The PAC Chair advised that Board Chair Heather Grieve and Superintendent Mike St. John attended the meeting and heard concerns directly from parents.
- The PAC was also advised that the DPAC Chair had stepped down and that the Vice-Chair is currently serving as Acting Chair until the DPAC AGM.
- Next DPAC meeting May 28th at 6:30pm VIA ZOOM ONLY

10. Correspondence and Other Business

10.1. [Reimagine Downtown](#) – City of Kamloops public engagement. Closes June 3rd.

11. Next Meeting Date –TBD.

- Discussion also took place regarding a possible PAC bylaws review meeting in June 2026. The PAC Chair advised that written notice would be provided.
- Members were encouraged to participate in the review process and bring forward any proposed bylaw amendments or suggestions.

12. Adjournment 8:07pm

13. Future items.

2025-2026 SKSS PAC EXECUTIVE

Chair: Elwira R.

Treasurer: Dana N.

Secretary: Jennifer B.

DPAC Reps: Jennifer B. and Erin M.