



École George Elliot Secondary School
Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Minutes
Monday, February 23rd 2026 at 6:30pm

In Person: International Room 201

1. Call to Order 6:30pm

- 1.1. Attendance/Introductions: *Rob A, Jenn H, Craig C, Ros H, Ian L, Linda I, Bretta L, Mark H, Brian Z, Jodie M,*
- 1.2. Regrets:

2. Agenda: Previous Agenda Additions/Approval – *Approved: Bretta, Seconded: Ros*

- 2.1.1. Taylor Hazen & Summer Hansen presentation on Vaping In Youths
- 2.1.2. The bathrooms situation is raising its head again!

3. Minutes: Previous Meeting Minutes Additions/Approval – *Approved: Ros Seconded: Bretta*

- 3.1.1. Presentation by Taylor and Summer on BC Youth Experience Society. Subject was Vaping In Youths. Many thanks Taylor and Summer. Link to see the accompanying presentation at mcs.bc.ca
- 3.1.2. Bathrooms were discussed with Rob as part of his report as he was asking PAC if there were any particular discussion points. They are actually being monitored by teachers and VPs at break times and in between. We will await improvement!
- 3.1.3. Capstone - Agreed to go forward with G11 and G12s being able to leave and return for 2026-27, but Rob will try to push through for this upcoming Capstone - Agreed by all!

4. Principal's Report: Rob Aviani – *See Accompanying Report*

5. Reports:

- 5.1.1. **President** – Craig Catton: Gift to Jim, personalized coffee mug and gift card issued by Craig to him.
- 5.1.2. **Treasurer** – Ros Hazen: *No new requests*
- 5.1.3. **COPAC** – Ros Hazen, Saturday is parent conference 28th

6. Old Business:

- 6.1. Outdoor Club – First Aid Kits x 2, Headlamps \$400 Approved: Ros , Seconded: Bretta Carried
- 6.2. Physics Olympic Team – \$1000
- 6.3. Capstone Lunch – \$750
- 6.4. Athletics Uniforms – \$2000
- 6.5. Cooking appliances for Grad – \$900 Wait til Mar! motion carried, but investigation required.
- 6.6. Guitar “Academy” – NO COST TO PAC!

7. New Business:

- 7.1.
- 7.2.

8. Adjournment: 7:43pm

Next meeting: April 13th , Student Services

George Elliot Secondary School PAC Income Statement

Year: 09/01/2025 to 08/31/2026

Bank Account Status

General Account	\$ 1,473.59	Gaming Account	\$23,340.23
Cash or Other	\$ -	-	-
As of January 31, 2026			

Fundraising

Items	Deposit	Expenses	Profit	%
Interest from Membership	9.17		9.17	100.00%
	-	-	-	0.00%
	-	-	-	0.00%
	-	-	-	0.00%
TOTALS:	9.17	-	9.17	100.00%

Gaming Funds

Year	Grant	Approved	Remaining
Prior Year Remaining	6,274.04	6,185.50	88.54
2025-2026	17,260.00	5,605.93	11,654.07
TOTALS:	23,534.04	11,791.43	11,742.61

Gaming Fund Expenses

Item	Requested	Approved	Issued	Expenses
Bank Fees				203.81
Oyama Zipline Grad 2026	3,685.50	3,685.50		
Soccer Team Bus	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Outdoor Club	2,862.40	400.00		
Physics Olympics Team	1,000.00	1,000.00		
United Nations Climate Change Conf	750.00	750.00		
BC Student Leadership Conf	1,000.00	750.00		
Capstone presentations lunch	750.00	750.00		
Athletic Team Uniforms	2,000.00	2,000.00		
Cooking appliances for GRAD	900.00			
Cookie Club	248.79	250.00		
Grad lanyards	868.00	868.00		
Open Mic Club	337.93	337.93		
TOTALS:	15,402.62	11,791.43	-	203.81

Date as of: February 23, 2026

Principal's Report: École George Elliot Secondary School PAC Meeting
Rob Aviani, February 23, 2026

- **Thank You**

- To all École George Elliot Secondary School staff, students, and families for making me feel welcome in my new school community.
- To our vice principals, Jen Hall and Colin Mayer, for supporting the staff, students, and school community through our principal transition.
- Thanks to Bruce Shaw, Brent Sookochoff, Colin Mayer, Jen Hall and all our teachers for supporting our students through the course selection and grade 9 transition process.
 - HMS Grade 8 students visited on February 6 for a tour
 - Brent Sookochoff and Jen Hall have visited HMS several times to help our new students through course selection
 - Grade-specific course selection assemblies as well as our Parent Information Evening happened through the week of February 9.
 - Course Selection closes March 1 at midnight
- To our Graduation Coordinator, Dom Johnson, and our Parent Prom Coordinator, Michele Stone, who have brought me up-to-speed on graduation activities.
 - Grad Photos are underway
 - Grad Information Assembly tentatively scheduled for April 1
- To our custodians and school district operations department for continuing to work hard to get our school ready.

- **International Education Room.** The PAC is meeting in the George Elliot International Education Room. Our International Education teacher, Daphne Brown, plays a key role in welcoming and supporting international students to succeed academically, socially, and culturally. These students include homestay students, new Canadians, and students joining relatives in BC.

- **GESS Drama Production.** Thanks to Lee Schwartz and our student actors and production team for their performances of "She Kills Monsters." The play is about how a young teen uses the role-playing game Dungeons and Dragons to overcome adversity.

- **GESS Athletics.** Thank you to our coaches for leading our athletic teams.
 - Senior Boys- Dan Vicaretti, Sean Roberts, and Chris Davis (parent)
 - Senior Girls- Kathy Lafontaine and Jenn McWhirter
 - Junior A Boys- Derek Jory(parent) and Ritchie Bennett (parent)

- Junior B Boys- Terry Westhaver(parent) and Brendan Ziegman (parent)
- Junior Girls- Mike Edwards(parent) and Cassidy Miller (fall student teacher)

- **“Take A Book” Programs.** Our English teachers have been intentionally looking at which books still support our current curriculum and which ones aren’t central to their teaching anymore. Many of the titles are still great independent reading books, however, these books are just not ones that teachers are building units around anymore. Students may like to take these books home and enjoy them for recreational reading. Students can watch for pop-up “Take-a-Book” kiosks in the library and other areas of the school.

- **Capstone 2025-26 - May 14, 2026.** At our January meeting, Jim Laird shared the school’s desire to expand early dismissal on Capstone day for the 2026-27 school year to from just Grades 9-10 to Grades 9-12. The purpose of this change is to make it easier for all teachers to participate in Capstone activities. On Capstone day, Grade 12 would make appointments to present, and Grade 11 would book an observation slot. After the Grade 11s & 12s present or observe, they would go home. Grade 9s & 10s would go home as soon as the early dismissal happens at noon. The staff were curious about the PAC’s feelings about the possibility to bring this change into effect for the 2025-26 school year.

- **New Principal’s Learning Conversation.** Rob is in the midst of having individual and small group conversations with GES students, staff, and families to learn more about the school community. The purpose of the conversations is for Rob to have a deep understanding of the community so that he is best able to support the school.

COPAC Parent Conference



Who should attend

- Any parents and caregivers of students in Central Okanagan Public Schools
- Parents & caregivers interested in learning how to better support their students in SD23
- Current PAC executives or those interested in getting more involved with their school PAC



**Saturday
February 28, 2026**

9am - 3pm

In Person at the new Learning Center at Hollywood Road Educational Services



Register Now: FREE



Parent & Caregiver Learning Sessions

9am - 12pm



Lunch & connections

12pm - 1pm

PAC Learning Sessions

1pm - 3pm

Coffee, snacks & lunch will be provided



What to expect

- Parent education sessions on current learning topics
- Insights into digital literacy and AI in SD23
- Lunch and networking with SD23 Trustees
- Practical PAC learning sessions
- Opportunities to connect with other parents

