

**École George Elliot Secondary School
Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Minutes
Monday, November 17th 2025 at 6:30pm**

In Person: Art Room

1. **Call to Order**
 - 1.1. Time: 6:33 PM
 - 1.2. Regrets: Bretta Lawton, Tanya Leshuk, Ian Long
2. **Motion to approve the Agenda:** Additions/Approval – Approved: Brian, Seconded: Mark
3. **Motion to approve prior meeting minutes - Oct 20th 2025:** Additions/Approval – Approved: Brian , Seconded: Mark
4. **Executive Reports**
 - 4.1. President's Report
 - 4.1.1. Planning meeting for Outdoor Education Space. 8 students, Dis of LC, etc. Groups came up with sketches with ideas. We submitted ideas to get a plan made up.
 - 4.2. Treasurer's Report
 - 4.2.1. See attached report
 - 4.3. COPAC Report
 - 4.3.1. Tobias Blaskovitz from the SD23 Learning Innovation Team to hear about the CARE (Climate Action Ripple Effect program) in our November guest speaker spot. The CARE team is seeking community mentors for SD23 students participating in this program. Share this link and/or the attached poster with your community and friends.
<https://sites.google.com/learn.sd23.bc.ca/care-in-sd23/home>
 - 4.3.2. There is a New District Newsletter, which will be coming out monthly on the last Friday of every month.<https://app.smore.com/n/5fbdj>
 - 4.3.3. COPAC will be hosting Samantha Woods to talk about Executive Function and ADHD on November 19, 2025 at 6:30pm. We will share the poster and registration link out to Families later this week but wanted to give your PAC Executives the first opportunity to register here: From Chaos to Clarity: Helping Kids Strengthen Executive Functioning Skills https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/B9JJ6CvjTPa967VM_s5Ttw (there will be another next year as this one was so popular.
 - 4.3.4. SAVE THE DATE: COPAC Parent Conference Saturday February 28 in person at the new Learning Center at Hollywood Road Educational Services. Stay tuned for more details or email us with ideas for speakers.
5. **Principal's Report**
 - 5.1. See attached report

6. Old Business

6.1. Gaming Funds update

6.1.1. Funding has been verbally approved over the phone, we are still waiting for the office letter and deposit.

6.2. Bank Signatures update

6.2.1. Bank has signatures, awaiting confirmation that we can sign up for online access

6.3. Revisit BCCPAC Annual Fees; Update from Ros

6.3.1. We will not get a BCCPAC membership this year as we do not feel they are providing anything for us. COPAC will get a membership and keep us informed.

6.4. Discuss funding requests

6.4.1. Talked about a new funding request but have not approved any yet as we are waiting for funding and didn't have a quorum.

7. New Business

Adjournment 7:17 PM

George Elliot Secondary School PAC Income Statement

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

Bank Account Status

General Account	\$ 1,472.42	Gaming Account	\$6,267.04
Cash or Other	\$ -	-	-
As of September 30, 2025			

Fundraising

Items	Deposit	Expenses	Profit	%
	-		-	0.00%
	-	-	-	0.00%
	-	-	-	0.00%
	-	-	-	0.00%
TOTALS:	-	-	-	0.00%

Gaming Funds

Year	Grant	Approved	Remaining
Prior Year Remaining	6,274.04	4,685.50	1,588.54
2025-2026	-	1,500.00	- 1,500.00
TOTALS:	6,274.04	6,185.50	88.54

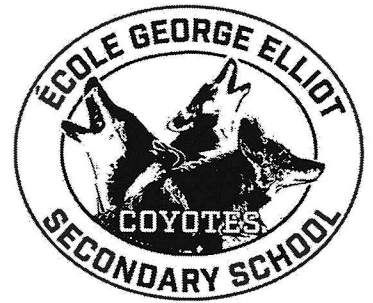
Gaming Fund Expenses

Item	Requested	Approved	Issued	Expenses
Bank Fees				9.00
Oyama Zipline Grad 2026	3,685.50	3,685.50		
Soccer Team Bus	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Outdoor Club				
Physics Olympics Team	1,000.00			
United Nations Climate Change Conf		750.00		
BC Student Leadership Conf	1,000.00	750.00		
Capstone presentations lunch	750.00			
Athletic Team Uniforms	2,000.00			
Cooking appliances for GRAD	900.00			
Cookie Club	248.79			
Grad lanyards	868.00			
Open Mic Club	337.93			
TOTALS:	11,790.22	6,185.50	-	9.00

Date as of: November 17, 2025

École George Elliot Secondary PAC: Principal's Report

- Monday, November 17, 2025



- **Thank you!**
 - Thanks from all of us for being involved in PAC, our school, and in your child's education. We are very appreciative of parents/guardians who volunteer and make a difference.

- **Calendar Drafts (26/27 & 27/28)**
 - In accordance with district policy, I need to run the draft calendars by the PAC prior to moving toward finalizing. Each year, the district calendar committee sends in most of the days, and as a school we include the early dismissal dates. We have three each year.
 - Please look at the schedules (back of this report) for the coming two years and provide me with any feedback you feel would help our scheduling.

- **Score Clocks**
 - The district is looking toward long-term planning for facilities, and one item that has come up refers to score clocks in high-school gymnasiums
 - High school gyms have been having issues as these clocks are aging out – ours are original to our reno in 1997, and I spent a couple thousand a couple years ago in maintenance to keep them going. RSS's are completely shot, MBSS's are older than ours and don't work anymore. KSS has been searching for replacements etc. for over a year now as theirs are on their last legs.
 - The district is sourcing new clocks working alongside ADs and want us all to get ours upgraded and up to a common standard in the next year or two (same models, etc.). The district is covering a bunch of the cost.
 - Here's the challenge – the school's share to pay will be roughly \$40,000 to upgrade the main gym. This does not include what the district is covering. It would usually take me 3-4 years to save that amount and still operate the school with a little wiggle room. I am curious if the PAC wants to organize and run a fundraiser (next year?) to help offset this bill to the school operating.
 - I know that's not where high school PACs usually spend their time, but this is a very large cost, and I am looking for your help. There's no urgency that this has to be done now, but I was hoping to float the idea your way and put it on your radar.

- **Student Learning Council and Student Scan**
 - We have engaged in a scan of our students to find out about their experience at GESS. The questions developed were:

- Question 1: Do you feel welcomed, valued, and like your voice is heard at George Elliot? What might help you feel a stronger sense of belonging, inclusion, and support here?
 - Question 2: What aspects of your learning are most important to you and why? In what ways does George Elliot create opportunities for you to pursue your curiosity and build important skills?
 - Question 3: How does George Elliot support you in making an impact that matters for your own growth, for those around you, and for the world at large?
 - Question 4: What would help you feel more confident in reaching your goals both in school and in life beyond it? What does success look like to you, and how do you see yourself making a difference in the things that matter most?
 - In patterning the data using AI asking about their learning and their experience, some common themes arise (the shortened, generalized version of the results):
 - 1. Relationships and Belonging Are Key
 - Students thrive when they feel welcomed, valued, and connected. Positive relationships with teachers and peers create a sense of safety and belonging, which is essential for learning. When students know adults care about them and their voices matter, they feel supported and confident.
 - 2. Learning That Feels Relevant and Engaging
 - Students want their education to connect to real life and future goals. They value hands-on experiences, creative projects, and opportunities to explore personal interests. Practical skills help them see the purpose behind what they learn.
 - 3. Inclusion and Respect for Every Student
 - Students appreciate environments where everyone feels included and respected, regardless of grade level, program, or background. They want their voices heard and their individuality recognized. A school culture that celebrates diversity and equity helps all students feel they belong.
 - Students were also asked if they wanted to be part of a Student Learning Council as the fifth question. We had 35 students say they'd be interested in coming alongside the teachers in their work, giving feedback, providing support, etc.
 - Hoping our first meeting with the students will be next week.
- **Magical Mystery PAC Tour**
 - Automotive shop in December?

DRAFT Calendars: 2026-27 and 2027-28

2026-2027 Days in session	189 (3 summer Pro Days August)
Number of days of instruction	182
Number of non-instructional days	7
Schools open	Tuesday, September 8
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	Wednesday, September 30
Administrative Implementation Day	Friday, October 9
Thanksgiving Day (schools closed)	Monday, October 12
Early Dismissal #1 (1:30pm), Parent/Teacher Open House	Thursday, October 15
Teacher Professional Day	Friday, October 23
Remembrance Day (schools closed)	Wednesday, November 11
Winter vacation period (schools closed)	Monday, December 21 – Friday, January 1
Statutory holiday (schools closed)	Friday, January 1
Schools reopen after Winter vacation	Monday, January 4
Teacher Professional Day (Support Staff In-Service Day)	Friday, February 12
Family Day	Monday, February 15
Early Dismissal #2 (1:30pm), Parent/Teacher Open House	Thursday, March 11
Spring vacation period (schools closed)	Monday, March 15 – Thursday, March 25
Schools reopen after Spring vacation	Tuesday, March 30
Good Friday (schools closed)	Friday, March 26
Easter Monday (schools closed)	Monday, March 29
Early Dismissal #3 (11:45am, grades 9 and 10 only), for Grade 12 Capstones	Thursday, May 13
Victoria Day (schools closed)	Monday, May 24
Administrative Day (students do not attend)	Wednesday, June 30

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