



**École George Elliot Secondary School
Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting
Monday, May 12th 2025 at 6:30pm**

In Person: Library

1.0 Call to Order 6:33pm

Attendance/Introductions: Jenn H (VP), Tanya L, Ros H, Craig C, Ian L, Bretta L, Mark H, Linda I
Regrets: Jim L, Jodi C, Cynthia L

2.0 Agenda: Additions/Approval – Approved Ros : , Seconded: Tanya

2.1 Further discussion and agreement on distribution of funds going forward into the next school year and beyond. Decision on policy.

2.2 Craig C - Discussion on hot lunch program for all kids in Lake Country Schools "\$1/day Lunch Program"

2.3 Discussion on the Grad Committee Fundraiser – Progress and feedback.

2.4 Community Gaming Grants Online Application Access – BCeID Do we need to act?

2.5 COPAC Survey on student literacy:

"Please consider discussing the following questions at your April or May meeting and submitting your feedback through the survey provided.

· What should we as a district consider when providing families with information and resources on literacy?

· What literacy information and resources would be most beneficial for families?

· How can we effectively share this information and these resources with families?"

2.6 GESS Bylaw change to accommodate positions in regard to COPAC requirements, discuss wording and agree changes.

3.0 Minutes: Previous Meeting Minutes Additions/Approval – Approved: Ros, Seconded: Tanya

3.1 It was agreed that there would be final discussion at the AGM regarding distribution of funds in that none would be granted directly to the Grad Committee, apart from the annual **Field Trip***, but rather give support to them with the issue of gaming licenses when requested, so they can hold events and fundraisers themselves.

3.2 Craig C. brought up the findings he has seen on hot lunch programs in Surrey and the model they work to. Jenn H. said that GESS does provide about 100 breakfast packs and 60 "brown bag" lunches and snacks. There was also input from Ros H. and Bretta L. regarding the situation at HS Grenda. There was discussion about the 4 x PACs in Lake Country and the Food Bank holding a forum to discuss ideas and get something moving!

It was agreed that Craig C. would investigate further and report back at the AGM.

3.3 Thanks from Jobina for the Grad raffle. Some \$20k was sold resulting in around \$10k in profit for the Grad Committee

3.4 Ros H. said that she is working on the BCeID process and will have it complete soon.

3.5 The COPAC Survey is open to all to contribute as desired.

3.6 GESS Bylaw wording for COPAC rep to read "No member shall hold more than one office at any one time, except the position of COPAC Representative."

* = traditionally has been Oyama Zipline, but venue and activities can be decided by the Grad Committee

4.0 Principal's Report: Jim Laird – See *Accompanying Report*

5.0 Reports:

5.1 President – Craig Catton: See Agenda 2.2

5.2 Treasurer – Tanya Leshuk: New Checks to come out of gaming fund (Tanya to give final total when known)

As Per : 05/12/25	Balance	Request	Funds Requested/ Pending	Funds Approved
Gaming	\$21,498.43	Oyama Zipline G12 - 2024/25		\$3,685.50
		Frescette basketball uniforms		\$3,121.61
		Johnson Hiking club gear		\$864.75
		Frescette High jump covers		\$1,025.00
		Robinson Gardening tools		\$200.00
		Yoga mats x 10		\$439.00
		McKenzie field trip		\$1,000.00
		Frescette soccer shirts		\$1,519.23
		Lafontaine "GESS swag"		\$1,000.00
		Vicaretti Treadmill		\$1,000.00
		Indigenous Grad skirts		\$581.98
		Frescette volleyball uniforms		\$1,000.00
		Oyama Zipline G12 - 2025/26	\$3,900.00	
			TOTAL	\$15,437.07
General*	\$1,524.88		REMAINING	\$6,061.36
* = not part of "REMAINING" balance				

5.3 COPAC – A couple of positions still need to be filled, if interested. Budgets are in full swing
BCCPAC is end of May (25th) if anyone wants to go. Online form.
May 27th Central School Gym COPAC Social.

6.0 Old Business:

6.1 : Transfer of PAC Information to current PAC, Discussion on banking, passwords. *THIS TO BE FINALIZED AT THE AGM*

7.0 New Business:

7.1: Finalize distribution of funds by PAC to the school going forward (see minutes 3.1)

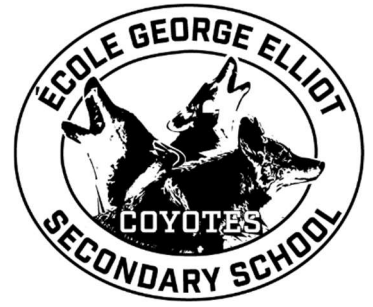
7.2: Potential Hot Lunch Program spearheaded by GESS PAC for all of Lake Country (see minutes 3.2)

8.0 Adjournment: 7:56pm

Next meeting: AGM June 23rd, 2025 Library

École George Elliot Secondary PAC: Principal's Report

- Monday, May 12, 2025



- **Thank you!**
 - Thanks from all of us for being involved in PAC, our school, and in your child's education. We are so very appreciative of parents/guardians who volunteer and make a difference.
- **Capstone (May 15)**
 - Our Capstones will be happening on Thursday this week. Thank you to those of you who will be taking part. It's an amazing opportunity to celebrate our grads and hear about their learning, their experiences, and their goals for life post-graduation.
 - Grade 9 and 10 students are dismissed at 11:45am, and 11s and 12s stay for the afternoon to take part in Capstones.
- **Graduation Format Shift**
 - For those of you with grads this year, you're no doubt aware, but for everyone else, due to the size of our graduating class (~200), the largest in GESS history (as a point of reference, last year was 134), we have split convocation into two times
 - Other high schools do this (for example, RSS has 5 convocations, back to back to back...)
 - This allows for families to have more seats for guests, grads/families book the ceremony that works best for them until a time is full.
 - The ceremonies will be exact, same speeches, same valedictorians, etc.
- **Mental Health Week Recap**
 - Mental Health Week was busy at our school. Many events took place that were fun, that shared awareness, and that had students making commitments (no cell phones!). A highlight was Corey Hirsch, ex NHL Canucks goalie came to speak to the school about his journey with mental health in sports.
 - Ms. Lafontaine, Mr. Shaw, and Mr. Sookochoff took the lead and their work benefited all
- **Truth and Reconciliation Events**
 - We have an amazing committee of 10+ teachers and admin to are taking time to plan these important school events/learning experiences
 - **Red Dress Day** took place last week. We had displays in the library and classes took part in learning experiences.
 - **The Moosehide Campaign Day walk** will be happening on May 14th (this Wednesday). Learning will happen in classrooms and we will be walking with students on a similar route to the Terry Fox route.

- **Indigenous Peoples Day** will be happening a week earlier than the scheduled day (the last enrolling day of school) and the committee is actively planning learning and activities for that as well.

- **Retirements/Timetabling/Staffing**

- Congratulations to Sergei Ryga, Barb Huva, and Angela Hansen for heading off into retirement after June 30th
- We're in the process of finalizing our timetable and posting/filling jobs
- Congratulations to:
 - Our new Art teacher, **Andi Silver** (from SMS)
 - Our new Shop teacher, **Keith Stewart** (from KSS)
 - Our new FI/French Language person, TBA
- No other teachers have posted out, so we likely will have no other new posts until we work on filling temporary teacher positions this summer

- **Global Student Leadership Summit (Toronto)**

- Kathy Lafontaine took nine students to Toronto for a global student learnership conference. OKM and Canyon Falls had students there with our students as well.
- It was a great experience!

- **Fundraising Raffle Stubs and Info from Last Meeting**

- Jen/Colin have the raffle stubs and if they haven't handed them over yet to Ros, please do! The parent committee raised over \$10k on this fundraiser so it was a huge success. They are grateful for the PAC support.
- To follow up with a fundraising/advertising question, the VPs can speak to it. I sent Ian the policies as well (730R and 735). Essentially, anyone can make donations to the school through the district if they want nothing but a tax receipt in return. If they want recognition, advertising, etc. there is a lot of policy around it. We can thank people in newsletters and we can write a letter of thanks easily. Outside of that, it's a lot of policy.

- **Proposed PAC Meeting Dates for 2025-26**

- Proposed for next year: Sept 22nd, Oct 20th, Nov 17th, Dec 8th, Jan 19th, Feb 23rd, No March Meeting, Apr 13th, May 11th, June 22nd
- If those dates work for the PAC, we will get them on the school calendar and upload them on the website in July for the coming year