



**École George Elliot Secondary School
Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting
Monday, April 14th 2025 at 6:30pm**

In Person: Library

1.0 Call to Order 6:35pm

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

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

2.1 See how we can reduce our allocation to Grad each year to distribute funds more evenly for the whole school.

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

2.3 Congestion on the roundabout at Berry Road/Main St./BWL Road at end of day. Discussion on a solution to ease the situation. Jim will speak to

2.4 New Fundraiser idea – Bretta: Julie Spearing “Pre Love Consignment” 25c for each item sold. Recognition, but there may be policy on it. **Jim will investigate.**

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

3.1 It was discussed that as of the next school year, PAC will assist the Grad Committee by providing gaming licenses as requested by them to fundraise, but that PAC will not be contributing funds directly to the Grad; this may include the end of year event (eg. Oyama Zipline) The idea being that funds will be distributed to GESS teacher requests that benefit the school as a whole for the present and future.

3.2 Ros reported that as far as she knows, the Grad Fundraiser is in full swing and working well! Report to follow next meeting.

3.3 Subsequent discussion on the roundabout issue via Jim is for Ian to follow up on.

3.4 Potential change in COPAC and executive members being on COPAC, bylaw change.

The present bylaw states that if a person holds an executive position on the PAC, they effectively cannot be the COPAC representative. The proposal is to amend the bylaw to allow for this to be the case. The current Bylaws states that:

Terms of Office

- Will be for one year, beginning in October.
- No member shall hold more than one office at any one time.
- No member shall hold the same office for more than three consecutive years, except under extraordinary circumstances.

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

5.0 Reports:

5.1 President – Craig Catton: Nothing to report

5.2 Treasurer – Tanya Leshuk: Bank checks to be worked out with Jodi for approved items and liaise with Brendalee (GESS)

As Per : 04/14/25	Balance	Request	Funds Requested/ Pending	Funds Approved
Gaming	\$21,508.43	Oyama Zipline G12 - 2024/25		\$3,685.50
		Frescette basketball uniforms		\$3,000.00
		Johnson Hiking club gear		\$861.00
		Frescette High jump covers		\$1,025.00
		Robinson Gardening tools		\$200.00
		Yoga mats x 10		\$439.62
		McKenzie field trip		\$1,000.00
		Frescette soccer shirts		\$1,500.00
		Lafontaine "GESS swag"		\$1,000.00
		Vicaretti Treadmill		\$1,000.00
		Indigenous Grad skirts		\$600.00
		Frescette volleyball uniforms		\$1,000.00
		Oyama Zipline G12 - 2025/26	\$3,900.00	
			TOTAL	\$15,311.12
General*	\$1,524.88		REMAINING	\$6,197.31

* = not part of "REMAINING" balance

5.3 COPAC – There was talk about literacy. Ros provided this information from the COPAC
"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?"*

We will have this discussion at the May 12th meeting.

BCCPAC is end of May (25th) if anyone wants to go. Online form.

6.0 Old Business:

6.1 : Transfer of PAC Information to current PAC, Discussion on banking, passwords.

7.0 New Business:

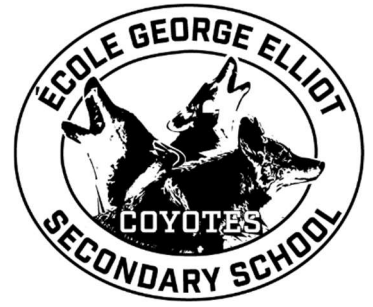
7.1: Oyama Zipline 2025/26 Approved: Ros, Seconded, Bretta FINAL TOTAL TO BE ASSESSED.

8.0 Adjournment: 7:30pm

Next meeting: May, 12th 2025 Library

École George Elliot Secondary PAC: Principal's Report

- Monday, April 14, 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.
- **Japan (visit to Kun-ei Girls School)**
 - I was in Japan the last week representing the school district in Kun-ei's Entrance Ceremony (their start of the school year where they welcome the new students)
 - We have Kun-ei students each year in the school district, including two wonderful Japanese students here this year
 - (Jet lag is a real thing...)
- **VP Update**
 - Colin Mayer has been in the VP seat at GESS for the last two weeks. He's the VP in charge of last names starting with A-K, just as Darryl did
 - He's a really kind guy, a self-proclaimed Science geek, and has fit in incredibly well
- **Timetabling/Staffing**
 - We're in the thick of it. We're making great progress and things are nearing the end product. Timetables take between 80-100 hours to make, and we're almost there. VP Jen Hall has taken the lead and has done very well with her first run through.
 - We have our staffing meeting tomorrow afternoon. It's a high-stake meeting and we are hoping that all goes well.
 - It's where the district lets us know how many teachers we are given to run the school. We should be okay in the process knowing there is a deficit looming and we needed to timetable tightly.
- **AP Seminar National Youth Leadership and Social Entrepreneurship Event (Ottawa)**
 - Two of our Grade 12 students represented our school (Annika and Dani) in Ottawa during the second week of Spring Break at a national leadership conference
 - Students collaborated with youth leaders around the country, made TED Talks, and shared their Lake Country perspective with students, teachers, and NGO leaders from across the country.
- **Windscares Festival (this week)**
 - It's year 2 of Windscares! We parted ways with Kiwanis and decided to run our own music festival

- Goals were to provide a rich experience for kids from around the province while paying adjudicators fairly for their time. In year one we had over 30 schools sign up, and this year we have 38.
 - Dave McGarry has been the lead on this project and has done an exceptional job developing and running a unique, powerful Music experience for our students and many, many others.
- **Elections Canada**
 - I drove into school today to find three party signs on our property. I spent over an hour trying to get hold of the candidates to have the signs removed. One (the Liberal sign) has been taken off property. No response from the NDP and the Greens yet.
 - Our school has been chosen to be a polling station on April 28th. It will be a pretty disruptive thing to have in the school during a school day, but with the help from Elections Canada and student volunteers we hope it will as painless as possible.
- **School Dance (April 22nd)**
 - Some students (with teacher support) in AP Seminar are planning a Spring dance for grades 9-12 on April 22nd as their “Do Good” project. They’ve sold around 60 tickets so far. They’re hoping for 150ish kids to make it a decent number, but we’ll enjoy whoever we get.
 - Students have asked for a dance for all grades, so we’ll see what kind of uptake there is. Tickets are on sale in the foyer every day at lunch.
- **The Howler Returns**
 - A group of students in their AP Seminary “Do Good” project have resurrected The Howler! For those who may not know, it is a student-led news program (essentially) with fun and games, school spirit, etc. all with the goal of providing the students a voice.
 - The team is amazing, and they’ve produced professional looking material
 - The goal is to create a structure with Grade 11s to build capacity so it continues.
- **PAC Members at Capstone (May 15th in the afternoon)**
 - Louise reached out to all 6 who said they wanted to take part and haven’t heard back from everyone. Please check your email and get back to her to confirm if possible.
- **Parent/Guardian/Teacher Open House (March 6, 5-7pm)**
 - Feedback?