**MINUTES**



**DONNA GABRIEL ROBINS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PAC MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2025**

Total Attendance: 14

Voting members: 9

Administration: Nathan Erker, Dunja McCrae

Executive Members: Erin Vokes, Nicole Cotiangco, Jennifer Shelford, Angela Kim, Shantel Harrison, Allie Rasmussen, Jennifer Kim, Lavanda Ren

Absent: Valeria Darie

General Members: 5

**Introduction:**

The meeting was called to order by Nicole at 6:31pm, noting that we respectfully acknowledge we work and learn on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the Matsqui, Kwantlen, Katzie and Semiahmoo First Nations. *A brief round of introductions was provided.*

**Principal’s Report:**

* We have a brand-new admin team this year, Alissa Matheson and Kelly McNeil.
* Our school was number one in registration this year, and we are only nine students away from our previous year’s population. Our community is only expected to grow.
* Hiring of teachers went well, and there is only one classroom, grade two, that is waiting for a permanent position.
* The ministry funded snack program has provided our school with a new fridge to allow for more fresh fruit and vegetables. Access is for all students, with a no questions asked policy. The before school snack station continues and a lunch program is in the works.
* Focusing on community is especially important this year, with a goal of having the whole school outside for recess and eventually lunch period.
* An update on the new playground was given. Mr. Erker was able to find donations to pay for the ground prep and installation, and a plaque will be put up as recognition. No date was set for a start yet, but it will be as soon as possible.
* In need of a noon hour supervisor, may need to make a call out to the parents
* Some needs for the school this year were discussed. Mystery Science program was used last year and was well loved by students and staff. For the entire school it would cost $1600. Mathletics program was also brought up and is $10 per student for a total of $3500. As not every student will use it.
* Field trip and classroom enhancement funds for teachers were discussed. Angela is still waiting for a response back for our gaming grant to fund those field trips, but it is in our budget already ($150). For classroom enhancements each teacher will get $200.

**President’s Report:**

Nicole warmly welcomed everyone to the first PAC meeting of the school year!

The first hot lunch, Sept 19, is up on munchalunch with the following dates to be added in the next week. A parent question was brought up about dietary options in hot lunch, the PAC does its best to give as many options as possible including halal, vegan and gluten free when available.

Treat days are changing from just popcorn days to add in some TCBY frozen yogurt days as well.

COBS Yorkson donated some baked goods for the meeting. They also have a program with the school for 5% profits back to us when our school’s name is mentioned, which also applies at the Willowbrook location. Yorkson COBS has a program for the kids where they get a bookmark, and after they read a certain number of books, they get a free treat. Nicole is going to find out more information.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Gaming account for June 2025 was reviewed. Approved by Nicole and seconded by Jennifer. General accounts for June 2025 were reviewed and approved by Nicole and seconded by Jennifer.

**Secretary’s Report:**

Deferred until next meeting.

**DPAC Report:**

First DPAC meeting of the school year has not taken place yet, scheduled for September 18th.

**Old Business:**

Update on funnel ball equipment that was purchased last year, still waiting for the ground to be prepped. New playground will take precedence.

**New Business:**

Nine Blocks was used for spirit wear last year, with good reviews, and Nicole has been in contact with them to find out options and prices. Mr. Erker suggested a possible new graphic decision for this year. Allie mentioned she had a contact as well and is going to get more info and bring it to the next PAC meeting.

Meet the teacher night is September 19, last year we had a food truck, but the minimum spend was not met. It was decided not to have one this year and possibly have popcorn and freezie sales instead. There will be a PAC table out front to greet parents and students along with some games and a sign-up sheet.

A date was set for the Halloween dance, Thursday October 23. Will need to contact DJs soon.

Halloween colouring contest was discussed. This year there will be two categories, one for just colouring and one for multimedia/crafty. Will change the name to Halloween creative pumpkin contest.

Pancake breakfast date was confirmed for December 5, we will start booking as soon as possible.

Fundraising Ideas - Jennifer S. has looked into Neufeld farms and says the website is very straight forward and we would just need to book a timeslot with their truck for delivery; she is going follow up for potential dates. Will be a new fundraiser for the school.

We are still on the waitlist for the Community Values coupon book, hopefully next year we can run it.

Purdy’s chocolate will be run again, just need to decide on if we should do just Christmas or add Easter as well.

Willoughby Elementary has reached out and asked if we want to do the Giants hockey fundraiser with them. The Giants have raised their minimum ticket sales to 300 and suggested multiple schools do it together. One date would be January 18 at 4pm.

Jennifer K. brought Mabels Labels up as a potential fundraising idea – set up is straightforward, and all set up through their website. She will bring more info to the next meeting.

The label fundraiser may assist with the lost and found - 17 bags leftover last year. Usually, Mr. Erker just brings it to the closest thrift store but was asking for suggestions on other places he could drop off instead. Somewhere that would give away the clothes for free to people in need. Ishtar was one suggestion. Another suggestion was Once Upon A Child which would be on concession and would bring money back to the school, but ultimately was decided this has ethical implications.

Shantel spoke about Presentation House theatre, speakers from Vancouver who teach about black Canadian history through art. It would cost $167 for three classes and an additional $25 per class. Mr. Erker and Mrs. McCrae were interested in moving forward and said they had cost covered.

A staff member has inquired about having Body Science presented by Saleema Noon come to the school, Mr. Erker is wondering if parents would be interested, there would be an option to opt out. Group present agreed this would be of benefit.

Question came about having an end of year fun fair, Nicole explained why we haven’t had one due to our field only opening late last year and planning/reservations for items required as soon as possible. Other ideas for a year end event were discussed, such as a family picnic.

**Open Discussion**

No further discussion was held.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.