

# PAC General Meeting minutes

Herbert Spencer Parent Advisory Council

February 2025 6:30PM | *Meeting called to order by* Courtney Daws

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## In Attendance

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Erin Shaw | Karyn Audet | Courtney Daws | Kimberly Thompson | Renee Nixdorf | Miyuki Davidson | Jennifer Rhyne | Adam Cotterall | Amy Parr | Hayley Renfrew | Anna Carmichael | Amandeep Duhra

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## Call to Order

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The meeting was called to order at 6:36PM.

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## Land Acknowledgment

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*Herbert Spencer Elementary School is located on the unceded, shared homelands of the Halkomelem speaking peoples.*

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## Approval of Minutes and Agenda

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Approval of Agenda: Renee Nixdorf moved, Jen Rhyne seconded. No abstentions. No oppositions. Approved.

Approval of January Minutes: Amy Parr moved, Karyn Audet seconded. No abstentions. No oppositions. Approved.

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## Chair Report | Courtney Daws

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- Opening the discussion of replacing the drumming program. It filled the gap in music education and performance when we were without a music teacher. A proposal for a new activity may be needed.
- Spring Performances: Consider adding more in the spring as the winter season is already very busy. To be discussed in April.
- PAC 101 Presentation: Postponed to April.
- Next PAC Meeting (April): Discussion on PAC leadership for next year. Ideally, two new chairs will take over, with Courtney and Karyn stepping into past-chair roles.
- Chair Transition Plan: Working on a manual/chart to guide incoming chairs.

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## Principal's Report | Paul Manville & Simran Hare

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- School Learning Plan:
  - Success of the Ocean Families initiative—student surveys show improved feelings of safety, happiness, and belonging.
  - Learning through Hannah Beech's resilience and anxiety-building strategies.
- New Play-Based Learning Program:
  - Structured play, Climate Club, and "Inventive Play" initiatives.

- Play-based learning helps kids embrace failure and creativity.
- Ministry of Education resource: “Play Today BC” <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/early-learning/teach/play-today>
- Various types of play: Pretend, dramatic, functional, constructive, and rule-based games.
- Emphasis on outdoor and open-ended play with minimal adult direction.
- Introduction of "Risky Play" vs. "Hazardous Play".
- Megan Zeni’s outdoor education strategies <https://meganzeni.com/>
- Communication Enhancements:
  - Outdoor communication boards and AAC tools added to the playground to support student interactions.
  - Kindergarten play area to include loose parts play. In need of storage solutions like wagons.
- Upcoming Initiatives & Events:
  - Family Play Days: Potential launch after spring break.
  - Activity Budgets: \$1,000–\$1,500 needed for play-based materials (list to be presented in April).
  - Grade-Specific Activities:
    - K–Grade 1: Mike’s Critters.
    - Grade 2: Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (VSO) trip.
    - Grade 3: "Lights, Camera, Orchestra" VSO event.
    - Grade 4: Bike program with HUB on May 23 & 26 (bike safety).
    - Grade 5: Otter Water Park trip on June 10.
- School-Wide Initiative:
  - Fish name selection—each class to submit a name for a school-wide vote.
- Administrative Changes:
  - Simran’s last day: February 13.
  - Paul’s leave begins: February 17.
  - Interim Principal: Ken Heady (2-3 weeks).
  - VP Position: Erin Banister from QayQayt.
- Upcoming Events:

- Pink, Red, and White Day: February 13.
- Pro D Day: February 14.
- Sports Day: Returning this year.

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## Vice Chair Report | Karyn Audet

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### Parent Education Initiative:

- Paul Davis Workshop: Social networking and online safety (cyberbullying, technology use, etc.).
- Separate sessions for Grade 3–5 students and a parent night for all levels.
- Potential partnership with Glenbrook Middle School.
- Funding support available through DPAC.
- Planning underway for next year.

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## Committee Reports

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### Events – Karyn

- Parents’ Night Out: May 31 at Curling Club Lounge.
  - Theme: 80s Night.
  - Entertainment: DJ, catering.
  - Ticket Pricing & Advertising to come.
  - 50/50 Raffle possibility.
  - Event Team: Nina, Erin, Amy, Renee, Karyn. Please feel free to reach out to Karyn if you would like to help with the event.

### Fundraising

- Family Portraits: February 25.
  - 16 time slots, \$40 donation per image (option for additional images).
  - Sessions: 4:00–9:30 PM.
  - MunchALunch to collect payments.
  - Photobooth available in the library.
- Student-Created Art Fundraiser: April 14–17. Items to go home by Easter.
- Purdy’s Easter Fundraiser: March 3–25. Pickup on April 7.

- Neufeld Fundraiser: April 11–28, delivery on May 7. Focus on BBQ items.
- Fun Lunch Program:
  - January–March Revenue: \$5,100—exceeding budget expectations.
  - Parent Survey: To gather feedback for future improvements.
- Spring Fundraiser: Little Miss Coffee for staff appreciation.
- PAC Kitchen Cleanup: Thanks to Amy and Am for organizing.
- Food Storage & Expiration Issues: Leftover snacks should be communicated to future event committees

#### Member Communications/Yearbook – Jenn

- Yearbook Photos Needed.
- High School Musical "Mamma Mia" Promotion for Social
- Grade 5 Event: Tentative date in May.
- Photography Fundraiser: Ensure promotional materials are sent to Paul for distribution.

#### Additional Business

- School Zone Safety: Meeting with the Minister of Transportation next week.
- School Board Support: Addressing holistic school zone safety issues.

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#### Next Meeting

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Meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

April 12th Next Meeting.