

MINUTES



Date: February 26, 2026
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Online on Zoom
Executives in Attendance: President Winsome Rauch
Vice President Amy MacKenzie
Treasurer Michelle Bastien
Director Stacey Parson
Director Pinkey Bhatti
Indigenous Representative Eruke Omorogieva
Inclusion Representative Lisa Hemeon
Attendance: See Zoom Attendance list attached
Special Guests: Superintendent Nathan Ngieng
Board of Education Chair Stan Petersen

1 Call to Order

Chair Winsome Rauch called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. A quorum was met.

2 Welcome & Introductions

Acknowledgement of Local Indigenous Community.

DPAC expresses condolences for the lives lost on February 10 in Tumbler Ridge and extended sympathies to the victims' families, students, staff, first responders, and the community. Information regarding an official GoFundMe established by the Tumbler Ridge PAC, in partnership with the Mayor and Council, as well as provincial supports, has been shared on the DPAC Facebook page.

3 Abbotsford School District Student Voice and Connection

Superintendent Nathan Ngieng highlighted the evolution of student voice initiatives (starting with YC34) and their alignment with the district's strategic plan and Student Success pillar. While the district's six-year completion rate is 94%, survey data shows some students do not feel safe or that they belong; well-being goals are included in school plans.

Secondary student representatives meet regularly through a community of practice model. A current SFU pilot, "Co-Creating Social Connection," focuses on supportive friendships, trusted adults, community participation, and school belonging. Schools are developing a Social Connection Toolkit with student-led initiatives and inclusive spaces.

4 Abbotsford School District Student Voice and Connection Q&A

The Superintendent advised that limited research funding is available to support Social Connection Toolkit initiatives; however, many projects rely mostly on volunteer time and staff leadership.

Regarding vaping, student feedback indicated concern about overly punitive responses (e.g., suspensions) and a preference for education and supportive conversations. Students noted the addictive nature of vaping, ease of access, discreet devices, and marketing targeted at youth, emphasizing the need for regulation and prevention-focused approaches.

5 Board of Education Update

Board Chair Stan Peterson presented the board's strategic plan priorities, which include literacy, numeracy, early learning, student well-being, and core competencies, along with plans to review and update policies and engage with stakeholders.

6 Approval of January 2026 Minutes

The minutes were approved as posted.

7 President's Report

Highlights include:

- Executive members represented DPAC at a number of events: District Planning Team Meeting (Jan 26), BCCPAC Board Information Session (Feb 10) – (note BCCPAC AGM nominations close March 31.) Shared Learning Keynote (Feb 13), and BCCPAC DPAC Chat (Feb 18) on budget planning and district committee participation, meeting with Superintendent and Board Chair (Feb 4) regarding parent concerns (noon-hour supervision, posting PAC documents, district programs, classroom violence).
- Held DPAC Executive Meeting (Feb 5).
- Abbotsford City Council rejected the proposed supportive housing/safe consumption site near Abbotsford Traditional School; acknowledgment of ATS PAC advocacy. President Rauch clarified PAC advocacy role under the School Act (non-partisan but permitted to advise and communicate on school-related matters, including safety).
- Planning and promoting 2026 DPAC Parent Learning Events.
- Hosted Bullying webinar Feb 23; positive feedback, recording available until March 11.

8 Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Michelle Bastien presented reports and spoke on the closing bank balances and outstanding cheques as of January 31, 2026.

Gaming Account: \$2913.90

General Account: \$5509.58

The reports were received and filed.

9 Constitution & Bylaws (C&B) Committee

The assembly moved into a Committee of the Whole to consider constitution and bylaw amendments. The C&B Committee, chaired by Michelle Bastien, had prepared an initial draft of Constitution and Bylaw Amendments that was issued to members for review.

MOTION to resolve into the Committee of the Whole to consider constitution and bylaw amendments

MOVED: ATS, SECONDED: Mouat, CARRIED

Suggestions were submitted and were discussed with the following motions made:

MOTION To Section 1.3 regarding discretion of the chair, add the words “or their delegate” at the end.

MOVED: Fraser Middle, SECONDED: Clearbrook, CARRIED

AMENDED MOTION: That Section III - Proceedings at Meetings be amended by inserting a new subsection prior to Voting as follows:

4. Debate Limits -Debate on any motion shall be limited to five (5) minutes per speaker. No member may speak more than twice to the same motion, except by permission of the chair or by a majority vote of the members present.

Further, all subsequent subsections within Section III be renumbered accordingly to accommodate this insertion.

MOVED: Abbotsford Senior, SECONDED: Centennial Park, CARRIED

MOTION to update the bylaws to identify the school district as “School District 34 (Abbotsford)”

MOVED: Yale Secondary, SECONDED: Abbotsford Senior, CARRIED

MOTION to define “Majority” in our terms

MOVED: Abbotsford Senior, SECONDED: Robert Bateman, CARRIED

MOTION Substitute “will” for “may” in section 4.3.2

MOVED: Clayburn Middle, SECONDED: Abbotsford Senior, CARRIED

MOTION To refer the remaining suggestions of the Draft Constitution and Bylaws Amendments back to committee

MOVED: Clayburn Middle, SECONDED: Abbotsford Traditional, CARRIED

The C&B committee will meet again and re-draft proposed changes prior to the April 2026 meeting. All parents are welcome to attend, especially those whose suggestions remain to be reviewed.

10 New Business

10.1 Nominations Committee

In accordance with the bylaws (Section IX-4), a Nominations Committee is appointed annually prior to the Annual General Meeting. As outlined in Section IV-5, DPAC elections are conducted by the Chair of the Nominations Committee. Volunteers are being sought from the PAC community to serve on the committee. Members will be responsible for identifying and recommending eligible candidates for DPAC Executive positions. Committee members must not intend to run for an Executive position.

Interested individuals are asked to contact dpac.sd34@gmail.com by April 9, 2025. The Nominations Committee members will be announced prior to the April 23 General Meeting. The committee will present a slate of candidates in advance of the May 28 DPAC Annual General Meeting.

11 DPAC Announcements and Upcoming Events

- [Parent Volunteer and PAC Executive Networking Evening](#) – Location Abbotsford Sr Secondary, Thursday, March 5, 2026 Time 6-7:30 PM. RSVP AbbotsfordDPAC.ca. The event will provide an opportunity to discuss topics such as fundraising, governance, hot lunch, and elections, with the goal of strengthening school communities and building connections between schools.
- [Study Smarter, Not Harder: With Your Brain in Mind](#) – WJ Mouat, April 8, 2026 6:30 PM. Registration AbbotsfordDPAC.ca. The session, similar to a recent \$49 public offering, is being provided free to families. PACs are asked to watch for promotional materials and share the information with their school principal and communities, including through school newsletters.
- [Dr. Shahana Alibhai – “Feel Better” Book Exploration](#), May 11, 2026. Sign up by Mar 1 on AbbotsfordDPAC.ca to receive your free copy. Everyone who signed up by January 15 should already have received their book or will have it waiting for them at their school office.
- Elect your DPAC Representative at your AGM. PACs were reminded to elect one DPAC Representative at their Spring AGM, as required under the School Act. Schools are asked to forward the name of their elected representative to DPAC following the AGM.

12 Announcements and Upcoming Events from Others

- Public Board of Education Meetings – March 10 and April 14, 2026 at 6 pm
- [ERASE Cyberbullying and Sextortion](#) – Online: April 8, June 10.
- [ERASE Online Safety and Privacy](#) – Online: March 11, May 13.

- [BCCPAC Conference and AGM](#) – April 24-26 in Richmond

13 Open Floor

Trustee attendance at DPAC meetings discussed; general consensus is to have at least one trustee for open portion, with preference to rotation. Appreciation expressed for trustee participation and presentations.

Noon Hour Supervision: No specific district policy; practices are determined at the school level. District standards apply for volunteer/employee requirements (e.g., criminal record checks).

International Baccalaureate (IB) application deadline is March 15. Families of academically motivated students in Grades 8–10 were encouraged to consider the program at Abbotsford Senior Secondary.

PACs expressed appreciation to ATS PAC for advocacy regarding the Martens Street project.

14 Next Meeting

April 23, 2026, 7 pm on Zoom - Special Guest Michelle Robertson: Helping Students Plan Their Post-Secondary Path.

15 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM

Zoom Attendance

Name (original name)
Aberdeen Elementary (Alycia) Voting
Amy MacKenzie - DPAC VP & Rep - Dr. T. A. Swift (Zoom user)
Barry Wijnandts - Clearbrook DPAC rep
becky chief dan george pac rep (becky)
Centennial Park E-Amanda Degenhardt DPAC (Dr. Amanda Degenhardt)
Chandra Holm - King Traditional (DPAC Rep)
Chelsea Muirhead-SandyHill (rep) (Chelsea Muirhead)
Corina Rochon (she/her) - Robert Bateman (Chair) (Corina Rochon (she/her))
Emily Kasper - Margaret Stenersen (Chair) Voting (Emily Kasper - Margaret Stenersen (Chair))
Eruke Omorogieva
jas b (SD34 DPAC Zoom #1)
Josephine Leonard W.J.Mouat (Josephine Leonard)
Lisa Hemeon ASIA (Lisa)
Michelle Bastien- Prince Charles# Fraser Middle# Yale Seconday (Michelle Bastien)
Nathan Ngieng - Abbotsford School District
Pinkey Bhatti - Director - Voting South Pop Dpac Rep (Pinkey Bhatti)
Rani Prakash- ATS (Voting) & South Pop - PAC President DPAC (Rani Prakash)
Sabrina Hamidullah - Fraser Middle Rep (Sabrina Hamidullah)
Shannon Rose - Clayburn Middle DPAC Rep (Shannon Rose - DPAC Chair)
Stacey Parson DPAC Director (Stacey Parson)
Stan.Petersen SD 34
tracey Lamoureux Bateman dpac rep (tracey)
Winsome Rauch - DPAC President (DPAC Abbotsford School District)