

DeBeck PAC Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2025 at 6:30pm

In Person at the DeBeck Library

1. Call to Order and Welcome

- Chair: Tienne Schaub
- Treasurer: Kevin Lim-Kong and Edmund Szeto
- Secretaries: Kathy Lien and Lisa Santos
- Call to order @ 6:33pm.

2. Attendance

- Tienne Schaub, Kevin Lim-Kong, Edmund Szeto, Kathy Lien, Lisa Santos, Henry, Theresa Wong, Kevin Walsh, Carolyn Walsh, Vivian Batalha, Poonam Kaler, Eva Poon, Maloy Navarro-Ocampo, Cherie Lang, Lisa Schwartz

3. Updates from our Principal and Vice Principal

• Seismic Upgrade

- It has been an exciting week for our school. Over Tuesday and Wednesday, we had seven classes move into classrooms. We have one remaining class in the portable, Division 1- Ms. Romalis. They will move into the school when the library is complete. The library is projected to be completed by the end of October.
- The office, staff and universal washrooms will be the final phase of the project.
- We will be getting new lockers. They are currently on back-order.
- While our second resource room is being completed, Mr. Rymer and Ms. Leung will be in Portable 1. Portables will remain onsite until needed for another project.
- Piping has been done for future Ministry-funded childcare facility.
- The brick in the courtyard has been removed.
- Projected completion by January 2026.

• September Start-up

- We currently have 378 students and 16 divisions.

• Staffing Updates

- We welcomed two new Educational Assistants to our team today. Ms. Jennings and Ms. Hassan.
- Ms. Leung is a new English Language and Resource Teacher who was hired in August.

• Spirit Wear

- DeBeck School Spirit wear will be for sale In October.
- There will be t-shirts (cotton and dry-fit), sweatpants and three kinds of sweatshirts (hooded, full zip and crew neck).
- Information will be emailed to all families.
- Last year, our special edition shirt was tie dye. Stay tuned for this year's special edition colour.

• Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA's)

- The Foundation Skills Assessment is an annual province-wide assessment of all B.C. students' academic skills in grades 4 and 7, and provides parents, teachers, schools, school districts and the Ministry of Education with important information on how well students are progressing in the

foundation skills of Literacy and Numeracy. These assessments will happen, sometime between October 1 and November 3, 2025. Parents/caregivers receive their child's report.

- **Early dismissal**
 - Will be on October 22nd and 23rd at 1:45 PM for Parent Teacher conferences.
- **Individual Photo Day**
 - Individual photo day will be on October 22nd and retakes on November 13th.
- **Terry Fox Run**
 - Our Terry Fox Run will be on Friday, September 19th in the afternoon. Division 1 to 3 will be collecting toonie donations. A link will also be provided for online donations. More details will be going home in the WAAG.
- **Dare program**
 - The Dare program will be back this year with Constable Tammy. This is a 10-week program which educates Grade 4–6 students about good decision making, dangers of drug and alcohol, digital citizenship, etc. The program happens every other year. Another great program, Student of the Street, for Grade 6/7s is also coming.
- **K-pop**
 - Booked for term 2 for all students during the week of March 2nd. The PAC had previously approved \$2600 for this activity.
- **Term 1 Clubs and Extra-Curricular**
- **Dragon Band- Ms. Abrams**

This is an audition band for students currently taking band. Dragon Band is held on Tuesdays at lunch. Auditions start on October 7th.
- **Creative Club- led by Ms. Abrams and Ms. Leung**

This club will focus on student-led, creativity-focused fun. Possible directions include drawing, painting (if students clean up carefully afterwards), beading, crocheting, knitting, song writing, poetry/story/play writing, musical theatre, dancing, singing, drumming, clowning, Basically anything that gets students using their creative brains and helps them shut off that internal critic voice that lies to us all that what we create “isn't quite good enough”. For me, as a teacher, encouraging this creative spirit and acting as a guide for it, is one of my most important roles. Creative Club will be on Fridays at lunch.
- **Volleyball- Coaches Ms. A., Ms. Cheung, Mr. Rymar and Ms. Xi**

Volleyball is for Grades 6 and 7. More information to come.
- **Run Club-Mr. Loewen**

Run club will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at recess.
- **Student leadership**

This club will focus on service to the school community. Students discuss how to help the school community and create school spirit. Students who want to join typically sign up at the beginning of the school year.

4. Treasurer Update

- Operating account is about \$15k.
- Gaming account is about \$13k.
- We are waiting to receive this year's Gaming funds. About \$6k expected.
- Funds from raffle sales must be spent within a year. Gaming funds must be spent within 3 years. We are on track to spend these funds within the allotted time frames.

- Budget for 2025/26 is approved.
- If any clubs need funding, Administrators can ask PAC.
- The Gaming funds should benefit all students. Last year, we used these funds for ultimate frisbee. We may consider using these funds for a volleyball program. Tienne will meet with a volleyball coach who has contacted her.
- The Pathway fund got moved to a Technology-related fund. We expect about \$6k in this fund. The fund can be used for keyboards, mice, replacing a broken iPad, etc. The fund is held by the school but spent with the PAC's discretion. We questioned whether the PAC should regularly contribute to this fund. Note that the school receives their budget at the end of September or end of October. Part of this budget can go towards iPad carts, projectors, keyboards, etc.
- Last year, the school and PAC bought out the lease for our iPad carts. Recall that this was more cost effective since our current iPads are expected to last at least 3 more years. The PAC did not receive an invoice for this expense. Lisa Schwartz will see if the school was invoiced.
- In previous years, the PAC held Direct Drives to fundraise about \$5k for a tangible goal (e.g., new playground, iPads). We questioned whether the PAC should regularly hold Direct Drives so the DeBeck community knows we fundraise regularly. The Administrators will come up with a wish list for tangible goals; for example, benches near the playground, garden boxes, etc.
- Last year's Grade 7 committee left a surplus of a few hundred dollars.
- Teacher allocations: The PAC provides \$300 to each classroom teacher; \$400 each to the librarian and band teacher; \$200 to each support teacher; and \$15 per student for field trips.
- Tienne updated PAC reimbursement form.

5. District PAC Update

- Next meeting is in October.
- Typically, there is a PAC 101 in Nov.

6. 2025-2026 Calendar

- **Hot lunch:** Order forms to come out soon.
- **Meet the Staff** will be on Thursday Sept 18 @6pm. Magic show @6:30pm. In case of bad weather, Tienne will book the gym for a back up location.
- **Movie Nights** will be back in our gym! Our first movie night will be on Thursday Oct 23rd. Subsequent movie nights will be in February and May. Pizza sales are planned. We would like students to vote on a favourite movie. Tienne will purchase a movie license. We tend to break even if we hold at least 3 movie nights. The Grade 7s may want to do a movie fundraiser for their grad. Administrators do not need to be present anymore because the gym now needs to be rented/booked directly by the PAC.
- **Pumpkin Patch** will be on Tuesday Oct 28th. Like last year, Eva will order pumpkins from GJ Farms. **We need help from parents/guardians with a pick-up truck** to transport pumpkins from the farm to DeBeck by 8am on Oct 28th. If you can help, contact debeckpac@gmail.com. We require at least 2 pick up trucks. We need help setting up the pumpkin patch on the morning of Oct 28th.
- **Frozen yogurt/treat day** will be in December. Typically, we order from Yogen Fruz. We store the yogurt in the school's freezers. Staff come to retrieve and distribute treats. Motion to approve \$800 for frozen yogurt treat day. Motion passed by Vivian. Seconded by Kevin W.
- **Saleema Noon** will be invited this year.
- Our **Spring Fair** will be on Friday June 5th. Previously, we held the Spring Fair and Raffle together. Recently, we pitched the Spring Fair as giving back to the community. We typically break even when running Spring Fairs. Previous costs included games, a balloon entertainer, etc. We charged for tickets to play games.

7. Fundraising Updates

- When we fundraise, it is important to let the community know what we are fundraising for and/or what is the need for the school. We aim to find a balance for the amount of fundraising we do because we do not want to make families tired of fundraising. The Grade 7 committee also does their own fundraising. We can consider sending an introductory letter to the community. This letter can let the community know about plans for the year, including fundraising, and highlight the Spring Fair as a culminating event to give thanks to the community.
- Pub Night will be in November. Audrey to organize.
- Bright Raiser contacted us and gave a sample box. We can sell their items for fundraising. We thought it was a good idea to borrow. We may consider making our own boxes or baskets to sell.
- Hot lunches are our primary revenue generator.
- Last year, Grade 7s fundraised by selling Krispy Kreme donuts, mango mochi, etc.
- Last year, our Purdys fundraiser made about \$300. We questioned whether it is worth the effort. If done again, we should advertise earlier with flyers in classroom windows. We may consider promoting top 5 best sellers. Ideally, start after Halloween for delivery at the beginning of Dec. Lisa Santos to run this fundraiser.

8. New Business

- Grade 7 committee to be formed at a later date. We have 56 Grade 7 students. Once a committee is formed, the Administrators will meet with the committee representatives to map out plans, share ideas with grade 7 teachers, etc.

9. Q & A

- None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.