

Sentinel Secondary PAC Annual General Meeting

May 15, 2025, 9:00am, classroom 203

Present:

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Nora Gambioli | Chair | Parent Ed Team | Diane Shoar |
| Tonia Liao | Co-Chair | Amy Chen | Grade 8 Rep |
| Belinda Jia | Treasurer | Farzaneh Bamani | Grade 9 Rep |
| Gem Chu | Grad Team | Chen Tan | Grade 10 Rep |
| Anna Chin | Events Team | Maryam Morshedi | Grade 10 Rep |
| Sam Ridgway | Legacy Team | DPAC Rep | Joy Zhou |
| Dana Renaud | Wishlist Team | | |

Zahra Ahmadi (acting secretary), Tenzin Khangsar, Soroush Loghmani, Marina Koshelva, Jasmine Ni, Zoe Li, Rong Zheng, XiaoBin Li, Kerry Farhadi.

Chair welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes

Motion by Joy Zhou to approve today's agenda, seconded by Anna Chin, **CARRIED**

Motion by Farzaneh Bamani to approve minutes from April 10, seconded by Anna Chin, **CARRIED**

Event Team Report – Anna Chin

End-of-Year staff Luncheon - final event of this school year will be Tuesday June 24th (date to be confirmed)

More casual brief on the final PAC meeting, next month (June) will be focus on:

- Reviewing the year's accomplishments
- Discussing lessons learned
- Beginning plans and visioning for the next school year

Parent Education Report – Diane Shoar

Parent Education Online Workshop Series – Mindful Connections

- Initiated in response to feedback from the Boys Club Network event.
- Presenter: Kristy Ambrose (Westcoast Family Centres) to support parent-teen relationships.
 - Feb 4 – Understanding and Supporting Teen Mental Health
 - Apr 29 – Mindfulness & Burnout Prevention
 - May 27 - Final workshop, Fostering Healthy Relationships

Upcoming Parent Engagement Events (2025–2026)

- Oct 2025 – In-person presentation with the Community Services Team by West Vancouver police.
- May 2026 – Mock Crash Scenario: A staged crash event involving emergency services to promote road safety awareness for young drivers. To be confirmed.

Mobility Survey Results & Carpooling App Interest

- Survey conducted to assess interest in a carpooling solution. 42 respondents:
 - 69% (29 families) expressed interest in using a carpooling app.
 - 31% preferred other transportation methods.
- Usage interest breakdown:
 - 32.5% – a few times a week
 - 22.5% – daily
 - 27.5% – occasionally
- Concerns: trust, safety, privacy, and logistical coordination.
- Suggested solutions: Google Forms/Sheets, private WhatsApp group.

- Liability: potential use of waivers and safety guidelines.

Next Steps

- Proceed with a pilot carpool program using simple, secure tools.
- Continue monitoring privacy and safety concerns closely.

Q: Is Mock Trial intended as an educational or trauma-prevention event?

A: Primarily designed to prevent risky behavior by simulating real-world consequences in a safe but powerful way. It may be emotional but impactful.

Q: Is there a cost for professional carpooling apps?

A: Yes, Go Kid app offers safety features but costs ~\$4,999/year for a public-school license. Looking for free, secure alternatives.

Q: Can we involve PAC in the pilot launch? A: Yes, PAC will coordinate with willing parents for pilot testing.

Legacy Team Report – Sam Ridgway

Student survey last year with 400+ responses, top student requests were Social spaces and Gym floor renewal. Within two years, both projects have been successfully launched or completed.

Fundraising

- 2023–2024: Raised approximately \$20,000
- 2024–2025: Target: \$40,000
 - Received confirmation that the gym floor project (funded by the district) will proceed this summer.
 - Continued to fund social space enhancements.

Social Events & Milestone Donations

- Hosted grade-specific socials (Oct 2024), one per week.
- Attendance: up to 70 people for some grades.
- Over \$13,000 donated to the Social Spaces project.

Major Spring Fundraiser

- Auction (April): 115 donated items → raised \$23,000 and Casino Night & Spartan Games: further community engagement

Motion by Sam Ridgway to **donate \$23,000** to support gym enhancements alongside district funding, **Seconded by:** Tonia Liao, CARRIED

Future Legacy Projects

- The team will meet with school administration to discuss the next major project:
 - Long-term (2–3 year) initiatives
 - A project that brings broad value and legacy to the school community
- Emphasis on inclusive engagement from parents across all grades.

Q&A:

Q: Will there be another auction next year?

A: No. Team recommends skipping 2026 and making it a biennial event to prevent fatigue and maintain high impact.

Q: How can parents contribute ideas for new projects?

A: Parents are invited to submit suggestions or examples from other schools. Collaboration with PAC and admin.

Administration Report – Crystal Tanfara

- Acknowledgments by Crystal for the Sentinel PAC.
- She shared a message of thanks from Principal Mike, for the PAC's support:
 - Casino Night & Games Night
 - Positive community energy and fundraising

Student Highlights & University Acceptances

- Sentinel grads have received acceptances to:

- Oxford, NYU, LSE, Johns Hopkins, and all major Canadian universities.
- Sentinel PAC sponsored the Grade 8 team at the IHBB Canadian National Championships, where they placed 2nd in the country and earned 4 individual medals!
- Athletics Updates:
 - Senior badminton and boys' volleyball teams won North Shore titles.
 - Girls' rugby 7s team qualified for provincials in Abbotsford.
 - Boys' rugby placed 3rd overall.
- Coaches and staff are preparing provincial trip budgets and welcome PAC support.

Spirit & Student Initiatives

- Final SI conversation held April 28:
 - School-wide bingo event created positive energy.
 - Food drive collected 12+ boxes for the Harvest Project.
- Grade 10 French Immersion: Quebec exchange ran April 24 – May 1 and Sentinel students travel to Montreal May 23–30.

AP Exams and Scholarships

- Over **750 AP exams** for 400 students are underway.
- Electronic exam format successfully adopted.
- 120+ scholarship applications submitted; the scholarship committee will meet on May 26.
- Huge thanks to PAC for the **\$13,000** scholarship donation.

Facilities and Legacy Projects

- Gym Floor Redesign: Painting begins week of June 16.
- Indigenous Hallway Mural Project:
 - Led by local artist John Spence (Squamish Nation).
 - Mural will be co-designed with Sentinel students.
 - May take multiple years; grant applications are underway.

End-of-Year Information

- Final day of class rotation: Monday, June 23
- Completion Days: June 24–25
- Report Cards: June 26
- Admin wrap-up day: June 27
- Students can meet teachers, complete work, or visit the school during completion days.

Summer Learning & Timetables

- Course selection is mostly complete.
- Timetables should be shared by June (earlier than previous years).
- Summer school planning is ongoing.

Q&A:

Q1: When will student timetables be finalized?

A: Course selection is nearly complete. Timetables are being built now and are ahead of last year's schedule. Final versions are expected in June.

Q2: If a student hasn't heard from their counselor, does that mean their courses are approved?

A: Yes, unless there's a conflict, students should assume their choices are accepted. Counselors will contact students only if adjustments are needed.

Q3: We haven't received confirmation about Summer Learning, what should we do?

A: Email the Summer Learning department directly. I will also follow up on whether notifications have been sent.

Grad Team Report – Gem Chu

- Gem presented the Grad Team update and thanked the school community for their support.
- The Grad Team supported a variety of social events throughout the year.
- Commencement is Sat June 14th, and Grad Banquet Sat June 21st

Wish List Report – Nora (on behalf of Dana Renaud)

Nora provided the update on behalf of Dana:

- Most Wishlist funds have been distributed.
- A few teachers and clubs are still finalizing their purchases.
- Unused funds may be redirected to the school's field trip fund, will be discussed at June meeting.

DPAC Rep Report– Joy Zhou

- Sheelah Donohue was officially elected as a School Trustee last month.
- DPAC is accepting nominations for executive positions for the 2025–2026, interested candidates should contact DPAC before June 4, 2025, the date of the next AGM.
- A total of 10 DPAC meetings were held this school year.

School Board Report

- Gaming fund applications will move online in the near future.
- Enrollment trends show fewer children in elementary schools due to some immigration policies.
- Childcare availability has increased; it is no longer as competitive as in previous years.

Superintendent's Report

- Final track material is being installed at the West Van sports field as warmer weather allows and renovated bleachers are currently underway.

Chair's Report – Nora Gambioli

This year we continued with our vision statement of ***“Growing our diverse school community through fun activities that support student needs”*** with an emphasis on social and collaborative activities.

We held 10 PAC meetings, 2 welcome nights for grade 8 and new parents; created five WhatsApp Parent Groups with a total of over 500 parents, supported a last-minute provincial Volleyball Tournament, and donated \$70,000 to the school for enhancements to the gymnasium to accompany the upcoming new floor.

Our five amazing parent Teams celebrated staff, supported students, brought parents together, AND raised money for school facilities!

Events = celebrated staff with huge luncheons and gifts at Christmas, Valentines Day and End-of-Year, organised a book sale, AND coordinated and managed our famous Multi-Cultural Lunch in March, raising over \$16,000, most of which will go towards student scholarships!

Grad = organised events for grade 12 students and parents, including Casino Night, Winter Semi-formal, Grad Banquet and Commencement ceremonies.

Wishlist = distributed well over \$32,000 in Gaming Grant funding and reserves through two rounds of applications to clubs and teachers for school and classroom enhancements.

Parent Education = hosted a series of four parent education workshops, and coordinated with student “Stop The Traffic” Club to support active transportation initiatives and traffic safety events throughout the year.

Legacy = organised five very successful “Parent Socials” for parents in each grade in October, garnering over \$14,500 more in donations for our “Social Spaces” Project, and hosting an astonishing Online Auction with 140 items, and culminating in a *Spartan Games & Casino Night* on April 16th which raised over \$20,700 for further gym enhancements!

Sentinel administration kindly supported each of our Parent Socials, and our hopes for student “Social Spaces” to be created throughout the school as soon as possible. Lockers were removed over last summer, raw wood delivered, and Mr. Visser worked overtime and weekends to produce a series of 8 unique and beautifully crafted wooden benches for students to gather, and that will last as legacy pieces for many years to come. PAC funds also enabled the purchase of high-top tables and 16 chairs to adorn the main hallway, and the art department are finalising plans to create murals for this hallway as well.

Many thanks to ALL parents who participated this year to support our students' needs, create a more engaged parent community, and to have fun; this year will go down as a very memorable and successful one for Sentinel PAC and for all of us!

Nominations for 2025-2026 Executive and Teams

The nomination list was reviewed and confirmed by nomination officer Farzaneh Bamani.

Executive

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| ○ CHAIR | Nora Gambioli |
| ○ VICE-CHAIR | Tonia Liao |
| ○ TREASURER | Chen Tan |
| ○ SECRETARY | Zahra Ahmadi |
| ○ District PAC REP | Joy Zhou |

Directors-at-Large

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| ○ Events Team Lead | Gem Chu |
| ○ Wishlist Team Lead | Tonia Liao |
| ○ Parent Ed Team Lead | Diane Shoar |
| ○ Legacy Team Lead | Sam Ridgway |
| ○ Grad Team Lead | Kerry Fahardi & Dana Renaud |
| ○ Communications | Zoe Li |
| ○ Grade 8 Rep | Chen Tan |
| ○ Grade 9 Rep | Amy Chen |
| ○ Grade 10 Rep | Farzaneh Bamani |
| ○ Grade 11 Rep | Maryam Morshedi |
| ○ Grade 12 Rep | Echo Wu |

Motion by Farzaneh Bamani to approve all nominations, seconded by Tenzin Khangsar, **CARRIED**

Budget Draft Review for 2025–2026 - Belinda

- The budget was presented as a first draft for 2025-2026.
- The budget will be revisited in June and September; final approval in November.
- Legacy fundraising amount is zero for now since the Legacy team hasn't finalized plans.
- Multicultural Lunch income was higher than budgeted this year (\$17,000 actual vs \$14,000 budgeted). Parents have donated food items in past years, reducing costs and increasing income potential; general expenses budget was \$2,500; actual spending was less, so there is some budget room.
- Reminder that budget can be adjusted as needed before final approval.

Q&A:

Q: Why is the estimated income from the Multicultural Lunch (MCL) lower than the actuals this year?

A: Current year actual was \$17,000; estimate for next year is \$14,000.

The current year saw unexpectedly high income due to cost reduction from late delivery by a vendor

Q: Can PAC support the purchase of Sentinel Track Team jerseys, students have mismatched shirts or none.

A: PAC has supported jersey purchases in the past, but no requests have come from current PE or Athletics staff. PAC recommends that someone (parent or coach) submit a Wish List Request in September

Q: How reliable are the BC Gaming Grant and MCL income year over year?

A: BC Gaming Grant: Very consistent, tied to student enrollment numbers. Approx. \$24,000/year in recent years.

Q: What's included in the \$13,000 expense under the Student Support Program?

A: This was the donation we made last fall to the school for the Social Spaces Project.

New Business

- Constitution & Bylaw Amendments tabled to June meeting
- Discussion about parent-kid sports initiative
- Volunteer appreciation event to be confirmed (likely June 24)
- Next PAC meeting: **June 12th**

Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am by Chair.