

Ecole Sentinel Secondary PAC Annual General Meeting

January 15, 2026, 9:00am, Library

Nora Gambioli	Chair	Gem Chu	Events Team Lead	Steve Qu	Grade 8 Rep
Tonia Liao	Vice-Chair	Tonia Liao	Wishlist Team Lead	Amy Chen	Grade 9 Rep
Chen Tan	Treasurer	Kerry Farhadi, Dana Renaud	Grad Team Leads	Farzaneh Bamani	Grade 10 Rep
Zahra Ahmadi	Secretary	Zoe Li	Communications	Soroush Loghmani	Grade 11 Rep
Joy Zhou	DPAC Rep			Echo Wu	Grade 12 Rep

Other Attendees: Zheng, Xeura E, Armita Alikhani, Jenny Cha, Marine Kosheleve, June Sun, Yuehing Liu, Xiao Bin Li, Arzoo Babul, Sharon Lee-Flynn, Dan Tan

Chair welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes

Motion by Joy to approve today's agenda, seconded by Zoe, **CARRIED**

Motion by Joy to approve minutes from Dec 11th, seconded Tonia, **CARRIED**

- A correction was noted: the **Grade 8 Representative** should be updated to **Steve Qu**.
- An additional attendee from the December meeting (**Lucy G8, Shan G9**) was added to the attendance record.

Legacy Team Report – Armita

- Campaign theme: **“Your Legacy, Their Future.”**
- Launch date: **January 29, 2026.**
- Fundraising goal: **\$25,000 (Jan–Apr 2026)** with a **three-year goal of \$100,000.**
- Suggested donation: **\$100 per family per year.**
- Educate parents on school funding realities and misconceptions.
- Demonstrate impact of previous PAC-funded initiatives.
- Highlight student-driven priorities.
- Build a sustainable annual giving culture.

Communication Channels:

- Email campaigns (PAC and potential Principal confirmation)
- WhatsApp via Grade Reps
- School website and newsletters
- Social media and PAC events

Phases:

- Pre-launch preparation completed ([content](#), [donation link](#)).
- Reminder emails planned 2–3 weeks post-launch.
- Mid-campaign updates and optional video featuring students.
- Final 72-hour push and campaign wrap-up.
- Apr 30th Celebration, Goal announcement, Thank You emails

Q&A:

- **Q:** How can future Grade 8 families be introduced earlier to Legacy giving?
A: Incorporate Legacy information into Grade 8 orientation and welcome events.
- **Q:** Are tax receipts provided?
A: Yes, donations through School Cash Online over \$25 receive tax receipts.
- **Q:** Will students be more involved in future years?
A: Yes. This year focuses on launching successfully; student engagement will expand in future campaigns.

Grad Team – Kerry

- **Winter Formal:** January 29, 2026 (in-school event). Grade 11 and grade 12
- Volunteers confirmed for decorating and event support.
- Planning underway to use remaining Grad funds for a legacy-style contribution benefiting the school.

DPAC – Joy Zhou

- Presentation from **Michael Frankowski**, Director of International Programs.
- **International Program Stats:**
 - **456 international students** from **24 countries** (2025–26).
 - **\$7M revenue** generated this year.
 - **\$34M generated over five years; \$90M+ since 2012.**
- District budget feedback process opening soon.
- Sarah Ward’s parent education session recommended – Jan 28th at Kay Meek.
- Upcoming **School Board Trustee elections** in October 2026.

Q&A:

- **Q:** How are host families and international students matched?
A: Through the West Vancouver School District International Program.
- **Q:** How can parents participate in trustee elections?
A: Elections are public and coincide with municipal elections.

Events – Gem Chu

2025 Holiday Appreciation:

- Total donations raised around **\$4000**
- Staff gift cards: **\$25 per recipient.**

Upcoming Events:

- Valentine’s Staff Treat Boxes: **February 12, 2026** – distributed after PAC meeting.
- **Lunar New Year decorations and event:** student-led, inclusive approach.
- **MCL:** largest PAC event of the year
 - **Jan 16–20:** WhatsApp group announcements
 - **Jan 26–30:** Volunteer and donation sign-up links shared via e-bulletin
 - **Late Jan:** Table planning meetings; menu planning; marketing discussions
 - Outreach to small businesses/restaurants for donations or advertising if needed
 - **Feb 2–6:** Collection of table menus and summaries
 - **Week of Feb 9:** Gym floor plan finalized (approximately **16–18 cultural tables**, based on last year)
 - **Mar 2–5:** Ticket sales period (QR-code system planned to reduce fake tickets)
 - **Mar 5 (10:00 a.m.):** Event Day
 - **Mar 12:** Post-event review at PAC meeting
 - **Multicultural Parent Appreciation Event:** To be confirmed
 - School Board members will be invited.
 - Parents were encouraged to suggest additional food tables (e.g., Indian cuisine or other cultures not yet represented).

Special Guests – Sentinel Art Mural Students

- Creation of a **120 ft x 4 ft mural** in the main hallway.
- Themes include Indigenous stories, diversity, balance, peace, and connection.
- Collaboration with Indigenous artists and district consultants.
- Design completed; panels are being sketched and color-coded.
- Painting phase beginning; students from other classes will be invited to participate.

Q&A:

- **Q:** How will younger students be involved?
A: Through art classes and supervised paint-by-number participation.
- **Q:** Will explanatory material accompany the mural?
A: Narrative and interpretive materials are planned.

Wishlist Team – Tonia

- PAC is awaiting release of the **Gaming Grant funds**, which have been delayed since fall 2025 due to changes in the provincial application system.
- Communication with the grant office is ongoing; informal indication received that the outcome is positive, though funds have not yet been released.
- Anticipated timeline shifted multiple times (December → January); funds are still pending.
- Some teachers required funding support; temporary advances were provided by the school.
- Similar grant delays reported by other West Vancouver secondary PACs.
- PAC will follow up with **BC PAC organizations** due to systemic issues affecting multiple schools.

Parent Education Report – Nora (in absence of Diane)

- DPAC-led Parent Education session scheduled for **January 28** at **Kay Meek Centre**.
 - Topic: **Executive Functioning** (supporting students and parents) – Sara Ward
 - Event will be promoted via the school e-bulletin.

Mobility Initiative - Zoe

- Pilot **carpooling initiative** developed by the Mobility Team in collaboration with students (including the *Stop the Traffic* student club).
- Interactive Google Map created with **11 geographic zones** (West Vancouver, North Vancouver, Vancouver).
- Parents can select their zone and join the corresponding **WhatsApp group** to self-organize carpools.
- Participation is voluntary; PAC and school hold no operational responsibility for carpools.
- No third-party apps used due to cost, privacy, and liability concerns.
- WhatsApp groups will initially be administered by **Diane**.
- Parents joining groups will be asked to identify:
 - Teen's grade, name, Optional Street name (for neighborhood verification)

Notes:

- **Privacy & Safety:** Parents raised concerns about sharing contact details and being added by unknown users.
 - With parent's control: what information they share within groups.
- **Liability:** It was emphasized that disclaimers are required, and legal advice may be needed to ensure PAC and school protection.
- **Access Control:** Suggestion made for admin approval of WhatsApp group members.

Grade Rep- Amy, Farzaneh, Soroush, Steve, Echo

Grade Reps confirmed continued support with sharing PAC communications. No updates.

School Update – Principal Mike Finch

- Students returned from winter break with strong energy; focus placed on resetting expectations around attendance, technology use, and learning behaviors.
- Graduates returning informally to visit teachers and students.
- Discussion held on exploring more structured alumni engagement opportunities.

School Programs & Events:

- Sentinel students won **all divisions** in the local Legion Art Competition.
- Two students placed **first** in the Yale Academic Tournament of Champions (450 teams, 1200 participants).
- Student **Daniel Rubin** ranked approximately **22nd worldwide** in his age group for fencing.
- Student **Grace Guo** won a STEM competition for a video project (*Do We Have a Second Brain?*).
- **Grade 7 Open House:** Strong attendance (~ 450 attendees).
- **Registration:** Open for out-of-catchment students; catchment students guaranteed placement.
- **Course Planning Night:**
 - Grades 8–9 Jan 21st: 6:00–7:00 p.m., Grades 10–11: 7:00–8:00 p.m.
- **Parent–Teacher Conferences:** Five-minute sessions maintained; parents encouraged to follow up directly with teachers for extended discussions.
- **AP Information Night:** Held in the library for Grades 9–11 families Jan 15th.
- **Dramatic arts at Kay meek “The Dining Room”:** tickets are available through cash online
- **Grad Formal Dinner & Dance in June:** Feb ticket selling continuing for 3 weeks, ticket price \$175, usually not making a profit

Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am by Chair.