



DPAC

District Parent Advisory Council
School District 46 - Sunshine Coast

January 2026 DPAC Minutes

Date: January 22, 2026 | Time: 7 pm

Location: (In person and via Microsoft Teams at the School Board Office)

7:00 PM Greetings, Introductions + Land Acknowledgement

The meeting took place in unceded traditional land and sea of the Squamish Nation and Sechelt Nation.

In Attendance: Tamara Hedden (Chair), Miyuki Shinkai (Secretary & BCCPAC Rep/ESS), Devika Naidu (Vice-Chair/CGE), Jude Pelletier (GES), Ayren Debrett (KES), Jay Dodge (ESS), Shannon Rody (CSS), Melissa Lennox (Treasurer/GES), Jana Curl (Director at Large/ CSS), Karla Shields (LES), Scott Davis (Past-Chair). Kate Kerr (SD46 Superintendent), Nic Weswick (SD46 Secretary-Treasurer), Statia Leach (Trustee Rep).

Regrets: Marissa Fisher (Director-at-Large/CGE). Brair Teal (DBE),

Absent: Rep (WSE), Rep (Spider), Rep (SCAS), Rep (RCCS), Rep (PHSS), Rep (MPES), Rep (HMBE).

7:05 PM Approvals:

- November 27, 2025, Meeting minutes available on the SD46 website (Miyuki/Melissa) m/s/c.
- January 22, 2026 Agenda Approval (Scott, Melissa) m/s/c.

7:05 -7:45 PM Guest Speaker: Nic Weswick, SD46 Secretary-Treasurer, presented 2026/2027 Budget Consultation. (PowerPoint Presentation link will be shared later)

- Timelines: Nov-Jan-Consultation, Feb- Preliminary considerations, March-Ministry funding announcement, April- Budget presentation, and July – New Fiscal Year.

-SD46 budget, mid \$60 million range with combined categories – operating, special fund, capital planning, and grants.

-Strategic Plan's 9 strands (Authentic Relationships, Personalized Learning, Nature-Based Learning, Experiential Hands-on Learning, Inclusion, Authentic Real-World Learning, First Peoples Principles of Learning, Transformative Assessment, and Flexible Learning Environment) are the driver of the budget allocation.

-Enrollment decline will affect the funding from the ministry since the allocation is on a per-student basis.

-Budget considerations in high-level -Managing inflationary pressure and addressing structural shortfall. Educational priorities require resources.

- Operational cost pressures – short-term sick leave costs are increasing, and benefit costs are increasing, Student transportation cost increases, and Trustee Election in the fall 2026 Administration.

- Capital Planning – District Transportation Facility, Expansion Funding Requests for GES, RCCS, and DBE. Structural upgrade or replacement of the Sunshine building.

Technology infrastructure cost.

- DSL students' voices are included in the budget consultation.
- Delegates asked about the possibility of district-wide fundraisers to bring more funding. The Secretary-Treasurer and Trustee explained to the delegates that the district has already been sourcing federal/provincial grant resources, other organizational collaborations and partnerships to bring the funding in to the needs.
- A delegate is interested in writing to MLA Neill about chronic underfunding in education.
- Your PAC's comments and feedback are welcome to send to: questions@sd46.bc.ca
- At the Operation Committee meeting on January 27th, 2 pm, the preliminary budget feedback will be presented. <https://sd46.community-ca.diligentoneplatform.com/Portal/MeetingInformation.aspx?Org=Cal&Id=469>
- The School Growth Plan is for every PAC to get involved in and learn about where the focuses are on, such as assessment, core competencies, etc.

Regular Reports:

- **Chair report: Tamara Hedden**

- For the upcoming Trustee Remuneration Ad Hoc Committee, the DPAC board made a recommendation to nominate a new DPAC Treasurer, Melissa Lennox, and chair Tamara Hedden as an alternate. (Miyuki/Scott) All in favour. m/s/c
- Working on BMO signers change.
- No Gaming Grant for 2025/2026 yet, due to a late application.
- The Board Committee meeting is beneficial to attend and watch on YouTube.
- BCCPAC Conference & AGM on April 24-26. Registration info is on its way. We will find out about the registration cost and feasibility.
- Food Safety 5-year Certificate. If your PAC member is interested in taking the course, please contact Tamara and Miyuki for pre-approval. As of today, we have 3 course takers from the KES PAC, WSE PAC, and ESS PAC.

Here is a 20% off group discount code for the registrants:

www.foodsafety.ca

20% off Partnership code: PAR-CHECOA-020P

And this is the link to the course

[Food Safety Training | Online Food Handler Courses Available | CIFS](https://www.foodsafety.ca/food-safety-training-online-food-handler-courses-available-cifs)
foodsafety.ca

- **Treasurer Report: Melissa Lennox**

The 2024/2025 Financial Report was submitted to the Gaming Branch by the end of September. SD46 DPAC applied for the 2025/2026 Gaming Grant after the deadline, and we are still waiting to hear if any funding is coming.

-Operating Chequing Account Balance as of November 27, 2025, \$205.20
Gaming Grant Account Balance as of November 27, 2025, \$692.96.

The board is still working to update the co-signers' paperwork. Currently, the chair and treasurer don't have access to review the account balance.

8:00 PM

• **Trustees Report: Stacia Leach**

Trustee's Newsletter available online:

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/AXTTToEiThteyrKSg?ref=email>

-Capilano University Sunshine Coast Campus closure was inquired about.

• **Superintendent Report: Kate Kerr** (attached to agenda)

Highlight - Shared Commitments for Communication

Purpose: In SD46, communication between families, caregivers, and school staff is guided by our shared values of Belonging, Integrity, Equity, and Learning. Positive, respectful partnerships support student well-being, strengthen trust, and contribute to a safe, caring, and inclusive school community.

Families and caregivers are expected to communicate and engage in ways that reflect these shared values.

Shared Commitment: Families and caregivers are valued partners in learning. When communication is grounded in belonging, integrity, equity, and learning, we strengthen relationships, resolve concerns more effectively, and support positive outcomes for all students.

*DPAC discussed that the Communication brochure published in 2020 needs a revision and engagement with new PAC/DPAC members. At the Feb DAPC meeting, we will take feedback and comments to improve the communication guide. Here is a link to the website on Communication Steps <https://sd46.bc.ca/families-and-students/engagement/>

8:20 PM Committee reports:

• **Healthy Schools**– December Healthy Schools Committee Report was shared by a DPAC representative, Jessica Wollen. New Minutes will come out soon. Miyuki will forward it to all.

• **Family Engagement by Miyuki Shinkai**

- The following PACs (CGE, CSS, ESS, GES, LES, and PHS) purchased BCCPAC membership for 2025/2026. These PACs have access to attend the conference and AGM on April 24- 26 in Richmond. BCCPAC has a seat at the provincial table to consult with the Ministry of Education and advocate for better funding in public schools, and provide educational resources and workshops for parents and caregivers. DPAC recommends that the PACs send a delegate or two to attend the AGM to vote. The resolution application is accepted. Miyuki is in the BCCPAC Resolution Committee. If you need more information on how to write and submit your PAC's resolution, please reach out to Miyuki. elphinstonepac@gmail.com

- Tamara and Miyuki attended the BCCPAC Advocacy workshop online, one of the presenters was Susan Wilson, whom the SD46 DPAC reached out to last year for coming as a speaker. Parents and the district's communication steps and flow chart were a main part of the presentation. The resources will be shared with DPAC reps.

- Jennifer Sinclair's parents workshop – "Building Confidence in the Anxious Child" at the Gibsons Community Centre on Jan 29 + Feb 5, \$40. Miyuki approached her to come to the DPAC to speak in April.

- **Active School Travel by Miyuki Shinkai / Tamara Hedden**

We could not make the VCH working group meeting this week; instead, Miyuki forwarded the correspondence on Port Mellon Hwy + YMCA to the group. The letter of request to MOTT was written by the Langdale advocate to improve the safety of highway crossing for the residents, especially for students. Miyuki arranged the lobbying meeting for MLA Neill to meet the point of contact person.

- **School Board's Education, Operations, Committee of the Whole - 4th Tuesdays.**

Typically, there are three separate committee meetings from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm at the SBO, each lasting an hour and a half. If you can attend one of these meetings, please don't hesitate to contact Miyuki or Tamara for more information. PAC reps and DPAC members are welcome to attend.

PAC Sharing: Questions & Comments

-ESS PAC Parents Helping Parents session with Sarah Knitter, Supporting Your Teen's Transition from an IEP to Post-Secondary Accessibility. (Hand out available)

-GES PAC – Challenges in bringing back the 'Night Alive' event for tweens. In the absence of a teacher sponsor, PAC volunteers are keen to host on their own; however, the logistics involve going forward, consulting on how to run the popular after-school event like this, facilitated by parents at GES.

8:45 PM Meeting to Adjourn

Next meeting: February 26, 2026, 7 pm @ Early Years Centre in Sechelt & Microsoft Teams. Guest Speaker: Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Roberts, AI Use in Schools
April 23 @SBO
May 28 @ EYC