



Hillcrest Elementary School PAC

Agenda

Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 7:00PM

Execs in Attendance

President- Tanya Burnstad

Secretary- Natalie Malyk

Treasurer- Keeley Cavanaugh

Social Media Coordinator- Emily Morton

Grade 7 Committee Liaison- Leah Funk

Hot Lunch Coordinator- Karen Callaghan Cullen

DPAC Representative- Jenn Buholzer

Regrets

Volunteer Coordinator- Carleigh Banford

Fundraising Coordinator- Gena T

Admin in Attendance

Principal - Annette Keeper / Vice Principal - Mary Stregger

Total Voting Members in Attendance : 9

Online - [Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 811 7593 3835 Passcode: hillpac

1. **Call to Order: 7:01PM**, motioned and passed
2. **Approval of the Agenda**, motioned and passed
3. **Approval of the Prior Meeting Minutes**, motioned and passed

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4. Principal/Vice Principal Reports

- Thank you to the PAC for funding the Art Start Program and many of the field trips

Field Trip Challenges and PAC Funding

- Bus shortages and increased costs to approximately \$800/trip make field trips inaccessible to many families. The need for volunteer drivers remains due to these reasons in order to make field trips happen. Thank you to the parent drivers who have volunteered their time.
- PAC funding also helps reduce the cost per student for at least one field trip annually.
- Teachers are occasionally able to apply for special grants to cover this cost. However, the competition for the funding is extremely fierce.




School Staff Changes, Enrollment, and Schedule

- Several staff members are retiring or changing positions, with 2 more positions to be filled. Ms. Stregger will be moving to Courage Creek as their new Principal in the fall. Ms. Porter(Grade 1), Mr. Melnyk(Band), and Ms. Chapman(Librarian) are retiring at the end of the school year. Ms. Leeks will be taking on the role of the Librarian.
- Projected enrollment for 2025-26 is 453 students with 20 divisions.
- 37 students are registered for Kindergarten, only 3 below projection.
- The school is accepting registrations from Don Christian school, which is at capacity.
- Bell schedule will remain the same, with 293 minutes of instruction per day.
- Next year's schools schedule and expected fees will be posted in the upcoming Titan Times

Upcoming School Events and Activities

- The daycare program at Hillcrest will be expanding next year and will also be using one of our classrooms for Before & After School Care. This program is available to Hillcrest students only.
- Special track meet was held today
- Victoria Day on Monday, May 19th. School will not be in session
- Spring concert, produced by Ms. Budgen will be held in the school gymnasium on Wednesday, May 21st at 1pm
- School will be closed on Monday, May 26th for Professional Day
- Track and Field meet will be on June 5th at the South Surrey Athletic Park
- Sports day and Parent Appreciation Tea are set on Friday, June 13th

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- K-grade 4 dance performances will be held on June 17th
- Grade 7 Band concert date to be announced. Grade 6/7 Dance group will be performing as well
- June 25th is the Grade 7 Farewell ceremony
- Hillcrest will be the hard-of-hearing hub next year, hosting a teacher who can support students with this need.

School Funding Crisis and Budgetary Constraints

- Grade 7 band will no longer be offered starting next year due to budget cuts
- Surrey Schools face a \$16 million dollar deficit, leading to cuts and unfilled positions due to underfunding
- Special education is underfunded by \$54 million in this year alone, resulting in reduced support for many students with academic or behavioral issues.
- Government funding does not cover inflation or salary increases nor portables and modulars that are required to accommodate enrollment growth, impacting resources and supplies, and schools are relying on the public to put pressure on the government to provide adequate funding.
- There is a continued issue with younger students displaying a lot of hands-on behavior with the younger grades, and using rude language with the older grades. The staff have had to address students using racial slurs and bigoted comments, as this is a priority issue for Surrey schools. The parent community is encouraged to be aware and address these issues at home on a regular basis
- The front playground equipment was replaced after vandalism

5. PAC Executive Reports

a. President's Report



i. Pancake Breakfast on May 16th

- thank you to all the parents who have signed up to volunteer for this event. There are still 2 clean up positions to be filled
- all volunteer cooks, please bring your own griddle, spatula, and apron

ii. 2025-2026 PAC Exec nominations now open

- information and nomination link will be share in a letter and social media

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- nominations will be announced at the June AGM and a new executive board will be selected.

Scholarship deadline is on May 19th, 2 scholarships of \$500 each. Only requirement is that they have once attended Hillcrest Elementary

b. Treasurer's Report

- Please see attachment I

c. Fundraising Report

- Meridian Meats e-gift card came to a close on Sunday, May 11th. We sold a total of \$1360 in gift cards, at a 30% commission, we made \$408 in profits

- Growing Smile hanging baskets delivery will be on Friday between 11:30-1pm. There will be many extra beautiful planters available to be purchased on site as well. Cash and e-transfers will be accepted.

d. Hot Lunch Report

- Ming and Sing orders closed out yesterday and hot lunch will be delivered on Friday, May 23rd

- The next and last hot lunch of the year will be with Pizza Pizza on Friday, June 13th. The last day to order is Tuesday, June 3rd

e. DPAC Report

- Please see attachment II

f. Grade 7 Parents

- Krispy Kremes will be delivered to classrooms on May 15th

- 50/50 is currently available through raffle nexus (

https://hillcrestgrade7grad.rafflenexus.com/?fbclid=IwY2xjawKRA15leHRuA2FibQIxMQABHtMZIIOPRQj4lLwMoKOfNTO07HS01U1nj7Vyq-sRUzskO5y7KNEUKOH8GhK1_aem_YCBhyq-bgnvtlrZ8yeyZlq). The current jackpot is at \$490. Deadline is at midnight on Friday, May 30th, 2025. Draw date is Saturday, May 31st at 8pm

- The Grad committee is looking for an alternate grad takeaway as the majority do not want to receive medals.

- A proposal from admin suggests using the PAC funds allotted to the grads be used towards chair rentals and student takeaways for the grad farewell and for the Grade 7 parent committee to spend their fundraising efforts on the themed farewell party and student gifts.

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- Admin is also suggesting the grads to engage in some fundraising activities throughout the year, to take more ownership of their own celebration, and also consider contributing a legacy token back to the school as a , as this has been a traditional practice in many schools. Examples include : outdoor signs for pick up/drop off, tv monitors by the office for information, speakers, soccer balls, etc.

g. Playground Fundraising Committee

- n/a

6. New Business

- A rally for public education is planned to advocate for increased funding for Surrey schools and support is desperately needed.

- Parents are encouraged to participate in advocacy efforts to address underfunding.

7. Open Discussion

- n/a

8. Next Meeting: is the AGM on Wednesday, June 11th, 2025 @ 7:00PM (Hybrid)

9. Adjournment: 8:02PM



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JOIN US AT THE

SURREY RALLY for

PUBLIC EDUCATION

**MAY 17TH
10 - 11 AM**



SEND A MESSAGE TO THE BC GOVERNMENT THAT

**OUR KIDS CAN'T WAIT.
FUND EDUCATION NOW.**

We will rally at 152nd St and 101 Ave (by Minister Begg's office).

Bring a sign, bring your kids... use your voice.
More info at www.surreydpac.ca/rally

Organized by Surrey District Parent Advisory Council
Contact: surreydpac@gmail.com

