

Surrey District Parents Advisory Council

Wednesday September 24, 2025

7:00pm Meeting called to order -Anne Whitmore

7:02 Welcome & Land acknowledgement

7:08 Theme of tonight 'Begin with the End in Mind'

PAC- purpose--- advocacy, fund raising, support, foster sense of community, guidance, representation, inclusivity

What fuels PAC-community that we're building, voice for our students & community

- 1) Find new ways to engage the community---ask the why? Is there an event we can do that is just about bringing the community together?
- 2) Relationships with PAC-sub committee-make sure open communication between sub-committee & PAC, conflicts with fundraising, gaming regulations are followed. Review best practices: best to vote them in—allows you to vote them out should issues arise. Form committee, vote members, set agenda, specify fund raising goals etc.
- 3) Succession planning—good to plan ahead-assists with easing the transition when someone is moving on (ie: kid graduating, moving etc) ensures consistence with things that work well

Who would be good to do your job? List out each role & their responsibilities etc

<https://surreydpac.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Surrey-DPAC-Connect-the-Dots-PAC-roles-2025.pdf>

7:55 Meeting called to order-Anne Whitmore

7:56 Welcome & Land acknowledgement

7:57 change focus of meeting agenda for more relationship focus less procedure focus

[2025.09.25 Surrey DPAC General Meeting Agenda - Google Docs](#)

8:00 agenda approved on consensus

8:01 3 question survey

8:08 BC CPAC---4 members attended AGM---Extraordinary AGM in August

-inspection of budget--

-all board resolutions except one-voted down

-lots of requests for surrey DPAC media engagements

-reviewed areas to prioritize -inclusivity & accessibility, overcrowding & accountability,
helping PACs build capacity & leadership

8:21 School Trustee -Bob Homes

-budget & enrollment

--lots of rumbling in the media last week

\$10million balance starting last year, We got additional funding--\$16million deficit

Ongoing

ERP -enterprise resource project -long overdue really needs to be done

Student enrollment down or flat for this year & anticipated for next few years

Approx. 100-300 drop in enrollment

8:38 Finance Report-Bill Prasad-for DPAC -small list of expenses from end of last year

Just over \$7k left for this year

8:40 Inclusion- Sheri-Hardcastle -request for completion of parent completion of family
voice survey

8:43 Secretary—Teresa Cledomin –new self book through Calendly (link on website)

8:44 Gwynn Reddich -leadership training for local DPAC reps -focus on mentorship &
peer collaboration, 6 different modules - dpac role, service oriented leadership,
communication, inclusion, strong PACs, advocacy

-we will be provided a certificate upon completion

8:45 DPAC training day for PAC is Oct 18

‘Connect the Dots’ –tools for confident PAC leadership training

(the PAC with their ENTIRE executive present gets to go for lunch first

8:47 **Election** Bobbi Taylor current Director at Large standing for Secretary - majority
vote - yes

Navi Pattar - standing for Director at Large - majority vote - yes

- 8:52 Motion: -Accepted Surrey DPAC **end** its membership in BCCPAC starting with the 2025-26 membership -yes
- 9:07 Motion: -Accepted Surrey DPAC on behalf of parents & caregivers formally request the Surrey Board of Education to take steps to increase meaningful public engagement at Board meetings-yes
- 9:12 Motion: Approval of DPAC Budget for 2025-26 year
- 9:21 Meeting Adjourned

Community Snapshot

Question 1: Supporting Your PAC

What kinds of support from Surrey DPAC would be most valuable to your PAC's governance and operations?

- Training and workshops for PAC executives 15/33 (45%)
- Templates and resources (bylaws, policies, meeting guides) 8/33 (24%)
- One-on-one guidance or mentorship 2/33 (6%)
- Networking and peer-to-peer learning with other PACs 7/33 (21%)
- Other (please specify) 1/33 (3%) wants both option 1 & 2 - training guides to go with the resources.

Question 2: District-Level Advocacy

Which areas should Surrey DPAC prioritize when advocating to the Surrey School District?

More programs and resources for students with diverse learning needs 14/31 (45%)

- Stronger commitments to inclusive education 3/31 (10%)
- Better communication and consultation with PACs and families 6/31 (19%)
- Transparency and accountability in district decisions and budgets 8/31 (26%)
- Other (please specify)

Question 3: Provincial-Level Advocacy

When Surrey DPAC works with the Ministry of Education & Child Care or the provincial government, which priorities matter most to your PAC?

- Increased, sustainable funding for public education 13/29 (45%)
- Addressing overcrowding and building new schools 8/29 (28%)
- More supports for students with disabilities and complex needs 4/29 (14%)
- Province-wide equity in funding and access to programs 4/29 (14%)
- Other (please specify)