

Surrey District Parents Advisory Council

Wednesday January 28, 2026

- 7:01pm Meeting called to order -Anne Whitmore
- 7:04 Land Acknowledgement
- 7:10 Tonight Theme: Surrey School District Budget Process
Guest Speaker District Secretary Treasurer --Ray Velestuk
- 8:08 Meeting called to order-Anne Whitmore
- 8:10 agenda consented (approved)
- 8:11 presidents report:
- Meet OIPC -discussed room clear tracker
 - room clears happening in all grades—sometimes numerous times each month/year
 - SunRun---training happening -Wednesday & Saturday
 - support pac with internal conflict & redefining ‘best practices’ (especially dry grad & leaving committees)
 - encouragement for all to attend DPAC training day Feb 28
 - bylaw review process—sent to each school put together by DPAC executive
 - attend December & January meeting -DPAC rep at every single District Board Meeting
 - applied for delegation for School Funding & Fieldtrip Funding—declined appealed-2nd decline
- 8:19 School Trustee Bob Holmes
- inclusive education funding & budgets
- 8:23 Angela Marcakis-VP Surrey Teachers Association
- Teachers want what parents want-better classroom conditions for students
 - safety, inclusivity & thriving
 - more counsellors & mental health supports

- reasonable class size limits
 - more preparation for teachers (adapt to diverse needs, better communication with parents)
 - attract & retain qualified teachers
 - request parents reach out to MLA & minister of education
- 8:29 Treasurers report- Gwen stepping up for Acting treasure as current one has stepped away for a leave of absence
- no concerns or flags—preparing January report
- 8:31 Inclusion Report-still collecting parent surveys
- looking for ways to connect with parents community in schools (wins & woes)
 - more information to come in March
- 8:33 VP report-remember to request zoom meeting
- Make sure to register your PAC—still large number of schools not registered
- need more voting reps
- registered PACs are eligible to use District zoom accounts (90 days out booking & 90 minute limit)
- 8:34 Gwynn-DPAC training next one ---one time registration
- DPAC Role
 - Service oriented Leadership
 - Feb 18 -building inclusive school communities
- 8:35 Decisions & Discussions
- most PACs not registered societies
 - 2020 covid allowed for online meetings (18 month exemption) most by-laws have NOT been updated to allow for
 - modernizing bylaws to meet current practice---that's why we need to meet in person Feb 25-at district office
 - bylaw amendments

WHY

to allow in-person, online, and hybrid meetings and voting.

WHAT IS CHANGING

- *Meetings can be attended in person or online*
 - *Voting rights stay the same regardless of how you attend*
 - *AGMs and elections can be hybrid*
 - *Quorum includes online participants*
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WHAT IS NOT CHANGING

- *One vote per PAC*
- *Notice requirements*
- *Transparency and accountability*

Special Resolution 2026.1:
Bylaw Amendments – Definitions and Interpretation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Surrey District Parent Advisory Council amend its bylaws by adding a Definitions and Interpretation section at the beginning of the bylaws to clarify terminology, and that any resulting renumbering of sections or updates to internal cross-references required to give effect to this amendment be made administratively, with no change to the meaning, authority, or intent of the bylaws.

Special Resolution 2026.2:
Bylaw Amendments – Meeting format and notice

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Surrey District Parent Advisory Council amend its bylaws to clarify meeting format, notice, and participation by:

- confirming that general meetings, including the Annual General Meeting, and meetings of the Board of Directors may be held in person or by electronic means;
- confirming that elections held at the Annual General Meeting may be conducted electronically, provided voting integrity and member eligibility are maintained;

General meetings

6 a) General meetings of Surrey DPAC shall be held not less than four times during each school year at the time and ~~place that in a format determined by~~ the Directors ~~decide~~. One of those meetings shall be the annual general meeting.

b) General meetings, including the Annual General Meeting, may be held in person or by electronic means. Elections held at the AGM may be conducted electronically, provided voting integrity and member eligibility are maintained.

7.a.) A Calendar of general meetings will be presented at the Annual General Meeting or at the beginning of the school year and located on the DPAC website throughout the year. 30 days' notice will be provided for an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.

Notices of meetings shall include the meeting format and instructions for participation, including access information for any electronic means.

Board of Directors' meetings

21. a.) The Directors shall meet not less than six times during each school year at the time and in the format as ~~place~~ they see fit.

b) Voting may occur in person or by electronic means with equal force and effect.

Definitions

"Electronic" means participation by audio, video, or other digital communication technology, whether used for a fully electronic meeting or as part of a hybrid meeting, that allows participants to hear, speak, and vote in real time.

"Hybrid" means a meeting held with both in-person and electronic participation simultaneously.

Special Resolution 2026.3: Quorum and attendance recognition

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Surrey District Parent Advisory Council amend its bylaws to clarify that quorum and attendance at general meetings and meetings of the Board of Directors may be met by members or Directors who are present in person or by electronic means, and to add a definition confirming that "present" includes attendance in person or by electronic means, as set out below:

Quorum

22. A quorum for Board of Directors' meetings is five Directors **present for the meeting**.

Definition

"Present" includes attendance in person or by electronic means.

Special Resolution 2026.4: Voting

Proposer's Statement:

This motion replaces the existing voting section with a clearer and more consistent version that reflects how Surrey DPAC conducts voting at meetings in-person or by electronic means. It confirms the principle of one PAC, one vote, clarifies who may cast that vote, and aligns the bylaws with current practice without changing voting rights or governance authority.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Surrey District Parent Advisory Council amend its bylaws by replacing the existing Voting section in its entirety with the revised Voting section set out below:

- 12 a.) Each member Parents' Advisory Council (PAC) in good standing is entitled to one vote at a general meeting, regardless of meeting format.
- b.) A PAC's vote may be exercised by one of its registered executive members as provided under Section 2 (Registration). Where more than one registered executive member is present, the PAC's vote shall be exercised by one representative only, in the following order of priority: DPAC Representative, President/Chair, Vice-President/Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, or other registered executive member.
- c.) No other proxies are permitted.
- d.) Voting at general meetings may occur in person or by electronic means, as determined by the Board.
- i. Upon arrival at in-person meetings, each registered PAC will be provided with a voting card. Voting may be conducted by a show of voting cards or, where requested by two members present, by secret ballot.
- ii. At electronic meetings, voting may be conducted by electronic methods.
- e.) All voting methods must ensure that:
- i. each member PAC casts only one vote;
- ii. the identity and eligibility of voting representatives is verified;
- iii. the outcome of each vote is clearly determined and recorded in the minutes, and
- iv. voting integrity is upheld.
- f.) Any conflict of interest must be declared by a voting representative prior to discussion. A representative declaring a conflict shall not participate in discussion or voting on the matter.

g.) Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, all matters requiring a vote shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chair does not have a casting or second vote, and the proposed resolution does not pass.

h.) Participation and voting by electronic means has the same force and effect as participation and voting in person.

Special Resolution 2026.5: Terminology Update for PACs and DPACs

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Surrey District Parent Advisory Council amend its bylaws to update terminology by:

- replacing references to "Parent Advisory Council(s)" with "Parents' Advisory Council(s)";
- replacing references to "District Parent Advisory Council" with "District Parents' Advisory Council"; and
- clarifying references to the organization as "Surrey DPAC,"

including the addition of a definitions and interpretive clause to apply this terminology consistently throughout the bylaws, in alignment with the British Columbia School Act, and with no change to roles, rights, or governance authority.

Definitions:

"Parents' Advisory Council" or "PAC" means a Parents' Advisory Council established pursuant to the British Columbia School Act and Surrey School District No. 36 Policy 10300.

"Surrey District Parents' Advisory Council" or "Surrey DPAC" means the Surrey District Parents' Advisory Council who is the legislated parent voice and represents Parents' Advisory Councils within Surrey School District No. 36, as contemplated under the British Columbia School Act.



9:00 Next DPAC general meeting Feb 25, 2026 **in person at district office**

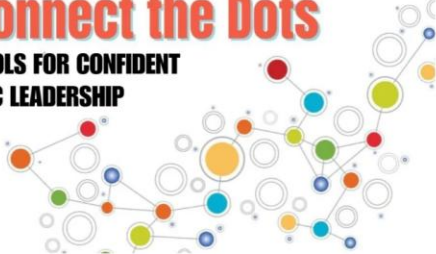
-Feb 28 Surrey District PAC training

-Feb 23- Dry Grad & Leaving Committee Best Practices 7:30-9pm

[Connect the Dots: Tools for Confident PAC Leadership 2025/2026](#)

Connect the Dots

TOOLS FOR CONFIDENT PAC LEADERSHIP



Connect the Dots: Tools for Confident PAC Leadership 2025/2026

Feb 28 Feb 28, 2026
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. PST

14123 92 Ave
Surrey, BC V3V 1J5, Canada

Join us for our second PAC training day "Connect the Dots: Tools for Confident PAC Leadership" – a day of training, networking, and district updates designed to empower PAC members. Lunch is included!

[More details](#)

Early bird - PAC Executive (Surrey)
\$15 [Available until Jan 31](#)
This training day is for PAC executives in Surrey.

Early bird - PAC Executive (from outside of Surrey)
\$20 [Available until Jan 31](#)
This training day is for PAC executives in Surrey. You are welcome to join us. The cost has been subsidized by Surrey DPAC for our PACs.

Regular price - PAC Exec (from outside of Surrey)
\$25 [Available until Feb 20](#)
This training day is for PAC executives in Surrey. You are welcome to join us. The cost has been subsidized by Surrey DPAC for our PACs.

Last minute - PAC Executive
\$25 10 left!
This training day is for PAC executives in Surrey. We know some people weren't able to commit until the day of to see what happens. If you still want to join us, register now!

Last minute - PAC Executive (from outside of Surrey))
\$30 10 left!

9:04 Meeting Adjourned