

THOMAS HANEY SECONDARY SCHOOL
PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
Parents Working Together to Connect and Communicate
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PAC MEETING MINUTES FOR: October 23, 2025 - 6:00pm LIBRARY

1 Call Meeting to Order

- Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.

2 Welcome

- Erin (Chair) welcomed parents, staff and students.

3 Adoption of Minutes

- Motion to adopt minutes from October 2, 2025
- Adopted, all in favor

4 Gaming Grant Funding – Club Presentations

McAlister, Knowles & Students

Boys Club:

The club and its outings help students build friendships and a sense of community. Thanks to PAC funding last year, members were able to take a guided walking tour of Vancouver. This year, they hope to send 18 students and 3 teacher mentors on a field trip to Loon Lake, which would promote personal growth, independence, and community connection through hands-on learning experiences.

Knowles:

Soap and Candle Club:

Students use math and science skills in a hands-on way, making soaps and candles while learning about product value and creation. Last year's funds went toward purchasing supplies. The club meets twice per week and also makes candles for other school clubs.

Connolly:

Model United Nations:

Students represent countries and engage in debates with over 1,500 participants from across Canada. They are evaluated on written papers and public speaking, stay in Vancouver for three days, and attend events with the RCMP and Border Services while networking with international students.

Greenhouse & Horticulture Club:

Last year's PAC grant helped transform the greenhouse, which continues to flourish as a student-led, quiet, and safe space. The Robotics Club assisted by building a watering wall. They are now seeking funds for grow lighting. Membership ranges from 15–40 students. Future plans include creating biomes. The pond and orchard have produced fruits and vegetables; while there were some district and bylaw delays, the project is progressing.

Hockey Club:

A large, co-ed, student-run club with staff and parent involvement. Supported by Biosteel and C&C Mechanical, the club plays both ball and ice hockey. Funds will help replace and maintain equipment.

Ski and Board Club:

Each year, 40-65 students take three trips to Grouse Mountain, one to Whistler, and a two-night Whistler trip. They need waterproof jackets, helmets, goggles, and gloves. Equipment is shared with the Outdoor Pursuits program and sometimes donated to students who develop a lasting interest in the sport. International students participate as well.

Goodman & Biggar: Focus: Building school community and fostering belonging, especially for students who may lack connections in their lives.

Video Game Club:

Meets daily at lunch in the tech lab. Highly social environment where students play together. Host LAN parties with up to 100 participants for tournaments and contests. They are seeking funds to replace keyboards, mice, and headphones (durable but affordable). If funds allow, they hope to add more consoles as well.

Board Game Club:

Rebuilding after past years—students gather in groups, often staying until 5 p.m. on Wednesdays. Staff and students also borrow games. The club provides a sense of belonging, especially for Grade 8 and international students.

Roleplay (Dungeons & Dragons) Club:

Looking for funds for resource books and game pieces.

Warhammer Club:

Seeking funds for starter sets and miniatures; plans to host painting nights.

LARP (Live Action Role Play):

Large turnout from both students and staff for themed events that promote creativity and engagement.

Printer Support:

Used by many clubs for posters, advertisements, and charity projects. Requesting funds for ink and paper. Students participate in all aspects of the process.

Bike Repair and Maintenance Club:

Due to tool wear and some missing equipment, the club is seeking funds to replace essential tools for ongoing maintenance projects.

Hussey & Brady:**Fishing and Conservation Club:**

Over 50 students have signed up. PAC previously purchased rods and gear, but due to wear and tear, replacements are needed for lines, rods, and fly-tying supplies—especially salmon-specific equipment. The club promotes environmental stewardship, connection to land, and mindfulness through outdoor experiences. Activities teach fish conservation and sustainable practices. Also work together with Eco Action Club and do shoreline clean-ups.

Lance & Logan:**Thunder Tech Robotics:**

Currently 62 members. Fully student-led, the club competes in robotics competitions and collaborates with the University of Alberta Robotics Association. Last year's funds supported robot components; this year, they hope to build a mobile workspace with tools, carts, lighting, and wiring. They actively seek community sponsorships and donations and aim to expand into a community-wide STEAM club involving students from multiple secondary schools.

McCartie:**Wrestling Club:**

Over 40 students attended tryouts, 20 attended first practice and more for the second one, with participation from both boys and girls. Last year, they had no mats and had to train at MRSS.

They now have 300 sq. ft. of mats but need more. Wrestling mats are long-term investments that last for generations; they are hoping to purchase at least an 18x18 mat (approx. \$5,000).

5 Principal's Report

- **Awards last week:** students in 9, 10, 11, 12. Lots of parents and grandparents attended. Some kids did not know they were receiving awards (if they did not attend TA). Some parents would have appreciated advanced notice so that they could attend. Next year, they will send messages to parents via the portal of students receiving awards.
- **Sports:** Fall sports: Volleyball, soccer, swimming and wrestling
- **San Francisco Trip:** Trains, bikes, ferries, cable cars! Positive trip, all good feedback.
- **Indigenous Education Guest Speaker:** Mike Nichol (filmmaker), engaging presenter, media and Indigenous portrayals in media
- **Connections 11/ outdoor Ed:** went on a field trip 60-70 kids to Belcarra
- **What We Heard – Semester vs. Linear Report** survey resulted in a 263 page report. THSS seemed to prefer semesters. Superintendent will take the information and make decisions with it.

6 Chair Report – Erin

- a) Updates from the Board of Education meeting (Wed Oct 22)
- b) BCCPAC – Membership Summit (Nov 15 9-5pm) Theme this year: “Leading Together: Building Stronger School Communities” – open to parents and caregivers from our member PAC’s and DPAC’s (we are members!) - connect with Erin if you would like to register (deadline Nov 7)
- c) Reminder about the upcoming Naloxone training for caregivers @ the next DPAC meeting – Oct 30th @7pm at Westview Secondary) open to all parents, you don’t have to stay for the whole meeting – presentation is approx. 45 mins (but you are invited to stay for the whole meeting if you are interested!)
- d) Reminder about the upcoming THSS Craft Fair weekend Nov 22/23

7 Treasurer's Report –Sarah

- Balance in the account is 29,934.68

8 DPAC Report - Kim

- Have not met since last meeting- nothing further to report.

9 Allocation of Gaming Funds Discussion

- 2025/2026 THSS Gaming Fund Application. Discussions and funds allocated.
- All in agreement, voted all in favour

10 New Business

- No new business

11 Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm - all voted in favour.

Next PAC Meeting is scheduled for: ~~Thursday, January 29, 2026 @ 7pm~~

~~Wednesday, Jan 28, 2026 @ 7pm – link to be send by Darren/Portal~~

~~Amended to reflect changed date, due to two conflicting events on the 29th – Gr 8 DPAC registration event and THSS hosting Trades Night~~**

Parent Advisory Committee