École Oceanside Elementary School
PAC Meeting Notes

October 22, 2026
6:33-8:01 pm

Attendance: Raani (chair), Jennifer (Vice Chair), Dave (Director), Stephanie, Steve (Treasurer), Jessi (Director), Kathleen (DPAC Rep), Pippa (DPAC Rep), Kalyn (FAC Rep), Jen (Principal)
Regrets: Lindsay M., Lindsay A., Jennifer D.

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1. Call to Order

- **Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm**
- **Land acknowledgement:** We respectfully acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional, unceded territory of the Coast Salish people, specifically the Qualicum First Nation and Snaw-Naw-As First Nation. We thank them for sharing their territory with us and for the opportunity to live, work, and learn on these lands.
- Quorum verified.

2. Introductions

- Introductions made around the table.

3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- **Agenda and September minutes:** A motion carried to approve the October agenda and September meeting minutes.
- **Agenda amendment:** DPAC update was moved earlier in the agenda to accommodate membership needs.

4. Principal's Report - Jen

- **Staff appreciation:** Staff expressed appreciation for the spread of food and chalk messages provided for World Teacher Day.
- **Conferences and reporting:** Parent-teacher conferences concluded successfully. Teachers are following up with families unable to attend.
- **Book fair:** Organized by Erica and parent volunteers; raised over $8,500, yielding $4,000 in free books for the school. A French Immersion–focused book fair is planned for spring, with a dedicated cash-only line.
- **Character contest:** Launching Monday through the newsletter and website.
- **International Day of Older Persons:** Scheduled for the upcoming Tuesday. Activities highlight Indigenous elders as knowledge keepers and include student drawings and writing about wise figures.
- **Halloween Friday:** Lunchtime dance for Grades 6–7 and an afternoon dance for Kindergarten–Grade 5. Exploratories will proceed.
- **Remembrance Day:** Assembly on November 10; parents welcome and live music planned. Qualicum Rotary is sponsoring two Grade 6/7 French Immersion classes to attend the Field of Crosses field trip.
- **Sports equipment:** Josephine, Amber, and Simone distributed an equipment replenishment survey to teachers.

- **School jerseys:** Existing inventory will be used through this school year. Full replacement is planned next year alongside the school logo redesign now underway.
- **Basketball:** Boys' tournament in late November (date to be confirmed). Girls' tournament at Oceanside on December 1 in the multipurpose room.
- **Grade 7 committee:** Hoodies have arrived and will be distributed next week. Fundraising by Hannah, Emma, and Jan is underway.
- **Classroom funding:** Sophie submitted a funding request for exploratories.

5. Trustee Update

- **Trustee liaison:** Trustee Austin sent regrets.

6. Chair's Report - Raani

- **New Trustees:** The municipal election has concluded and trustees are transitioning. New board members take office November 2: Brian Nikula, Steve Adams, Mark Macey, and Eve Flynn and Elaine Young. PAC awaits a new trustee liaison.
- **Thank you to all the volunteers** who helped with World Teacher Day, PAC coffee, and Book Fair!
- **Incident reporting cards:** Printed and ready for distribution!
- **Canadian Parents for French (CPF):** Oceanside chapter meeting on November 5 at 3:15 PM in the school library. Chair Vicki and treasurer Brianna urgently need volunteers to help organize the Winter Wonderland skate, trivia night, and poinsettia fundraiser, and maintain access to national grants and student scholarships. French fluency is not required.

7. Treasurer's Report - Steve

- **Account balance:** $21,097 as of October 17.
- **Gaming grant:** $9,300 deposited October 1, $20 per student.
- **Welcome picnic:** Revenue of $2,511.47 less expenses of $887.79 resulted in a profit of $1,623.68.
- **Mabel's Labels:** First payout cheque received for $112. This remains an ongoing fundraiser.
- **Banking:** Moving from cheques to email money transfers has eliminated banking fees and accelerated volunteer reimbursements.
- **Budget:** the 2026/27 budget will be discussed at the next meeting.
    - **Operating reserve:** Approximately $15,000 is maintained to fund start-of-year initiatives.
    - **Draft budget considerations:** Replenishing classroom PE bins (approximately $2,000 spent last year), subsidizing Grade 3 swimming transportation and lessons, and improving outdoor spaces.
    - **Gaga ball pit:** Permanent installation is deferred while administration develops a master plan for the grounds, including shade trees, sandboxes, loose parts, and supervision. The inflatable pit will be used more this year..
    - **ADST tools:** Power tools are being phased out across the district in favour of hand tools and cardboard cutters. Proceeds from equipment sales will return to the school.

8. District PAC Updates

- **District policies:** DPAC stakeholder groups raised concerns about rapid policy redrafting using AI, loss of local context, short review timelines (more than 140 pages delivered on Thursdays for Tuesday meetings), and insufficient consultation feedback. Board communication protocols route all email responses through the board chair.
- **District budget consultations:** The Superintendent proposed separate sessions for CUPE, MATA, and DPAC instead of joint meetings. Concerns were raised about fragmented advocacy.

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- **District psychologist:** Retiring in December; the position remains unfilled, potentially increasing psychoeducational assessment backlogs. Contracting options are being explored.
- **Educational assistants:** Widespread shortages and posting delays continue despite allocated funding.
- **Hate speech and conduct:** CUPE and MATA reported increased discriminatory behaviour and hate speech in elementary and secondary schools. Proactive parent conversations were encouraged.
- **IEP peer support:** Pippa is hosting a non-adversarial Zoom session on Wednesday to help families understand IEP terminology.
- **Technology subsidy:** DPAC approved up to $250 per PAC for administrative software and technology, such as transcription apps, Zoom, and Canva, bought before the end of April.
- **Trustee meet-and-greet:** A $500 budget was approved for a collaborative social meeting with incoming trustees. More to come.

9. Fundraisers and School Events

- **Purdys chocolates:** Holiday campaign portal is live.
- **Winter plant sale:** Campaign is live.
- **PAC morning coffee:** Planned for Thursday, November 5, because November 6 is a Pro-D/conference adjustment day. Volunteers will distribute safety information and collaborate with Vicki from CPF.
- **Holiday Secret Store**
    - **Dates:** Main store on December 7; mini-store follow-up on December 11.
    - **Donations:** Collection begins November 2 in the downstairs changing room.
    - **Accessibility:** A dedicated sensory time will provide a lower-stimulus environment.
    - **Materials:** Cardboard boxes of all sizes, gift bags, tissue paper, jewelry boxes, and pouches are needed. Pre-printed sticker labels are being considered instead of tied tags.

10. Best Routes to School

- **Reflective flashers:** The district is distributing 5,000 clip-on flashers to improve student visibility during darker morning commutes.
- **Active transportation survey:** The survey launched without PAC feedback. Concerns include requiring one primary transportation mode, overlooking the district-wide French Immersion catchment, and confusing map questions. Parents are encouraged to include all pedestrian and traffic concerns in the open-ended responses.
- **Safety walkabout:** Friday, November 13 at 8:00 AM. PAC representatives will participate to ensure busy pedestrian routes are assessed.
- **Radar signs:** Parent volunteers were thanked for daily deployment. Training is needed on switching signs on and charging batteries, including moving the cable between the battery and charger. Equipment must not obstruct alarm panels.
- **Crosswalk visibility:** Concerns were raised about the curved Wembley approach. PAC will consult Jen about permissions for lightweight, high-visibility centre crosswalk pylons or signs, and explore signage along the highway/baseball fence line.

11. Next Meeting

- **Next meeting:** November 19 at 6:00 PM, starting 30 minutes earlier for the in-depth budget review, with a planned finish by 8:00 PM.

12. Adjournment

- Meeting ended at 8:01 pm

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