

South Nelson Elementary School PAC Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday September 16, 2026th

South Nelson Library, 6:30pm -8pm

Attendees:

Cindy, Colleen, Dawn, Shannon, Karen, Connie, Robert, Cody, Erin, Tyler, Renae, Sarah, Megan, Adrianna, Steph, Monica, Lisa, Anna

Motions Approved:

- PAC executive positions to stay the same until someone can step into the secretary position (Shannon, Anna)

Land Acknowledgement – Dawn Snell (Principal)

Welcome from Cindy (PAC Chair):

- The secretary position is currently open (Collen to continue until someone else can step in); the Chair and Vice-Chair positions will be available next year, with Cindy available to support the transition.
- Overview of what the PAC achieves and supports at South Nelson
- Every school has a PAC and every district has a DPAC. Lisa has volunteered to represent South Nelson at our DPAC meetings. Thank you Lisa.
- With no new candidates, the AGM voting confirmed the existing executive positions without opposition (motion approved by Shannon and Anna)
- Movie Night Friday Oct 16th with suggestions of Hoppers or Toy Story 5
- Kindy parents social to be set in October

Principal update – Dawn

- Thank you to PAC for the continued support
Current enrolment is 170 students, down from 175 last year, across eight classrooms with the same configurations as last year.
Classroom teachers: Mrs Dimopolous, Mrs Leeming, Mrs Lehnert, Mrs Crosland, Mrs Bonikowsky, Mr Marsh, Mrs Sparks, and Mrs DeSousa.
- Support teachers include Mrs Stewart for library and counselling, Ms Douglas for Inclusion Support, Ms Shanklin (new) for Music, Mrs Sullivan(new)for ADST, French, and Prep, and Ms King(new) as the Indigenous Support Worker as well as 5 EAs.

- The Gotcha card program continues, with monthly prize draws; Dawn welcomes prize donations.
- There are several programs in place to support food security for students and families:
 1. District Family Support Programs: Funding is set aside by the district to support morning meals, snacks, lunches, and food hampers that students can take home for the weekend.
 2. Backpack Buddies: Is a non profit which provides students with shelf-stable, easy-to-prepare foods. South Nelson adds in fresh fruits and vegetables, to take home in their backpacks for weekend support.
 3. Fresh to Kids BC: This food program provides fresh fruits and vegetables for all students to enjoy at school.
 4. PAC Support: The PAC helps cover the cost of hot lunches for students who need additional support. This ensures that students can receive the same lunch as their peers, without any stigma associated with receiving a different meal.
 5. Snack Groups: Students have opportunities to work in the kitchen with Mrs. Douglas to prepare healthy snacks such as sorbet and granola, as well as dehydrated fruit. Funding for these activities comes through the food support programs.
- The \$45 school-supply fee is due this month; anyone unable to pay can speak with Dawn.
- Gradual entries for kindies started today
- Student Council is up and running
- Kokanee Creek field trips started this week
- Sept 24th is the Terry Fox run
- Sept 25th is a PD day
- Sept 29th will be Orange Shirt day
- Sept 30th is the Day for Truth and Reconciliation holiday
- October will be Safety Preparedness Month
- Parents can partner with South Nelson by encouraging clear communication with teachers and supporting the many volunteer opportunities available at the school.

Financial Report – Tyler

- **Lunch Program:** The PAC does not generate a profit from school lunches. While we occasionally make a small profit from pizza sales, these funds help offset the cost of providing lunches to students who need financial support.
- **Current Funds:** There is currently approximately \$3,700 available in the bank, after funds that have already been allocated and the vendor reserve of \$6000 (which the PAC maintains to ensure there are sufficient funds available to pay vendors and meet ongoing financial commitments).
- **Gaming Grant:** The PAC typically receives approximately \$3,800 annually through the Gaming Grant. These funds are used to support extracurricular activities, clubs, field trips, and playground enhancements. Gaming Grant funds cannot be used for items or activities that are considered part of regular classroom programming.
- **Annual Fundraising:** The PAC typically raises between \$10,000 and \$13,000 per year through fundraising activities.
- See attached financial report for a comprehensive list of spending and profit from fundraisers.

Fundraisers – Shannon

- **Fresh to You Veggies** fundraiser coming soon.
- **Grocery Cards:** Ordering to open Monday, September 21st, to coincide with lunch orders. Grocery cards will be available for pickup at Movie Night
- Overview of all of our other fundraising initiatives:
 - Mabel's Labels
 - West Coast Seeds
 - Purdy's
 - Georama
 - Santa's Workshop
 - Art Cards
 - Holiday Market

- South Nelson Swag
- Movie Night
- Paint & Sip
- Family Fun Night
- Grocery Cards

Hot Lunch – Robyn and Monica

- **Lunch Program Overview:** The hot lunch program is expected to go live on Monday.
 - *Monday:* Fantastic Foods will provide wraps (\$5.25 each) and salads (approximately \$5.85 each).
 - *Tuesday:* Sushi from Sushi Wood. One volunteer needed.
 - *Wednesday:* Thors will provide pizza. Two volunteers needed.
 - *Thursday:* Uphill Market will provide pasta with either meat or vegetarian sauce. One volunteer needed.
 - *Friday:* We are still exploring options for hot dogs.
- **Volunteer Sign-Up:** Volunteers will not sign up through Munchalunch. Monica has created a Google Form and will look into linking it to a button on Munchalunch.
- **Volunteer Clearances:** Laura has emailed the volunteer clearance forms to volunteers.

Actions:

- Continue to look for a secretary
- Cindy to look into hot dog options

Next meeting will be Wednesday October 7th, 2026, at 6:30pm in the South Nelson Library.