

**KSS PAC Minutes**  
**3-Feb-2026**  
**Library 6:30pm**

**1. Call to order 6:30pm**

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Uy yet thun siyeyu – “Be kind to your friend” is the Hul’q’umi’num word of the week.

**2.Introductions and Attendees: Quorum Present**

Rebecca Ladd (Chair), Stacey Mrack (Treasurer), Andrew Lee (Principal), Lisa Haupt, Devon Phelps, Lorna Gray (Secretary), Julie Babiy, Raymond Woroniak, Jessica Martens (School Librarian), Elaine Young (Trustee), Mike Schneider (Guest – Pickle Project), Ashley Mattson (Kondor Kitchen)

**3.Approval of the agenda:**

Lisa Haupt made the motion to approve the agenda for 3-Feb-2026. Stacey Mrack seconded. All in favour, passed unanimously.

**4.Approval of previous meeting minutes:**

Raymond Woroniak made the motion to approve the minutes from 2-Dec-2025. Lisa Haupt seconded. All in favour, passed unanimously.

**5.Guest Presentation**

**Ray Woroniak (Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region)**

Ray serves as the Executive Director of the Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region (MABR). He received a letter from QSD (SD69) DPAC requesting a call to action.

Food insecurity in the Oceanside region is growing rapidly, with QSD supporting approximately 650 students weekly—about 15% of the district population—yet current supports remain fragmented and insufficient.

The region lacks a centralized food hub for storage, procurement, and distribution, forcing reliance on small volunteer-run programs that cannot meet demand.

Families must navigate over a dozen disconnected programs across multiple communities with no coordinated intake system or communication strategy, often learning about supports only through word of mouth.

Many working families face "time and energy poverty" rather than income-based barriers, while geographically isolated families struggle with limited transportation access. The situation is

further complicated by large numbers of homeschooled and independent learners who fall outside school-based supports, and community organizations like Hands & Hearts have reached capacity with no waitlist system.

Multiple agencies—schools, nonprofits, churches, health initiatives—operate in silos without shared planning or funding strategies, creating duplicated efforts in some areas and critical gaps in others.

MABR has an opportunity to show leadership by supporting a regional food hub, joining emerging coordination efforts, strengthening cross-agency partnerships, and improving data collection to better deploy limited resources.

Ray has been in discussion with Ashley Mattson (KSS, Kondor Kitchen) and Andrew Lee (KSS, Principal) about this opportunity and ways to kick start. Ray has been actively involved as this initiative is now mandated by the MABR board. A Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser has been proposed to be hosted at KSS during the 35th Annual Brant Wildlife Festival on April 12, 2026 @9am. They are looking at other family event opportunities e.g. free family skate or art activity. The purpose is to fundraise for food programs and spread the word. Other events could be hosted at different schools or stakeholders. Volunteers will be required.

The goal is to hire a Food Coordinator for the Oceanside area. More details to follow. Please contact Ray for more information [ray@mabr.ca](mailto:ray@mabr.ca)

### **Ashley Mattson (Kondor Kitchen)**

Ashley has been involved with the Kondor Kitchen since it opened in Oct 2024, she has lots of experience in large scale operations from her time working with Food Banks in Ontario. The Kondor Kitchen serves \$2 lunches every day at KSS. Pre-paid lunch cards ([purchased online](#)) or \$2 cash are accepted. In addition, bagels and snacks are available for hungry students throughout the day:

Monday to Friday:

8:20am-11am: Bagel cafe (Baptist Church collaboration 3 days)

Lunch: Different options each day ([Menu on KSS website](#))

Fruit, Yogurt parfait, protein snacks and salad bar are available until 2pm every day.

Teachers can have a snack bin in their classroom, or they can send students to the kitchen if hungry. There is also a free food shelf with various items that students can take home.

Ashley would appreciate any donations of foodstuffs. She would prefer non-processed foods. In addition, if Qualicum residents or families get any free breakfast tickets from Quality Foods, they are welcome to drop them off at the school office as these would not go to waste.

### **Mike Schneider (Project Pickle)**

Mike (often called “Farmer Mike”) is a long-time food and farming educator from Delta, BC who just moved to Parksville. He has a background in practical agriculture, farm education, and food systems advocacy.

Mike is the founder of Project Pickle, a school-farm program that teaches Delta elementary students the full cycle of growing cucumbers, pickling them, and taking them to market, with a strong emphasis on agricultural literacy and nutrition (planning, seeding, tending, harvesting, and selling vegetables).

The program started around 2012 after he met with BC's ministries of education and agriculture to promote using school land for farming, and it grew to involve hundreds of students each year in hands-on vegetable production.

Mike is also an instructor at a Farm School in Delta, where he teaches high-school students about crop production, farm economics, and broader food-system issues (e.g., crop damage, commodity trends, aging farmer demographics).

Mike would like to connect with SD69 administration or teaching staff to discuss how to bring this program to Qualicum/Parksville students.

Suggestion: Connect with Peter Jory (SD69 Superintendent) and Garden Club at KSS.

## **6. Principal update (Andrew Lee)**

### **Staffing Updates:**

A new VP joined the team in January, Grady Sjokvist. He has been working with students with last names beginning A-L.

Lauren Mitchell is now teaching leadership and supporting the learning center.

Mallory Robson and Matthew Fox are helping support counseling during the transition between semesters and helping with planning for next school year 2026-2027.

Krystal Ann Hensman is back for the second semester.

**Report Cards:** Learning updates will be going home Feb 4, 2026.

**Course Selection:** There will be assemblies about course selection taking place during the week of Feb 16, 2026.

**Learning Survey:** Parents are encouraged to complete the [learning survey](#) which is open until May 1, 2026.

**Edison High School AV Challenge:** KSS has been selected to compete in the [Edison AV Challenge](#) on Jun 6, 2026. Edison is a private Canadian Company based in Donald, BC who built Canada's first Production Electric Hybrid Truck. Each school gets to make a go-kart and a student gets to race it. All the materials for the challenge have arrived at the school and senior students and teachers from autoshop will be working on this.

**Renovations:** The north building continues to undergo painting until Spring Break. Operations have completed all classrooms on the lower floor and are working class by class on the second floor. Some hallways have also been painted

**Outdoor Basketball Courts:** Mr. Lee is in high level discussions with the Town of Qualicum Beach, Arrowsmith Tennis Club and RDN as major partners. Financial commitments are being formalized, and timelines are being established. The process is taking longer than hoped and looks like it will be done in 2027.

**Student Voice:** The next meeting is tomorrow Feb 4, 2026. No student voice in January as students needed to complete their core competency goal setting which goes home with learning updated.

**Homeroom:** The next meeting is tomorrow Feb 4, 2026. The focus will be on language and belonging. Introduction to the local first nations video project, 'As I remember it, as it was told to me.' Stories are shared from personal memory and oral traditions passed down, focusing on the significance of personal, lived experience.

**Parent Questions:**

**Q:** Parents had heard that picnic tables/seating were removed from areas outside washrooms and science classrooms.

**A:** This was done as a temporary measure to address students congregating and hanging out when they should be in class. It has made a big difference and appears to be seen positively by students and teachers. There are lots of places to sit to eat, in the hallway, library or classrooms during lunch. No plan yet if tables will return. Any questions please contact Mr. Lee.

**Q: Who supervises students out of class time in the school and surrounding parking lot?**

**A:** There is a rolling schedule for teachers to supervise students before school, at lunchtime and after school. Each teacher is given an area to cover e.g. bus loop, upper parking lot. Lunch clubs usually have a sponsor teacher who will be present during the lunch block. Other clubs may be student led and the teacher may not be present all the time.

**Q: Parents/students raised questions on textbook workbook refunds at semester change.**

**A:** Students pay deposits for the text book and workbook. If the work book is written in, they will not receive their refund. If they return both unmarked they will receive the refund.

*Yes - sometimes workbooks are only used for reference, not for writing in. Any questions, please contact Mr. Lee or Ms. Martens (library).*

**6. KSS Staff: Jessica Martens (Librarian)**

No updates, any questions on text books can be directed to Jessica.

**7. Trustee Update: Elaine Young**

This is the time of the year where budget discussions start for next year.

It's important for parents and students to be involved; it's a very complicated process.

We build our wish list. If we want more money for certain items like food programming, we need to push for it.

The budget meetings take place on Feb 11, 2026. In evening 6pm with no end time (online - open to public)

Noon-2pm: Budget consultation with partner groups including DPAC.

6pm: Online, open to the public.

In March, the government provides their allocation amount and the group meets again to discuss what they will fund.

Ideally, April is when the entire budget is reviewed from start to finish, and must go through 3

readings before it is approved. The process continues until the budget is balanced and the motion passes. Must be approved by June 2026 for the next school year.

The Committee of Whole meetings are open to everyone.

The dates for the board meetings are available in the [SD69 website](#)

There is a resolution coming forward that the Qualicum School District has written to the minister of education and child care to request the province phase out public funding for private schools.

Q: What is the expected loss of enrollment in SD69 next year.

A: Approx 50-60 students based on recent statistics.

Elaine will be away for the next meeting.

If you have any budget questions contact Ron Amos (SD69 Secretary-Treasurer)

### **8. Chair Report: Rebecca Ladd**

The Town of Qualicum Beach are looking for organizing committee members and volunteers for Family day May 31, 2026. Without new members, this committee cannot continue and the event is at risk of being cancelled.

Contact the Town of Qualicum Beach. The [application](#) is available on their website.

### **9. Treasurers Report (Stacey Mrack)**

We received a Thank you from the Rock Band, they wrote us a song!!

General Account: \$1366.12

Gaming Account: \$15491.37

Payments provided for the following:

\$1046 for the couch for the Library

\$89.27 Uno Cards Ms. Gonzalez

\$283.38 Mr. Fenton's equipment

\$1400.00 Mr. Scorer program

Stacey will be attending a BC Gaming Funds webinar on Feb 25, 2026

KSS PAC could apply for capital event funding of up to \$250K

This comes out in the fall and if we have a detailed plan of funding needed we can apply on behalf of the school.

### **12. DPAC**

Full DPAC Meeting Minutes:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/11hp0cFY2bukBxsAAUrJrAk2tLszi-X5\\_hWXsQmo6rN4/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/11hp0cFY2bukBxsAAUrJrAk2tLszi-X5_hWXsQmo6rN4/edit?usp=sharing)

### **Catchment Changes & Cross-Boundary**

- Catchment boundary review underway
- Town Hall recording, slides, and feedback survey available on [district website](#)

### **District IEP Parent/Caregiver Info Session – Date Change**

- Tentatively Wednesday, Feb 12 at 6:00 pm (MS Teams) — details to follow

### **District Food Programs Working Group — Update**

- Trustee school visits underway to establish district-wide baseline
- Parent/caregiver food program survey in development
- Discussion focused on staffing sustainability, infrastructure limits, and long-term models

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, February 18 | 1:00–2:00 pm

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/26550056589635?p=xpZ7DtHKU3DtpdOo8p>

Meeting ID: 265 500 565 896 35

Passcode: sL2fR9v3

Food Working Group Meeting #3 Notes:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1g1DUBI8qBIRlo92kOIfqtq-eIFN5GNMhvi7ZLZZXIs/edit?usp=sharing>

### **Policy 302 – Volunteers (Feedback Requested)**

Trustees are considering whether all volunteers should require a CRC and want to understand potential impacts on PAC events and fundraising.

### **DPAC Updates**

- Funding approved for DPAC bylaws/constitution review and parent/caregiver speakers (anxiety, food education, inclusion)
- Know someone who could support a **paid** bylaws/constitution revision? Please connect them with DPAC
- Food Safe training funding available for two PAC reps per school — deadline Feb 28
- DPAC Vice President role remains vacant — reach out if interested
- DPAC [Social Media Policy](#) approved - we have linked to it on our Facebook Group (PACs may reference/use)

## **13. Committee**

### Healing Forest

The consultation with school and stakeholders was done in April 2025 with Jasmine Tomcysk. Ray Woroniak will connect with Rebecca Ladd, Devon Phelps and others who signed up for the committee. It has been a challenge to find suitable dates for everyone to meet. Terms of reference are required, followed by a blueprint for future landscaping design.

Resource Committee: Next meeting

Sports Committee: Next meeting

## **14. Old Business**

DPAC Representative Position STILL OPEN

Interim Treasurer Position STILL OPEN

## **15. New Business**

### Class B License

The KSS 2025-2026 Parent Grad Committee has requested assistance from KSS PAC Treasurer, Stacey Mrack, with the application for a Class B Gaming License. The Class B gaming license is for organizations running gaming events with projected revenue of up to \$20,000, such as raffle tickets and 50/50 draws. There is a \$25 fee associated with the application.

Stacey Mrack made the motion to apply for the Class B license and cover the \$25 cost for the KSS 2025-2026 Parent Grad Committee. Lorna Gray seconded. All in favour. Approved.

### Boys Curling

KSS PAC received an email from Jaime Wickham (curling parent) requesting financial assistance for the boys curling team who won their recent qualifier game and are going to High School Provincials in Chilliwack 18-21 Feb, 2026. Liam, Tayden, Devon, Thomas and Lawson will be traveling with their coach Kathy, and would appreciate any assistance toward travel, meals and accommodation.

Stacey Mrack made the motion to approve \$500 (\$100 each student) for the team. Lisa Haupt seconded. All in favour. Approved.

**16. Mar 3, 2026 @ 6:30pm**

**17. Adjournment 8.54pm**