

GEPAC Meeting Minutes 09/15/26

Called to order: 15 SEPTEMBER 2026 / 12:09 PM / ROOM Library

ATTENDEES

Ashley Lancaster, Deja Bourke, Amy Brenneis, Lynea Nielsen, Reanne De Boer, Chelsea Hadland, Brandy Pacheco, Sarah Estabrooks, Britney Doorn, Hayley Halvorson, Nikita Kowalchuk, Hannah Jack, Meta Attlesey and Kirsten Mazur.

AGENDA

Principal's Report- Mrs Mazur

1. Enrollment and Configurations

-126 students as of today's date

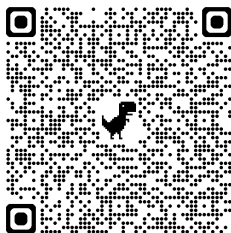
-Configurations of classes were thoroughly thought out and they have finished setting up classes. We have a K/1, 1 /2, 2 /3, 3/4/5, 5 /6 and 6 /7.

2. School learning plan-

-Improve writing skills-sentence writing, punctuation, spelling)

-Improve basic math facts.

The school learning plan can be accessed on the Grindrod Elementary website or by scanning this QR code:



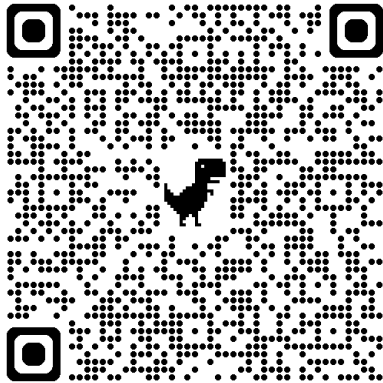
3. Online Forms for Consent:

-Network Cloud services-Please go online to complete forms.

-Personal Information Consent-this is needed so that the school can share learning outcomes with the district.

-Outside Media in Schools-this is needed when, for example, Rivertalk comes to a special event at the school to do a write up in their paper, they can use photos that they may have taken. (maybe pictures of winners of a race/our school teams/ track and field)

-Bus code of conduct-this is important for families to read over with their children, even if they do not take the bus to school, as there are field trips that involve bus trips, the children will need to know the rules to keep safe.



This is the Parental Consent Form QR code link 2026/27.

4. Assessments-

-Early literacy screener-Ministry of Education(MOE) Mandated-This targets letter sounds/blends. Happens in mid October

-FSA- Gr 4 and 7- MOE Mandated-Shows how BC students are doing in general. Happens end of September

-Early Learning Profile-District Mandated-Kindergarten teachers do this in October and May-this helps them plan their instruction for each individual.

-SNACC-Student Numeracy Assessment of Critical Concepts-District Mandated- more info can be found at this address that pertains to your students and their grade: <https://www.sd83.bc.ca/numeracy>

-School Wide Write-District mandated-the kids pick their favorite person/place and they brainstorm on their own; then come up with a story that they write. It helps the school see what they can do on their own.

-Basic Math Facts-School Developed-Grades 2-7

-Spelling Inventory-School Developed

-Dictation-School Developed-Students are given an oral sentence to see what they can come up with on their own.

5. Food Programs-

-We are lucky to have Sheila for a full hour of prep time now before school starts. That will help the Breakfast program immensely. As well as helping provide children with food when there have been forgotten lunches.

-Leadership Pizza will be happening again for the Leadership class. Way too go kids!

-Souper Meals will begin soon on Tuesdays and we are lucky to have been able to sign up for the Entrees options for Thursdays as well! Please make sure to sign your children up at the Souper Meals website so that they can provide our school with enough food for all the kiddos. <https://shuswapfood.ca/programs/soupermeals/> Also, there was a little glitch with the donation area (you do not HAVE to donate, your child will still get food) but if you dooooo so choose to donate you can just do an e-transfer to: payments@shuswapfood.ca

6. **Volunteers in School:** Please get your criminal record checks in and any motor vehicle info if you plan to drive students. Please see the office for Volunteer forms and Linda will get you set up with a Criminal Record Check link.
7. **River Day**-School celebration of the local river-sustainability, ecosystems, social responsibility. Dodie Jones will be in attendance as the knowledge keeper and Shona from kingfisher. The GEPAC will be providing hotdogs, chips and juice boxes. Hope to see you there!
8. **Back to school BBQ Tuesday**, September 29th at 4:30pm, come meet the teachers and enjoy some yummy food.
9. **School Clothing** order forms due October 9th. Get your very own Grindrod Grizzlies Elementary T-shirt or sweatshirt in dark green or black. They are available from kids sizes all the way until 3xl for adults. There will be 14 Grade 7 Hoodies requested.
10. **School Wishlist requests-**

-Money to support our library

-14 grade 7 hoodies (the kids put their signatures on the hoodies and they are great keepsakes)

Important dates:

September 18: River/Beach Day

September 21: Pro-D day

September 23: Leadership Pizza day if you paid for it.

September 24: Earthquake drill

September 25: Whole school Field trip to Fieldstone-Farm and food festival-this is a grain mill, there will be a walk through and lots of heavy equipment to look at.

- Month end assembly

September 29: Back to School Barbeque 4:30 pm

Orange shirt day

September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation holiday

October 9: Clothing orders due

October 12: Thanksgiving-no school

October 15: Earthquake drill

October 23: Provincial pro-D

October 26: Family Conferences

October 30: Month end assembly

- School fees due

Secretary's Report:

1. Previous Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes were offered for newcomers to read and they were also informed about where they will be able to find the most recent minutes: On the billboard near the office as a paper copy, online on the GEPAC facebook page (as a jpeg and PDF) and we will email the minutes to everyone on the meeting email list.

Motion to adopt-Hayley and Deja.

Treasurer's Report:

Income and Expenses: Generally we had a few areas where we made more than last year: ie we changed the company we did our flower fundraiser with last year and made an extra \$500 more. We spent more on field trips and supplies for the school but our students are more the wiser for it! Our sign on 97A did \$150 more in sales than it did the year before so that is a triumph as well. Great job everyone!

No outstanding balances.

Financial Update: The new signatory executive has been completed though SACSU and the year is ready to go. Cheques can be signed.

Current Balances:

Fundraising Account- \$25,725.41

Gaming Account- \$2,434.09

Old Business:

1. Still need a designated DPAC Rep. The meetings are every third Thursday of the month. Takes approx 2 hours, once a month. The meeting minutes are supplied to you after the meeting so you can just short list the important parts for our PAC meeting. Super simple. Please let us know if you or someone in your household can fill this position.
2. AGM-New people are filling the roles of President-Hayley Halvorson and Vice President-Ashley Lancaster. Secretary-Meta Attlessey and Treasurer-Chelsea Hadland, remain the same.
3. Appreciation day for the staff-needs to be decided this meeting-however we did not pick a date.
4. Sunshades-Meta sent an email to the Enderby Pool and found out who installed their new sunshades. She has a glowing review from the pool staff and the email address to get more information for the next meeting. Mrs. Mazur will get measurements.
5. Wholesale Club Blue Card- Meta and Chelsea picked the form up, signed it, and returned it Friday September 11th. We are still waiting for the paperwork to clear. Should be ready for next time we purchase, two weeks after they were dropped off. This will help keep receipts for reprinting if we ever need them, PST break and the ease of purchasing items that will just be billed to our bank.
6. Garbage can request was revisited by Mrs Mazur. She mentioned that we have to do a few more things before it can be done. PAC needs to pay for a new garbage can and installation. The district requires a certain type of garbage can (rain coverage and cement attachment) so we will need to take one of our existing cans and move it to where we want, and then put the new one back near the playground.
7. Beach Day-We have already grabbed all of the supplies for Beach day, September 18th, 2026. We are just trying to plan the food logistics for cooking. It was decided that we will have volunteers: Meta, Hayley, and Hannah arriving before 9am on the morning of the Beach Day and they will prepare the hotdogs beforehand and bring them there for lunch at 11:30-12. Nikita will take the chips and juice boxes when she heads over with the kids. She will help prep the location.
8. Grindrod Signs- the one at the end of the field. Can anyone help freshen it up? Lynea said she knows someone who does laser sanding and she will let him know. Nikita also said her husband has woodworking experience.

The sign above the school entrance is SD83 responsibility probably so Mrs Mazur will look into it.

New Business

- PAC letter, can we make it more fun and eye pleasing. We agree it will help draw more parents in, and make it more fun to read.

- Facebook engagement- we determined that the current PAC FB page is owned by someone that is no longer on the PAC. The person has been asked to change the page over but they have not. Lynea told us we can link it to our own gmail and it won't be an issue in the future if we have new PAC executives. That the facebook page would be owned by the PAC and not a singular person.

Motion to start new FB page and messenger group chat that is linked to grindrodpac@gmail.com was made-Ashley and Reanne accepted

- Mrs Mazur is ok with photos for the month end assembly being sent to the messenger of Grindrod Elementary School's Facebook. Mrs Mazur does not post photos on Facebook as there are people who do not want to have their children on social media. So the photos will only be used for the end of month assembly.
- Chelsea was asked if she was still willing to show everyone how to use the photocopier. She is still willing to.
- Hot Lunch Coordinator, one or two people needing to be assigned to the position. It was mentioned we need to look into box bag warmers for food when we go to grab the hot lunches. Deja has volunteered for the position.

Motion to accept: Meta and Brandy

There is talk of having Hungry Jack's once a month as well.

- Road sign-Position needs to be taken over-Sarah said the letters could be stored in the fun fair closet. Someone might look into a new sign. Deja said she will take over looking after the sign. Hayley will remain involved by doing the emails.
- New Email list required by Meta for the records. It was filled out at the beginning of the meeting.
- Potholes- the potholes around the school were, mostly, filled. However the road leaves much to be desired. People suggested an email directly from the GEPAC email might be best. As well as other parents sending in their own emails to AIM and MOTT. Also to request the new crosswalk going into 3rd ave and 97A should have flashing lights (we imagine it will, but someone should ask)
- Gift Card Fundraiser. Can we purchase appreciation G.C.s for future needs? Britney suggested the motion to accept that will be done closer to the date of the fundraiser.

Hot Lunch

Hot Lunch Coordinator has been determined to be Deja Bourke. She will be responsible for garnering tips and ideas from previous coordinators and she will also be sending emails and setting the future hot lunches into the scheduled year. More variety and healthy choices for the kids. She will be available to support the volunteers and delegate the process.

The first hot lunch in October will be: Subway on October 30th, 2026.

Volunteers- Ashley, Hayley, Reanne and Nikita

Events:

- **Beach/River Day September 18th, 2026**

Volunteers-Hayley, Hannah, Nikita and Meta

Fundraisers:

Current Ongoing Fundraisers-

Mabel's Labels-Ongoing since 2018

Demille's Food Boxes-Britney

Fundraisers decided on today:

The Demille's Apple/Apple Cider Fundraiser to open it immediately-Amy

The Village Cheese Co before Thanksgiving-Ashley

Upcoming Fundraiser:

We aim to start the G.C. Fundraiser in November-Britney

Ashley has many, many new options for fundraising. Coffee, Taste of Okanagan, and numerous other catalogues.

Laura's Pies-a coordinator for this fundraiser is still needed. Jessica Washtock was the lead for many years. The new person will need to reach out to Jess and get info.

Lynea is our **Playground Fundraising Coordinator**-she will spend time organizing email accounts and helping set up a hierarchy for our gmail to make things go more smoothly.

Milk Day Coordinator-Brandy Pacheco

Budget:

Funding Requests-

-14 Grade 7 Grad Hoodies-approx \$800

-Library books approx \$1000

Motion to accept-Ashley and Chelsea

Items tabled for next meeting:

-Cricut machine whereabouts

-Photograph club

-Date of staff appreciation day

-Halloween movie night-yes or no

-Volunteers to move sandbox

-Learning circle old plans, what was that about??

Action Items

1. Measurements for sunshades-contact manufacturers and find out quotes.
2. Garbage cans can be moved-look into it.
3. Make sure the Wholesale Club Card is activated and go pick it up.

Next Meeting:

Time: 12:00 PM

Date: October 9th, 2026

Location: School Library

Meeting Adjourned at: 2:05 pm