

Frances Kelsey Secondary School
Parent Advisory Council Regular Meeting
February 17th, 2026, 7.00pm (1 hour)

Minutes

- **Meet & Mingle**
7.00 - 7.15pm (prior to Principal's arrival) - A space for parents / guardians to meet the PAC executive for information, advice or to add items to the agenda.
- **Acknowledgment**
- The Francis Kelsey PAC recognizes, and gives thanks, that we work, live, and play on the traditional lands of the Coast Salish peoples, specifically the lands of the Malahat peoples. As someone who lives, works and plays on this land, I am compelled and humbled to acknowledge those who have come before me, those who provided stewardship on the land and those who continue to share the land and teachings with all of us.
- **Introductions:** Joleen Duncan, Toni Handy, Phil Leeman, Jennifer Thom, Kevin Van der Linden, Christine Dubois, Sylvia Cox
- **Adoption of February 2026 Agenda** - Agenda Approved By: Jennifer Seconded By: Phil All in Favour
- **Approval of January 2025 Minutes:** January Minutes Approved By: Christine Seconded By: Jennifer All in Favour
- **President's Report & Introduction** - Recognizing that it is black history month. Toni has been going back and forth with MOTI. There is a new flashing light at the crosswalk. Not a controlled flasher but a constant flasher.
- **Principal's / Vice Principal's Reports and Funding Requests**

Principal Report for Feb 17 th FKSS PAC Meeting

A few important notes:
 1. Learning Updates from the first semester were handed to students on Tuesday, Feb 10 th .
 2. On February 17 th , grade 8-11 had a course selection presentation and were given course selection sheets. These are due on Friday.

School Events since last meeting:

1. Rock of Ages musical concluded
2. Grad Parent Evening on Jan 27
3. The TASK program, the Outdoor Ed and the Horticulture Programs have begun.

Upcoming:

Feb 17 th – MMIW walk

Feb 18 th to Feb 20 th - Junior and Senior Whalers in Ross Cup Tournament

Feb 25 th to Feb 27 th – Whistler ski trip

Feb 27 th – Coldest Night of the Year walk

March 13 th – Last Day before Spring Break

From Josh Page- Sponsor of the FKSS Robotics Club:

I am thrilled to announce that the Frances Kelsey robotics team delivered a very strong performance at this past weekend's tournament in Port Alberni. Despite a hard-fought match in the championship rounds where we narrowly lost alongside a strong alliance partner, our performance throughout the season has earned us a spot in Tier One of the Vancouver Island Regional Championships.

The Regionals will take place at Brentwood College on February 28. We invite you to come out and support the team as they compete with the best teams on Vancouver Island for a spot in the World Championships!

Thank you, FKSS PAC, for your support!

This year had a really strong basketball program, with many of the teams being coached by community members, this has been very helpful and appreciated to help these clubs run.

FKSS will advertise 4 academies for the 2026-27 school year.

The fees for the academies are as follows:

Outdoor Adventure Academy: \$1500 (This did not run this school year. Last year it was \$1100).

Hockey Academy: \$1565 - no change from this year.

Soccer: \$350 - No change from this year.

Equestrian Academy: \$3500. The fee was \$3300 this school year.

To move forward with fee paying academies, school PACs must approve the fees.

Toni makes a motion to approve the Academy fees as presented above. Seconded by:
Christine All in Favour Motion Passed

- **Secretary's Correspondence** - Letter attached from DPAC From February 9th with regards to the 2026-2027 Budget. Survey Link is open until February 27th
Letter attached that was emailed from DPAC from Safer Schools together regarding the devastating event in Tumbler Ridge with some resource links attached.

- **Treasurer's Report** - Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss Sheet Attached Phil has been busy applying for licenses for raffles for Dry Grad PAC will cover the fees associated with the raffle application fees.
- **DPAC Report** - Every second Tuesday advisory meetings happen through the school board that anyone can attend. The next DPAC meeting is this Thursday.
- **Old Business** - Fudge Fundraiser information. We missed the dates to do this for Valentines. Can we do this for Easter? Yes, Toni will organize with Lizzie at Udder Guys.

Student Questionnaire update - This is continuing, timing to coordinate with all involved has been difficult.

- **New Business** - Suggestion to put an ad into WAG or Facebook pages with requests to contact PAC with any great ideas for the PAC or suggestions to the school. Joleen will do this and send to Julie

April 8th 7:00pm Information Night for New Parents. PAC could have a table here to advertise our PAC presence.

- **Next meeting date** -March 10 , 2026
- **Adjournment** - 8:10pm

February 9th

Hello everyone,

Tomorrow your DPAC executive team has an opportunity to have a liaison meeting with the Board of Education, Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer to raise issues for trustees to consider during budget development.

Please send any input you would like us to bring to the table by **today** so we can better represent the voices of all our PACS.

The survey will still be open, and the public consultation is yet to happen so if you are unable to send us communication today you still have the opportunity to share your thoughts and we urge you to do so!

The public consultation will be taking place on February 17th at 6 pm in the Inspire Room at the School Board Office and the survey is open until February 27th.

<https://sd79.bc.ca/district-news/2026-27-annual-budget-survey/>

Thank you,
Keirsten Tymko
SD 79 DPAC CHAIR

February 10, 2026

Letter for families regarding managing traumatic aftermath

Dear families,

Yesterday's tragic and deeply traumatic events in Tumbler Ridge are understandably upsetting for adults and children alike. It is often hard to know how to reassure our children when we ourselves are striving to process and make sense of this violent incident and all those impacted by this tragedy.

Children may experience a wide range of emotions in response to what they hear or see and they will look to the adults in their lives to help them feel safe and understand the world around them. Over the coming days or weeks, we encourage families to remain attentive to any changes in your child's behaviours that may indicate a need for additional support.

We are sharing below some strategies and resources to help guide conversations with children, with the understanding that responses will vary depending on age, development, and connection to this tragedy.

Limit exposure to news stories on traditional and social media channels

Consider how you access news and how that may impact children nearby. Young children may not know how to make sense of the news they are seeing and can quickly become overwhelmed. Encourage older children to rely on reputable news sources, and where possible limit their consumption and exposure to upsetting coverage.

It is important to have conversations, and model with your own behaviours, the additional traumatic impact for victims and families when upsetting images are re-circulated. We are respectfully suggesting that individuals do not watch, repost or share videos of the tragedy.

Acknowledge feelings

Our children and youth will look to us for cues on how to process this upsetting information. Acknowledging our own feelings gives children a model for how to express and process their strong emotions. It is normal to experience a range of emotions in response to such unsettling news.

Listen more than you speak

Listen to your child's concerns before offering any explanations. Give them an opportunity to voice their fears and ask age-appropriate open-ended questions. These conversations will help you understand if your child is coming from a place of curiosity, concern or fear, and will help you gain a sense of what your child may need from adults to feel safe and supported.



Ministry of
Education and
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SAFER
SCHOOLS
TOGETHER

Provide facts

Tell the truth but do it gently. Give your child facts as long as it is consistent with their stage of development - keep conversations age appropriate. Children need to know their concerns and questions are being taken seriously by the adults around them and that they can trust their adults to be truthful with them. If you don't know the answer to a question, don't be afraid to say so.

Importance of Routine

Maintaining daily routines can provide a sense of stability and security for children and adults. It can also be important to give children permission to continue to find hope in their daily world.

Encourage empathy and compassion

Remind your child there may be others in their daily lives who may be impacted by this tragedy. Talk with your child about how we need to treat others with extra compassion and empathy during times like these. Tragedies and times of sadness and grief can serve as meaningful moments to teach compassion, which can help children feel empowered as they find additional ways to be kind and caring.

As school district staff, we recognize that our students may require additional support. We will continue to prioritize the mental health and well-being of our students. Be mindful of any changes in your child's typical behaviours. If you feel your child needs additional support, please reach out to your school and/or access the community supports identified in the following resources.

Resources

- [Canadian Mental Health Association](#)
- [ERASE](#)
- [Healthlinkbc: Helping Children with Grief](#)
- [Kelty Mental Health](#)
- [Learning through Loss](#)
- [Foundry Virtual BC - Foundry BC App](#)

3:24 PM

02/16/26

Accrual Basis

Frances Kelsey School Parent Advisory Council

Profit & Loss

August 1, 2025 through February 16, 2026

	<u>Aug 1, '25 - Feb 16, 26</u>
Income	
4005 · Gaming Revenue - Direct Access	19,500.00
Total Income	<u>19,500.00</u>
Expense	
6015 · Bank charges	106.50
6027 · Bussing	10,000.00
6030 · Dry Grad/Grad Activities	5,305.12
6055 · School Activities	2,000.00
6060 · School Athletics	7,873.34
6065 · School equipment	548.85
6070 · Student associations/clubs	2,200.00
6071 · Student End of Term Treats	197.95
6075 · Student conferences/seminars	2,000.00
Total Expense	<u>30,231.76</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-10,731.76</u></u>

3:23 PM

Frances Kelsey School Parent Advisory Council

02/16/26

Balance Sheet

Accrual Basis

As of February 16, 2026

	<u>Feb 16, 26</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
1000 · Island Savings	11,652.90
1005 · Island Savings - Gaming	30,405.86
Total Chequing/Savings	<u>42,058.76</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>42,058.76</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>42,058.76</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
3900 · Retained Earnings	52,790.52
Net Income	<u>-10,731.76</u>
Total Equity	<u>42,058.76</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>42,058.76</u>