

JG Diefenbaker Elementary School
PAC Meeting Minutes
Wed. Oct. 8, 2025 6pm

Attendance: Regina Vosahlo(Principal), Brian Pantaleo (Acting Vice Principal), Emily Thompson (Chair), Kathleen Stevens (Treasurer), Angela Leung (Secretary), Stephanie Crossley (Hot Lunch Coordinator), Kerri Zaine, Anney Ha, Nicole Stoltz (Members at large), Ivy, Cindy, Carly, Melissa Burns, Ben Dodman

Meeting started at 6:08pm.

Motion to approve agenda by Anney. Seconded by Kathleen.

Motion to approve minutes from last meeting, May AGM 2025 by Angela, Seconded by Melissa.

Introductions and welcome to new and previous Admin and parents.

Admin Report:

Diefenbaker School Principal Report to PAC -October 8th, 2025

Thank you, for an amazing Picnic in the Park! Once again, we are so grateful for all your hard work in bringing our school community together.

1. It's been a great start-up to school year.

We welcomed new staff members:

Brian Pantaleo - Acting Vice-principal for this school year

Shay Lucovic - Grade 6/7 temporary teacher for this school year

Lindsay Avendano and Anne Chien - Grade 4/5 teachers

Ashley Wong - resource teacher

Choo Kwok - Administrative Assistant

Ferdinand Bredenholler (John Parker) - Band teacher

2. Seismic Replacement update

- Drilling work will be continuing this week (Stone Columns)

- Vibrations/noise is being monitored and measured for safety. Students may feel vibrations, hear sounds because of the drilling close to the school. Work starts closer to school and will move away.

- Construction (foundation and building) is scheduled to resume in the spring of 2026

3. School Story

- We are focusing on literacy and improving reading comprehension in all our students.
- We have planned a variety of school wide literacy initiatives and celebrations (eg: Assemblies celebrating class goals throughout the year, Reading Goals/Class like as a class reading 250 books). We would also like each class to do a class reward for reading.

Prize: New Book for class, and chips.

Winter Performance: "Stories by the Fire" Assembly

- Assessment school wide is completed, will follow up end of year.
- We would appreciate your financial support in this new school goal.

- ### 4. Camp Sasamat -new camp for Diefenbaker. Students were connected and engaged. More information to come regarding next year's location.

5. Garden

- We are wanting to downsize our gardens from 18 wooden, disintegrating garden beds.
- School has purchased 6 metal beds (eco friendly, with weed control). They are transferable to new building. New location TBD (by Gardening committee)
- The cost is \$350 per garden bed, with mulch, to total of \$2300.
School has \$1000 in gardening 'fund', asking PAC for \$1300.
- Used current wood/logs to separate new 6 garden beds with a 'digging pit'.
Richmond maintenance.
- Outdoor Kitchen will be refurbished

6. Fine Arts performances for this year:

- Ilumidance - electronic dance performance for the whole school (\$1450)
- Dancers of Damelahamid - Indigenous performance (\$1300)
- Uzume Taiko Drumming workshops in May - each division will get a hands on workshop (2 days \$1775 per day, total \$3550)

7. District News

- a. The Student and Family Affordability Fund provides funding to school districts to increase food security for students and their families, and to support students, parents, and guardians with affordability concerns.
- b. Feeding Futures Fund will be added for the next three years providing funds for students needing breakfast & lunch at school.
- c. Animals at school policy - dogs are not allowed in school buildings (8am-5pm). They can be brought by parents at pick up/drop off times but must be outside, on a leash, and trained. Pets in classrooms-different rules for teachers

Upcoming events:

October 16th: Immunization Clinic for Grade 6 students

October 22nd : Individual Photo Day

October 24th: Provincial Pro-D Day

October 28th: 11:45 am Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences

October 31st: 9:15 am Halloween costume parade for primary students

Proposed Budget: see attached

Includes PAC proposal for:

-Literacy \$2000 (Staff wishlist)

-May Drumming \$3550 (Fine Arts)

-Garden Beds \$1300 (Staff wishlist)

Above Motion by Anney, Second by Nicole.

Fundraising Initiatives:

- Apple Fundraiser- a favourite and popular fundraiser (closed Oct 6, Delivery Oct 20)
- Bake Sales (Oct 21/Feb?) -Sign up Genius for Volunteers will be set up
- Holiday Plant Sale, in lieu of Purdy's (early Nov, mid-Dec delivery): Farm Fresh and Neighbourly prices for BC families
- Bingo Family Night (an evening at end of Jan) -Bingo Sheets may be sold (fundraiser), more info to come.
- Parent Pub Night (Feb) -possibly at O'Hare's, more info to come.
- Mother's Day Flowers (April) -looking into possibly a new vendor if previous vendor is unavailable. More info to come.
- Walk-A-Thon (in May)

- Bottle Drive Fundraiser (all year)-give name of school/phone number to get label for your bag of bottles.
- Cobbs Fundraiser (all year) -at No 2/Blundell location only, when purchasing, give name of school

Proposal by Anney:

Winter Fair \$1000

Bingo Night: \$500

Parent Pub night: \$500

Total: \$2000 from General

Seconded by Kerri.

Community Building/Education:

- Picnic in the Park (September) -was a success!
- Family Skate Night (Tues. Nov 18 5:45pm-7pm To be confirmed)
- Winter Fair (Thurs, Dec 11? 4:30-6:30pm? more info to come)
-craft themed, possibly within classroom and/with made from home.
- Staff Winter Appreciation Luncheon -Wed. Dec 17-approved
- Babysitting Course (January 26 Pro-D more info to come
-Melissa/Angela)
- Bingo Night -TBD-January 27, 28, 29
- Feb. Pub Night -more info to come
- Lion Dance Performance (January)
 - Budget has been extended and suggestions are open for any further cultural celebration
- Saleema Noom (late May) -TBD
- Walk-A-Thon (Tues. May 26-confirmed)
- Sports Day Lunch (June 12)
- End of Year Staff Appreciation Lunch -Tues. June 16 confirmed

Hot Lunch:

- Some new vendors, other like sushi and pizza are tentatively scheduled until June
- **More parent volunteers needed!! If anyone is interested in shadowing the Hot Lunch co-ordinator, please contact diefenbakerhotlunch@gmail.com**

Fruit and Veggie Program Coordinator:

- Regina has Food Safe, school is handling it!

Attached Budget Approved: First by Anney, Second by Nicole.

Other Business: None

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30pm

Next Meeting: Wed. Nov. 26, 2025