

DPAC GENERAL MEETING REPORT

MEETING DETAILS
September 16, 2026
In-person

A concise summary of district updates, parent education, digital wellness, and DPAC business.

01 District Updates

Superintendent's Report

Enrollment & facilities

- Overall SD43 enrollment is down this year; the District continues to advocate for a new Burke Mountain Middle School.
- Charles Best has completed an addition with 12 classrooms and capacity for 300 students; French Immersion has moved into the new space.
- Burke Mountain Secondary remains on schedule to open in September 2027, initially serving Grades 8–10. French Immersion is not planned at this time.
- Monty Middle School is moving toward tender, with work underway with contractors.
- Eight new classroom teachers have been hired; support-staff levels are still being determined.

Communication

- The District is launching new websites and an app; some features are still in development.
- District updates are expected every two weeks.

Health & safety

- The Ministry will not provide EpiPens at school sites. Families are expected to provide their own required devices/medication.
- Improving attendance and ensuring students feel welcome are priorities this year.

02 Parent Education: Build a Biz Kids

Presenter: Leah Coss

A registered charity that helps children build entrepreneurial skills and confidence, with an emphasis on being “future ready.”

- **Audience:** Grades 2–9; marketed to ages 7–14.
- **Programs:** “Kid Talks,” self-directed online courses such as “Launch Your Business,” and a Biz Kids Market at Lougheed Mall twice per year.
- **PAC fundraising:** PACs can promote program sales and keep 40% of the profit.
- **How it works:** Digital access is provided through QR codes, so no physical product delivery is required. Parents purchase courses for their children and the PAC earns a share.
- **Feedback requested:** Parent input on incentives, topics, and fundraising cycles.

03 Digital Wellness & Digital Literacy

Presenters: Carol Todd, Digital Citizenship Coordinator; Simon Kwok, STEAM/Resource Innovation

Digital literacy supports academic success, online safety, and critical thinking—including evaluating misinformation and understanding how algorithms shape what users see.

3–5 hrs/day	83%	80%
Recreational screen time for ages 5–17	of Canadian students in Grades 4–11 own a phone	of children say an adult is rarely/never in the room online

Popular apps mentioned: YouTube, TikTok, Snapchat, Discord, and Instagram.

Practical tips for parents

- **Bedroom rule:** Strongly recommend that children do not go online in their bedrooms.
- **Learn more:** The District recommends *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt and the documentary *Childhood 2.0*.
- **Curriculum:** The District is launching “How to Be Internet Awesome,” with versions for families and educators.

04 DPAC Business & Reminders

- **Treasurer:** DPAC balances are healthy.
- **Cost savings:** DPAC is switching phone providers from Telus to VoIP.
- **Gaming grants:** Applications must be submitted within 90 days of the fiscal year-end.

Key takeaway

Stay informed through regular District updates, support children’s digital literacy and well-being, and keep PAC fundraising and grant deadlines on the radar.