



Pinetree Secondary
Minutes of PAC General Meeting
Held on September 17, 2026 @7:00pm
Pinetree Secondary School Library (in-person)

At 7:00pm, the Parents Advisory Council meeting was called to order by the President of the PAC, Mary Zhang. Quorum requirements were met and the meeting was permitted to proceed.

Pinetree staff present:

- Principal – Ms. Janine Close

Executives Present:

- Chairperson: Mary Zhang
- Treasurer: Renee Zhang
- DPAC Representative: John Tsai (Mark away)
- Secretary: Erika von Einsiedel

Other parent attendees:

Heather McMullen (10) Ashley Gu (9), Eileen Song (10), Tina Hemayet (12), Helen Huang (9)
Total 10 attendees

Approval of Agenda and Previous minutes

The Minutes of the Parent Advisory Council Meeting held on May 26, 2026 and were reviewed by the present Council members and parents. It was moved by Mary Zhang and was seconded by Rubina Dharsee.

Welcome of new-joined parents and introduction

Meeting minutes:

Principal's message:

1. Our school welcomed over 1500 students this year. Many courses are full and especially grade 10 reached the maximum capacity.
2. A few changes happened in the staff department: Kerry Lockwood retired at the end of the last school year; Stefanie Masi moved on to a middle school role; Travis Mendgen resigned to take a role in the Burnaby school district. We were pleased to have Brian Stewart, Sonia Milbadt, Shiraz Manor, Amanda Walraven, Gurpreet Battu (youth worker) join our team. Also, we have new temps: Lynn Song, Alex Buque, Rachel Smith, Nwaal Abdul-Khaliq. Krista Sale will be going on maternity leave in October.
3. We increased EA's this year: Karolina Katinic, Aditi Varma, Youme Choi, Fion Lai and Hoda Jahngiri.
4. Block Schedule was carefully and diligently reviewed/adjusted: same as last year but with tidier times (keeping two ESS blocks, online sign up to start next week).

5. Starting a school year later, September feels shorter and everything seems to be very fast paced. On day one, a Photo day was organized and so did grade 9 DL bootcamp along with pizza lunch for each grade/DL or CLC activities during daily ESS were handled as well.
6. The first Fire and Earthquake drill on Wednesday in block 4 went smoothly, gifted with great weather as a bonus.
7. Club applications opened with the new opportunities for students.
8. Future activities and events:
 - September 23rd Fire Drill (block 5)
 - September 24th Clubs Forms Closure
 - September 24th Meet Teachers and build Career Connections night (5.15pm-7.25pm) in several booths form
 - September 25th District Pro-D day: the focus will be on building connections; breakout sessions on education topics; department collaboration and resource building.
 - September 28th: Senior Sail ticket sale for Grade 12's.
 - September 29th: Orange Shirt Day & Truth and Reconciliation Honouring. Student participation will be expected and Indigenous hoop dancers will be traditionally performing.
 - **September 30th Truth and Reconciliation Day (Statutory Holiday/School closure)**
 - October 8th Club Fair in the gym at lunch (12.10-12.50pm)
 - October 14th Photo Retakes
 - October 14th Interim Marks will be available after 4.00pm. Students and parents will be able to access it via portal.
 - October 15th The Great Shakeout (Earthquake drill in block 2)
 - October 15th PAC Meeting (7.00 pm in the library)
 - October 16th-October 29th Grad Photos will be taking place

There will be sports available: Volleyball, Cross Country, Swimming, Boy's Soccer (jr/sr) and Cheerleading, as well as intramurals are all up and running.

9. A new platform to enhance student safety in the bathroom was introduced:

See something, say something.

QR Codes have been launched in hallways and classrooms for everyone to access it easily and discreetly.

- The Community Gaming Grants application for the 2026-2027 school year was successfully submitted in May 2026.
- The Summary Report for the Community Gaming Grants for the 2025-2026 school year has been submitted in June 2026.
- Our former treasurer Susan Wei, a newly appointed treasurer Renee Zhang and a president Mary Zhang will go to Vancity on Saturday, September 19, 2026 to meet with an account/business manager for the signature change. It will be officially finalized for us to write cheques to the Pinetree School and handle financial matters.
- Our co-DPAC representative, John Tsai, attended The DPAC Meeting on September 16, 2026. We appreciate John's time and involvement to represent our school while Mark Zhang was away.
- **Retiring PAC Members and election of new members:** Rubina Dharsee and Susan Wei retired and left PAC. Through self-recommendation and voting process, new PAC executive team for 2026/2027 is as following:
PAC Chairperson: Mary Zhang;
Treasurer: Renee Zhang
DPAC representative: Mark Feng/John Tsai
Secretary: Erika von Einsiedel

Next PAC Meeting October 15, 2026: Scheduled for updates, discussions, and planning for the school community.

Adjourn

Minutes prepared by Erika von Einsiedel