CHIEF TOMAT ELEMENTARY

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL AGENDA

Tuesday, Oct 27th, 2026 @ 6:30 PM| CTE Library

Attendance:

Present: Jennifer Adamson (Principal), Jami Prasad (Vice Principall), Hoa Baerg (President), Courtney Mehl (Vice President), Kyla Strader (Treasurer), Lucy Bleakney (Secretary), Kiera Haubrich (Social Media Coordinator), Claire Lyonhart (COPAC Representative), Jillian Baldwin (Member at Large), Jatinder Banga (Member at Large).
Absent: Jennifer Seaton (Member at Large)**.**

1. **Quorum Established.**

2. **Agenda and Minutes:**
   - Motion: To accept Oct 2026 agenda as presented. **Approved.**
   - Motion: To accept Sept 2026 minutes as circulated. **Approved.**

3. **Principal's Report:** *(Full report attached below)*
   - Little riders has been a great success, students loved it.
   - Another great Boo Bash Family Halloween Dance.
   - Appreciative of hot dog day and inclusivity for CTE families.
   - Changes made to learning priorities due to a new strategic plan.
   - Mrs. Kurgata, "Mrs. K", CTE's new administrative assistant.
   - Mrs. Sikora and Mrs. Madson are leading earth ambassadors. Classes are finalizing who will be the ambassadors, meetings are to begin soon.
   - Family groups will be continuing this school year, with 10 family groups. Grade 5's will be the Cub leaders.
   - Drummer Bobbi booked for March 8-12.
   - Admins are starting to scan students for feedback on their feelings at school.

4. **Treasurer's Report:** *(Full report attached below)*
   - Gaming grant has been received, $5,860.00.
   - Mabels labels fundraiser received, $63.23.
   - Spirit wear should be received early December, $150.31.
   - BooBash, projected loss of $1,250. Actual loss of $-451.97, (received $537.00 in donations).
   - Still a few cheques to be written/cashed.
   - Compost cheque of $54.87 not cashed. Went to Taniel Griffin before she left, Jennifer Adamson aware and will follow.
   - **Motion:** That the CTE PAC approved the CTE PAC Budget for the 2026/2027 School year as presented. **Approved**.

5. **COPAC Update:** *(Full report attached below)*
   - Parent TV is great for parents regarding mental health resources. They offer a public library of over 2,000 videos and courses for parents, guardians, children, caregivers, grandparents, educators, etc.

We acknowledge that we are learning on the unceded traditional territory of the Syilx, Okanagan, people.

- Valene (Chair Trustee) has been leaning into the new catchment in West Kelowna with the new high school opening. She has found that every small change being made to a motion the entire motion needs to be changed and put to the PAC for approval.
- New Secondary School, George Pringle, has a new principal. Brad Kuhn, (current CNB principal).
- A teacher from MBSS is running a coat and boot drive. Donations will be distributed to different schools they were received from.
- A hot lunch coordinator's meeting will be happening in the near future.
- Parent info night, open to all. Nov 4th, 2026 at Hollywood Road Educational Centre.

6. Follow-up from Previous Meeting(s):

- Boo Bash Recap
  - Approx. 350 guests. Last year approx. 450.
  - Approx. 100 candy bags left over. Will give to Jennifer Adamson for grade 5 leaders.
  - Quantity for chips and pop needed.
  - Some of the unsold popcorn will be purchased/used by grade 5's for year end fundraisers.
  - No mask rule wasn't really followed.
  - Next dance needs to ensure enough people are available for clean up.
  - Donations were amazing!
  - Music was too loud, asked DJ to turn down.
  - Dance subcommittee to put in google drive more feedback for next subcommittee to review when planning.

7. Fundraiser:

- Purdy's Chocolates- orders due Nov 9
  - Blurb to be put in the newsletter. Posters to be put up around school.
- Paynter's Market - Nov 7
  - Saturday, hoping for a bigger turn out.
  - Every dollar from ice cream or coffee sold will go back to CTE PAC.
- New Wish & Win Nov 23-27
  - Still looking for donations, by Nov 1.
- Mabel's Labels
  - Ongoing.
- Bottle Depot Returns
  - Ongoing.
  - Still looking for volunteers to do pick ups.

8. Upcoming PAC Events:

- Little Riders
  - Oct 27 & 28
- Alien Inline
  - Bring your own helmet if you would like. Teachers communicate with students on days to bring.
- Hot Lunch
  - Nov 27, White spot.
  - White spot is covering subsidy students. BIG thanks to White Spot!
- Next PAC Meeting
  - Nov 24.
- Winter Ornaments
  - Dec 1.
  - Claire is leading. Sorting ornaments by teachers and writing students' names on.
  - Setting Christmas trees up the week of Dec 1.
- PJ & Pancakes - Dec 18
  - Santa is booked, needing a criminal record check.

We acknowledge that we are learning on the unceded traditional territory of the Syilx, Okanagan, people.

- Ensure Santa does not lift any children.
- Claire will be bringing a chair from home for him to sit in.

9. New Business

- Looking for anyone who can do photos at PJ & Pancakes
- Best seats in house draw
  - Running on munch-a-lunch.
  - No way of stopping duplicate entries. Courtney to go through and delete.
  - Free to enter.
  - 2 winners, win 2 seats each.
  - Any volunteers from past events will get 5 extra entries as a thank you for their time. (Need to brainstorm ways to show appreciation for the latter of the year)
- Grade 5 Grad fundraisers
  - Selling smelly pencils and popcorn on school cash online.
  - Needing to finalize inventory.
- Photos for yearbook
  - Jennifer Adamson will email Artona for pictures.
  - Will be getting class lists soon.
- Reminder to parents-darker morning drop offs due to no time change.
  - Reflective tape/keychains on backpacks from potentially ICBC, Hoa to look into.
  - Other options for students such as reflective tape on backpacks.
  - Reminder of darker mornings coming in the newsletter.

10. Open to the Floor:

- Many parents' concern continues regarding road safety. Reminders being shared in the weekly newsletter and emails, yet jaywalking, speeding, stopping on staff parking lot, etc continues. Please remember to use the cross walk along East Boundary Road, and refrain from jaywalking. After school crossing guards will be present, please obey their stop signs. In the mornings crossing guards will be present when volunteer spots are filled. Please no parking or stopping in the teacher lot. Please do not speed in the school zone.
  - Socials to coincide with email reminders.
  - Cut out of police officers would help with speeding.

Meeting Adjourned, @ 19:35 October 27th, 2026

Principal's Report October 27, 2026

CTE – Caring Together Everyday
CTE Wolverines take care of themselves, others and the land
Gratitude

- Thank you to the PAC
    - for a wonderful Boo Bash Family Halloween Dance!
    - for Hot Dog Day and being inclusive for our families
    - Little Riders

Updates/Recent Events

- Central Okanagan School District has a new strategic plan which will be guiding our work and learning priorities (Reading, Writing, SEL/Competencies)
-
- Welcome to Kirsten Kurjata, "Mrs. K", who is our new Administrative Assistant.
- Earth Ambassadors have had their first meeting; we are finalizing who the ambassadors are and will be meeting regularly
- Composting has started
- UFLI groups in Grade 1-3 for targeted phonics
- Classes are starting to get onto the land and book field studies, especially skating for students in Grade 1 and older

CTE Information and Conversations

- Have decided to do Family Groups again this year: 10 "families"; ordering coloured shirts; aiming for at least 6 times together; will focus on
- Drummer Bobbi Bovenzi March 8-12; total cost is $2500 for the week; final large assembly on Friday
- Admin are starting to 'scan' students to get their feedback on their feelings about belonging at school, writing, worries.

Upcoming Dates and Events

- Wed. Oct. 21/Thurs. Oct. 22 – Little Riders
- Fri. Oct. 30 – Halloween Parade – 10:35 am
- Mon. Nov. 2 - Fri. Nov. 6 - Voices in Grade 5
- Mon. Nov. 2 - Fri. Nov. 13 - Alien Inline Skating (except Nov. 10 and 11)
- Tues. Nov. 10 - Remembrance Day Assembly
- Wed. Nov. 11 - Remembrance Day - Schools closed
- Mon. Nov. 16 - Fr. Nov.20 - Scholastic Book Fair
- Fri. Nov. 20 - Harmony Day
- Thurs. Dec. 10 - Winter Concert
- Fri. Dec. 11 - Learning Updates go home
- Fre. Dec. 18 – PAC Pancake Breakfast

Thank you so much,
limləmt
Jennifer Adamson
Principal, Chief Tomat Elementary
It is with gratitude that I respectfully acknowledge that I live, love, work, play and learn on the beautiful, unceded, Traditional territory of the Okanagan Syilx peoples.

We acknowledge that we are learning on the unceded traditional territory of the Syilx, Okanagan, people.

Meeting Date	October 27, 2026	**Prepared by:**	Kyla Strader, Treasurer
Highlights Since Last Report	● Gaming Grant received - $5,860.00 ● Mabel's Labels received - $63.23 ● Spirit Wear - $150.31 (should arrive in early December) ● Boo Bash - net -$451.97 (donations alone were $537!!) - was a projected loss of $1,250		
Reconciled Account Balances (October 26, 2026)	**BMO (Restricted) Gaming Acct:** $5,990.22	**RBC (Unrestricted) School Acct:** $50.00	**BMO (Unrestricted) Community Acct:** $26,617.76
Uncleared Cheques/Deposits	NIL	NIL	COBSS Bursaries ($540.00) Hoa (Boo Bash): ($301.74) Jennifer S (Boo Bash): ($57.00) Jillian B (Boo Bash): ($30.96) CTE - Sep. Compost (54.87)
Budgeted Accounts Payable in Fall 2023	Alien inline - ($2,750) Wish & Win Gaming Licence ($25)	NIL	Pancake Breakfast ($1,200.00) Bank Fees: ($2.50)
Requests for PAC Funding Received Since Last Report			
Budget Related Discussion Items	● cheque to CTE for Sep. Compost given to Taniel, but not cashed yet		
Proposed Motions	**THAT** the CTE PAC approves the CTE PAC Budget for the 2026/2027 School Year as presented.		
Carry Forward Budget Related Items			
Treasurer Action Items	● 2025/26 year end Gaming Report ● Wish and win prize collections and organizing - Kyla and Courtney		

We acknowledge that we are learning on the unceded traditional territory of the Syilx, Okanagan, people.

COPAC Report

COPAC Meeting October 5th @ 7 pm via Teams

Report by Claire Lyonhart for Chief Tomat PAC

The following report is a summary of the main points touched on during a COPAC meeting. Some details may be omitted in the interest of maintaining brevity. More information can be found at copac.sd23.bc.ca

Meeting was chaired by COPAC Treasurer Roslyn Hazen in Leslie Atwell's absence

Guest Speaker(s)

Christina Camilleri and Mark Ritchie presented information on Parent TV, an online program supported by the public library that provides over 2,000 videos and courses by a variety of experts on topics directly related to parenting. The main focus of Parent TV is mental health support for parents, guardians, children, and families, but there are also resources for grandparents, educators, and other support personnel that are involved in children's lives. Parent TV is available for free to anyone interested at the link below; simply enter a postal code to access the site.

https://library.parenttv.com/

SD23 Partner Reports

Trustee – Valene Johnson (Chair)

SD23 district priorities have been updated for 2026 -2031. That publication, as well as other reports can be found here: https://www.sd23.bc.ca/publications

Valene shared that she has been learning about what it means to rescind a motion that has been previously passed. Some changes are being made to the motions passed regarding catchment in West Kelowna due to the new high school opening next year and Val pointed out that in order for even a small change to be made to a motion, the entire motion needs to be rescinded, revised, and then put forward and passed again. This means larger decisions PACs may need to make might benefit by being divided into smaller motions, in case changes are needed in the future.

The new middle school being built on Burtch Road in Kelowna needs a name! Provide input by 11:59 pm October 30th, 2026 here: https://www.sd23.bc.ca/news/help-us-name-the-new-middle-school

Final board meeting for the current trustees will be held Wednesday, October 28th at 6 pm. New trustees will be voted in at the next meeting, November 10th. School board meetings are open to the public, and can be attended in person at 1040 Hollywood Road South in Kelowna.

Kristina Grant, COPAC Member-at-Large and AME rep, asked Valene about the very limited Q&A periods during meetings. Val confirmed that board meetings do not have an open Q&A period anymore. If a member of the public has a question or issue they want to bring to the board, Valene encourages the use of the Board Correspondence form on the district's website (link below). Communication between the Board and parents is also part of why PACs and COPAC exist. Parents are encouraged to reach out to their school's PAC with inquiries or concerns, so they can make their way up the chain.

Find the Board Correspondence form here: https://www.sd23.bc.ca/boardcorrespondence

Superintendent – Jon Rever

2 SD23 teachers were the recipients of the Prime Minister's awards this year. Darcie Ramsey of Ecole George Elliot Secondary in Lake Country received a Certificate of Achievement in Teaching Excellence in STEM and Derek Smith of Mount Boucherie Secondary in West Kelowna received a Certificate of Excellence in Teaching Excellence.

October is Principal/Vice Principal appreciation month! Jon recommended giving our principal and VP an appreciation hug!

Total enrollment for SD23 is 25,354 students (as of October 5th)

The new West Kelowna secondary school, George Pringle, officially has a principal! Brad Kuhn, current principal of Constable Neil Bruce Middle School, has landed the job and will start in January of 2027. The hunt for a new principal for CNB is underway.

Jon is endeavouring to visit 3 schools every Friday to meet and chat with students about their school experiences. He started in Peachland and will be working his way East, through West Kelowna and into Central Kelowna and so on. He spends about 30 mins at each school with a small group of students to hear what they have to say about their school and education. Jon is hoping to chat with around 250 students total over the next few months. So far, he says students have been very vocal about the importance of math and numeracy!

Jon touched on the upcoming provincial election. He recommended asking potential MLAs their thoughts on funding for public education.

Find more information from the School District here: https://app.smore.com/n/necd2

COTA – Susan Bauhart

Susan echoed her concerns from September's meeting about tariffs leading to job insecurity and the effects it could have on children.

The late start to the school year has made everything feel very rushed.

Some teachers across several schools have banded together to start a drive for winter coats and boots. Courtney Zacharias at MBSS is one of said teachers, and we can contact her if we are interested in contributing to the drive. The coats and boots will be given for free to children and families in need. Susan noted that the donated items will not be shared within the same school they came from, to help ensure recipients are not targeted/called out for wearing donated items.

DSC – Mattea Sulko

DSC is interested in receiving student and family feedback on the new schedule for high school students. The start and end time for secondary school was changed this year to better coordinate with the city transit schedule. DSC is looking into sending out a feedback form in order to collect information and opinions on the time change now that it has been implemented.

CUPE - Absent

COPAC Business

Hot Lunch - COPAC hoping to host a Hot Lunch Coordinators meeting in the near future. The goal will be for schools to share their current hot lunch system and vendors. I will touch base with Stacey, our Hot Lunch Coordinator, and ensure at least one of us attends the meeting when it is arranged.

Vacancy – COPAC Vice President position vacant and available. Contact COPAC President Leslie Atwell to apply: copac.president@sd23.bc.ca

COPAC Active Transportation & Safe Routes to School – Nothing new has happened this year yet. Nathan will keep us updated through the year!

School Board All Candidates Trustee Forum

On October 6th, COPAC hosted 10 of 12 school board trustee candidates in an online forum. Nicola Baker, past COPAC President, moderated the event, assisted by Roslyn Hazen, current COPAC Treasurer, with time-keeping. The forum consisted of several timed rounds. First, candidates were given the chance to introduce themselves. Then came an extensive question period. Nicola gathered a number of questions from the public in advance, and sent them to the candidates ahead of the event.

First came a "lightning" round where Nicola asked several questions, and each candidate held up either a 'Yes' or 'No' card. Then each candidate was given time to answer 3 common questions. This was followed by a round where Nicola drew a random number from 1-10, and the chosen candidate answered the corresponding numbered question. Each candidate had a limited amount of time to answer the questions, and were given a 15 second warning by Roslyn via coloured paper. Once time was up, candidates were given a moment to finish their sentence, but otherwise were muted. Thanks to this system, enough time was left that candidates were able to answer a second question of their choice out of the 10. The forum ended with each candidate giving a closing statement.

SD23's New School Board Trustees

Kelowna - Jim Strachan, Val Johnson (Incumbent), Richard Gauthier, Joyce Brinkerhoff (Trustee from 2011-2014)

Other Districts - Samuel Robson (West Kelowna), Sean Sookochoff (Lake Country), Lisa Guderyan (Peachland, Incumbent)

Upcoming Events

Parent Info Nights – Open to all – Info on talking to kids about in-person and online safety – Wednesday, November 4th – Sign up here!

PAC 101 – For PAC Exec - Thursday, November 5th via Teams – Registration required

SD23 New School Board Inauguration – Tuesday, November 10th

Treasurer 101 – For PAC Exec, particularly current and future Treasurers - Tuesday, November 17th via Teams – Registration required

Next COPAC meeting November 2nd @ 7 pm via Teams

You do not need to be a PAC executive member to attend!

We acknowledge that we are learning on the unceded traditional territory of the Syilx, Okanagan, people.