

WATSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PAC MINUTES
JANUARY 20TH, 2026 @ 7:00PM
LOCATION: WATSON ELEMENTARY LIBRARY

In Attendance:

Council: Kele Nash (Co-Chair), Justin Nearing (Treasurer), Geri Marshall (Secretary)

Administration: Jackie Berkes (Watson Elementary Principal)

Attendees: Mimi Nearing, Mary Glasgow-Brown, Jaime Vieira

I. Welcome / Call to Order

Kele N. called to order the regular meeting of the Watson Elementary School Parent Advisory Council (PAC) at 7:00pm on January 20th, 2026.

II. Introductions

Kele N. conducted introductions with all persons present.

III. Adoption of Agenda

Kele N. introduced the agenda for the January Watson PAC Meeting. Copies were available on site for viewing and were posted online prior to the meeting.

The motion to accept the agenda was CARRIED. *The agenda was approved.*

IV. Approval of November General Meeting Minutes

Kele N. asked for a motion to accept the November General PAC Meeting Minutes. Copies of the meeting minutes were available online for viewing prior to the meeting.

The motion to accept the minutes was CARRIED. *The minutes were approved.*

V. Reports

a) Chair

i) Playground Update – A meeting was held last week about costs and design of the playground updates. The pricing for the design planned has gone up from what was envisioned. Those responsible are generating new ideas to minimize the cost and alter the playground design with possible additions onto existing structures.

ii) Enrollment and Facilities Review (Next Steps) – The school held a session for parent questions and input hosted by Amy Dhanjal (SD33 Communications Manager). The topic was proposed changes to manage capacity issues for individual schools and the district in totality.

Parents attended, expressed concerns and had a fruitful question building session. SD33 published a “What We Heard” report based on the session which has been shared with the Board and with the public. For the next steps, a Public Board Meeting will be held on January 27, where the draft plan will be presented to the Board.

b) Co-Chair / Hot Lunch

i) *Munch-a-lunch* – Term 2 ordering is open. Term 3 ordering will open after Spring Break. The Hot Lunch program would also like to host another PAC provided treat day before spring break.

ii) *Donations / Thanks* – To date, there has been \$1043 donated to Hot Lunch program through the munch-a-lunch platform alone. Approximately \$450 has been spent on food for now. The remaining balance will be used toward Hot Lunch and Treat Days for Term 2 and Term 3. The donations feature on MunchaLunch will be closed for Term 3. Any remaining balance at year-end will be used at the discretion of the daily hot lunch program (consulting with Admin and our Indigenous EA) to support families at the end of the school year.

Families are reminded that they can indicate any needs to admins at any point throughout the year if they require assistance in accessing Hot Lunch, Treat (novelty) Days and Starfish Backpacks.

c) Treasurer

The PAC Revenue & Expense Sheet presented represents 2 months of movement as the PAC did not meet over the holidays. Movement was generated from a Mabels Labels pay out, Coupon Book Revenue (cash deposits) and Halloween dance proceeds (for the playground account). In addition, the playground funds were moved to a GIC to gather interest over time. Deposits were made from the Neufelds Fundraiser, the PAC grant and a donation to the holiday hampers program. Expenses incurred were as a result of PAC meeting snacks, holiday hampers, staff appreciation and Hot Lunch expenses.

*See Attached Watson PAC Revenue & Expense Sheet

d) Grade 5 Fundraising

i) No big updates for fundraising yet as students are getting back into the swing of things after the holidays. In general, Smencils sales were successful even though there was a cancellation from a flood day. Next focus is Intermediate Fun Day.

ii) There was some feedback from the Grade 3 teachers that participating in both Intermediate

Fun Day and Primary Fun Day was overwhelming. It was decided that Grade 3's will not participate in Intermediate Fun Day and it will be reserved for Grade 4 and 5 students.

iii) Mrs. Crozier has secured a skateboard instructor for an upcoming event and the PAC was asked to assist with the cost of the instruction (\$125 in assistance) making the cost to each student \$10. PAC was also asked to cover costs of bussing (2 buses at \$120 each). Both requests are under advisement.

iv) A suggestion was made by a parent to consider combining any bottle drives with the end of year bike swap for ease of bottle drop off.

VI. Old Business

a) Winter Concert

Big thank you to parent volunteers that assisted with set-up, take down and coordination in general of the event. The feedback was excellent and the video taping was successful thanks to G.W. Graham students. Thank you all!

b) Holiday Hampers

PAC had 3 volunteers shopping, bagging and delivering 15 hampers for families over the holidays.

An anonymous donor provided turkeys and hams to every holiday hamper recipient across the district. PAC contributed \$1,500, Superstore donated \$100, COBS Bread donated 15 dozen fresh dinner rolls, and an anonymous Watson family donated \$500. PAC was able to provide families with a large box of perishable food and a large box of non-perishable food. Thanks again!

c) Holiday Cheer Snacks

PAC accumulated some holiday cheer snacks for Watson staff around the holidays. Thank you to all the parents that provided treats.

VII. New Business

a) Tropical Dance

An after school tropical dance will be held on Thursday, February 12th between 5pm and 7pm. Much like the Halloween dance, concession will be run by the PAC and pizza will be available

for pre-sale and for on site purchase. Entrance will be by donation, with all proceeds collected at the door going directly towards Grade 5 fundraising for Camp Squeah.

***Note: PAC is looking for a new lead party planner for dance and similar activities for the 2026/2027 school year.**

b) Excel Fundraiser

Excel Martial Arts will visit PE classes on Monday, February 9 and Wednesday, February 11, coinciding with their PAC fundraiser beginning February 9. They are donating 30 one-month passes for \$30. Details will be shared via email, flyers, and Facebook. Payments will be through MunchaLunch and are limited!

VIII. Volunteer Opportunities

a) Hot Lunch – Apply for opportunities through Munch-a-Lunch

b) February 12th Tropical Dance – Volunteers will be needed for set up, concession and take down.

IX. Principal's Report

a) December Concerts – Big thank you to all who prepared for and participated in the Winter Concerts. Ms. Sneazwell is new to Watson and did an amazing job with the presentations.

There was lots of good feedback and filming it was a great experience for G.W. Graham students.

b) January Theme – “New Beginnings” is January’s school theme and the focus is on how to connect the theme to Friendship Friday.

c) Friendship Friday – January’s focus is goal setting for playground behaviors. Staff are working to reinforce kindness in the playground. On Friday, February 6th, staff will revisit playground goals with the student body. Friday, March 6th is “Dress as your favorite Book Character” day.

d) Staffing Information – There are 2 new permanent placement for Educational Assistants (Ms. Vilataro & Ms. Holmes). There is also an addition to the teaching staff (Ms. Lehman – PE prep / ELL position - Mon, Tues, Fri).

e) School Growth Plan Checkpoint – This term’s focus is Numeracy which was a topic at a

recent staff meeting.

f) Pick a Perk Day – Being held on January 22nd. The name of the event was changed from “break the rules day” as some students were having anxiety about breaking rules. A staff member suggested a name change and it seemed appropriate.

g) Assessment and Evaluation Day – Held on January 23rd (no school for students).

h) Jump Rope for Heart – Held February 2nd to 20th. Starts with a kick off assembly and fundraising activities.

i) Pink Shirt Day – Held on February 25th. Shirt orders are due by January 28th.

X. Open Discussion / Questions

a) Bike Swap

It was determined that the best time for the bike swap will be the end of May to perhaps coincide with bike to work week. There will be a need to advertise this event in advance to prepare families to hold onto bikes they no longer need.

b) Screens in Classrooms

A parent brought up concerns about use of screens in classrooms over recess and lunch times. Administrators felt it may be an isolated event. Mrs. Berkes shared that she is not currently aware of a school-wide policy and that teachers have autonomy in their classrooms. She will follow up with the parent and report back with clarification.

XI. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Watson PAC will be on Tuesday, February 24th at 7pm in the school library.

XII. Adjournment

Kele N. adjourned the meeting at 7:56pm.

Minutes submitted by G. Marshall.

Watson PAC Revenue & Expense

November 2025

Account	Account Overview		
	Beginning of Period	End of Period	Variance
General Account	\$ 19,921.76	\$ 20,693.90	\$ 772.14
Playground Account	\$ 25,023.70	\$ 3.23	\$ (25,020.47)
Gaming Account	\$ 12,161.53	\$ 12,161.53	\$ -
Account Total	\$ 57,106.99	\$ 32,858.66	\$ (24,248.33)

General Account - Revenue		
Revenue	Amount	Note
Munchalunch Cash Payment	\$ 56.00	
Mabels Labels Revenue	\$ 50.79	
Coupon Book Revenue	\$ 105.00	
Halloween Dance Revenue	\$ 703.40	From Stripe
Munchalunch Revenue	\$ 772.41	
Halloween Dance Expense Transfer	\$ 1,382.42	Expenses Transferred From Playground to General
ETransfer Neufelds	\$ 699.00	
District PAC Grant	\$ 150.00	
Holiday Hamper Donation	\$ 500.00	
ETransfer	\$ 200.00	
Revenue Total	\$ 4,619.02	

General Account - Expenses		
Expense	Amount	Note
	\$ 703.40	
PAC Meeting Snacks	\$ 8.86	
Holiday Hampers	\$ 882.02	
Hot Lunch	\$ 2,248.85	Jims Pizza
ETransfer Cost	\$ 3.75	
Expenses Total	\$ 3,846.88	

Gaming Account - Revenue		
Revenue	Amount	Note
Revenue Total	\$ 0.00	

Gaming Account - Expenses		
Expense	Amount	Note
Expenses Total	\$ -	

Playground Account - Revenue		
Revenue	Amount	Note
Halloween Dance Revenue	\$ 1,761.95	Total Halloween Proceeds
Playground Student/Family Donations	\$ 35.15	
Interest	\$ 3.23	
Revenue Total	\$ 1,800.33	

Playground Account - Expenses		
Expense	Amount	Note
Halloween Dance Expenses Transfer	\$ 1,382.42	Only profit to remain in Playground
GIC Transfer	\$ 25,438.98	12 month GIC (cash-out any time)
Expenses Total	\$ 26,820.80	

Account Variance			
Account	Revenue Total	Expense Total	Variance
General Account	\$ 4,619.02	\$ 3,846.88	\$ 772.14
Gaming Account	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Playground	\$ 1,800.33	\$ 26,820.80	\$ (25,020.47)

Together We Grow

Watson Elementary School
2025 – 2026

Every staff and student brings unique strengths, perspectives, and experiences that make our school community stronger. When we embrace our differences and support one another, we all flourish!

- September** **Welcome & Belonging:** Create school & classroom communities where everyone feels at home
- October** **Celebrating Differences:** Explore how each of us are unique individuals
- November** **Gratitude & Appreciation:** Recognize what each person contributes to our community
- December** **Acts of Kindness:** Small gestures make a big difference in others' lives
- January** **New Beginnings:** Set inclusive goals and support each other's resolutions
- February** **Friendship & Connection:** Build bridges across differences and strengthen relationships
- March** **Overcoming Challenges:** Support others through difficulties and celebrate perseverance
- April** **Environmental Care:** Work together to care for ourselves, others, and our place
- May** **Leadership & Voice:** Encourage others to share their ideas and take initiative
- June** **Reflection & Growth:** Celebrate how we've grown together throughout the year

