Dr. Thomas A. Swift Elementary PAC Meeting

PAC Email: taswiftpac@gmail.com
E-transfers: swiftpacfunds@gmail.com
Hot Lunch: swifthotlunch@gmail.com

Date: Oct. 15, 2026
Location: Library
Minutes taken by: Jessica Friesen

Call To Order

Meeting called to order at 7:10pm by Keri Buxton

Attendance

Shannon Kenney (Principal), Jessica Friesen, Rochelle Chocimski, Dorothy Gregson, Stacy Eyres, Tara Morgan, Riley Carriere, Nicole Oliver, Georgia Fadden, Michelle Gallant, Kaylee Tatum, Michelle Jones, Cory Hull, Charese D'Alessandro, Anita Arnold, Keri Buxton, Melissa Tanner

Introductions & What Is PAC

- Introduce the Executive team for the 2026/2027 year
  - Keri Buxton – President
  - Melissa Tanner – Vice President
  - Jessica Friesen – Secretary
  - Anita Arnold – Treasurer
- PAC is the parent community of Swift. We work closely with admin and the staff to support, encourage, and provide assistance to enhance the quality of the education and well being of the students, and to enhance communication between the parents, students and the staff.

Approval Of Previous Meeting Minutes

- AGM minutes from May 21, 2026 and PAC meeting minutes from Sept. 16, 2026:
  - Motioned: Rochelle Chocimski
  - Seconded: Michelle Gallant

Principal's Report – Shannon Kenney

Land Acknowledgment:

We acknowledge that the Abbotsford School District is located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Semá:th First Nation and Máthxwi First Nation. With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers.

Updates:

- Big thank you for World Teacher's Day treats – it was appreciated.
- Cuddle Up and Read – if you're interested in reading with kids – contact Mrs. Thurmer (gwen.thurmer@abbyschools.ca). You do need to have a completed Criminal Record Check
- Parking Lot 101 is on the website. Let's be smart and polite in the parking lot and in the cul-de-sacs around the school. Safety and good neighbourly-ness. There have been some concerns of parents being less patient than needed – remember, everyone is picking up their kids – and we need to be safe
- Any parents interested in volunteering must complete a Criminal Record Check (this is done through the School Board Office) and an Annual Volunteer Application (this is done through

school). All information is on the website. This must be completed before you can volunteer in any capacity. This requirement is for any adults who will interact with kids – it is legislation.
- Parent-Teacher interviews are coming up next week – it's a great time to connect and see how the start of the year has been – also a great time for you to fill us in on anything we might need to know but don't yet!
- Scholastic Book Fair is next week – open Tues, Wed, Thurs 8:00 – 8:30, Tuesday 2:30 – 3:00, Wednesday & Thursday 11:45 – 12:15, Wednesday and Thursday 12:45 – 2:30 & Wednesday 4:00 – 7:00. No cash accepted – only interact or credit card.

Treasurer's Report – Anita Arnold

General Account Balance	**$39,142.71**	
Deposits	1140.03	Hot Lunch
	8960.00	Coupon books
	25.00	Coupon books charitable donations
	980.00	Neon Dance
	120.00	Swift Wear
Withdrawals	$503.31	General expenses, Terry Fox Run stickers, parent engagement
	$211.82	Teacher Appreciation
	$31.38	Coupon book flyers
	$1155.00	Window Art
Cheques outstanding	$306.40	Sapphire Creative (red Swift shirts)
	$1548.50	White Spot (hot lunch)
	$214.97	Saputo
Gaming Account Balance	**$10,821.91**	

Fundraising Report – Keri Buxton

Fundraising representative position is currently available. Email taswiftpac@gmail.com if interested.

Current Fundraisers:

- Community Values coupon book:
  - This has just wrapped up, and prizes are in the process of being sent home
  - We made just under $5000 profit
- Popcorn day:
  - We brought in just under $500 in popcorn sales

Upcoming Fundraisers:

- Castle Fun Park playcards will be the next fundraiser, coming in early November
- Panago – planning to sell pizza certificates in late November/early December, subject to availability from Panago
- Abbotsford Canucks tickets – we're booked for the 5:00pm game on January 23rd. Ticket sales will open in early-mid December.

Ongoing Fundraisers:

- **Bottle Depot:**
  - This is an ongoing fundraiser at any Return It location. Bring in your blue bags of empties, enter the schools phone number 604-853-7730 into the self serve kiosk,

select how many bags you have, print the labels, stick them to the bag and drop them in the bin. The Return It staff will sort and count your items and the money automatically goes into the school's PAC account.

Reminders:

- Please remember that if you are sending an etransfer to pay for any fundraiser, please ensure you note your child's full name and what the funds are for. If sending for multiple items, please itemize amounts and items.
- If you are sending payments via cash, please send exact amounts.

Hot Lunch Report – Cory Hull

Updates:

- White Spot hot lunch is tomorrow (Oct. 16th)
- Volunteers can show up at 11:00 to sort milk and food, and then deliver to classes.

Reminders:

- If paying by etransfer, please remember to send your payment at the same time you submit your order. Your child's order will be cancelled if payment is not made by the cutoff date.
- Volunteers are always needed on hot lunch days to distribute the food items to each student's desk. If you have completed your criminal record check and your annual volunteer forms, please sign in, grab a "Parent Volunteer" sticker and meet in the PAC kitchen at 11:30am on hot lunch days.
- Please sign up for a hot lunch account if you have not already done so. We use this platform for hot lunch orders, fundraiser, carnival ticket sales and PAC provided lunches in June. A new account must be made every year for each student. Please visit **thomasswift.hotlunches.net** and use the access code **TAS**

DPAC Report – Keri Buxton

DPAC representative position is available to serve as Swift's representative in the District PAC (DPAC). They attend DPAC meetings (1 in person meeting in the fall and May, and all others are on Zoom). Please email taswiftpac@gmail.com if interested.

- At the September DPAC meeting, Superintendent Nathan Ng delivered a school year startup presentation covering enrollment, hiring, childcare expansion, technology, facilities, and transportation.
    - Close to 3500 staff. Enrollment is close to 20,000 students, remaining relatively stable, with a possible slow decline projected over the next few years, consistent with broader British Columbia trends.
- Food insecurity and emergency preparedness were raised as significant concerns by parent representatives.
- The DPAC budget for the current year was approved, including $5,000 from the school district and $2,500 in grant funding.
- All Candidates School Trustee Meeting was held October 1st 7pm at the Abbey Arts Centre.
- BCCPAC membership renewal process was discussed. DPAC will cover membership fees for all Abbotsford PACs.
- Reminded PACs to submit updated executive contact information via the DPAC Google form for newsletter distribution and voting verification purposes.
- PACs are encouraged to post their constitution and bylaws on their school websites for transparency and accessibility.

- Next DPAC meeting: Oct. 22, 2026 in person at the school board office

Staff Appreciation – Keri Buxton for Callie Jackson

- Staff were given goodie bags for World Teacher Day on Oct. 5th, with lanyards, candy, and some self-care items.

New Business

- Neon Dance Party
  - Orders have been closed and wristbands have been sent home
  - Panago will be on site to sell pizza by the slice
- We're looking for 1-2 Gr. 5 parent coordinators. They will coordinate popcorn helpers, candy sales, etc. Please email taswiftpac@gmail.com if interested.
- Parent engagement events:
  - Nov. 25 – holiday doormat workshop
    - This is a friend-raiser, not a fundraiser. There will be snacks, mocktails, and more! More info to come.
- PAC is considering options to help provide greater advocacy and parent/family support. If you have suggestions, please email taswiftpac@gmail.com
- Swift Wear – online ordering through Sapphire Creative will be available soon.
- Gr. 5 hoodies – sales close tomorrow (Oct. 16th).
- Christmas:
  - Fun Day (Dec. 4th) plans are in progress. We are pivoting this year and focusing more on event-type stations instead of crafts.
  - Night market (Dec. 4th evening): vendors are being confirmed
  - Christmas raffle changes – the baskets done in the past have been a lot of work, so we are hoping to do a 50/50 raffle during the Christmas concerts instead. Details to come.
  - If interested in helping plan Fun Day, parents are welcome to join the planning meeting on Nov. 17th in the library at 6:00pm before the general PAC meeting at 7:00pm.
- Gaming budget vote:
  - $6940 community gaming grant has come in. Gaming funds can't be used for curricular items/activities. They are intended for extracurricular uses
  - 6 eligible requests came in for consideration for use of the gaming funds
    - New pinnies for extracurricular sports – these have been priced at $1700
    - McMillan Space Centre has a portable planetarium - $1700 (they would be here for 2 days to accommodate all the classes)
    - Abbotsford Youth Orchestra – they will do a performance for an honorarium of $750
    - Groove Masters Percussion – 1 day long drumming and percussion workshop – cost is $735
    - Canadian Red Cross "Stay Safe" workshop for gr. 4s and 5s - $75+gst/kid. It's a 6 hour course for up to 30 kids. Basic first aid skills, how to stay safe at home
    - SOS for kids – 90 min. online course for $45 – still gathering info on this one
  - After discussion, parents voted to approve the use of gaming funds for the pinnies ($1700), McMillan Space Centre ($1700), and Groove Masters ($735), for $4135 total
  - Shannon will fund the booking of the Abbotsford Youth Orchestra

Reminders:

- Reminder to please send all your questions to the appropriate PAC email. Please do not personally message PAC execs or reps.

Upcoming Dates Of Note	
October 16th, 2026	Hot Lunch (White Spot) Picture Day #2 (for those who missed #1 or retakes) Neon Dance Party
October 21st, 2026	Early Dismissal at 11:45 Parent-teacher interviews
October 22nd, 2026	Early Dismissal at 11:45 Parent-teacher interviews
October 23rd, 2026	Pro-D Day (no school)
November 6th, 2026	Popcorn Day
November 11th, 2026	Remembrance Day (No school)

Next Meeting & Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm
- Next meeting is Nov. 17th at 7:00pm in the Library