

Willows PAC Newsletter

Upcoming!

Wed, Nov 14, 7 p.m.
PAC Meeting (in library)

Mon, Nov 20
No School (PD day)

Thur, Nov 30
PAC Fun Lunch!

Fri, Dec 8
PAC Movie Night!
(Info to come)

Fri, Dec 22
Last Day before holidays / PJ Day

Help Wanted!

[PAC Fun Lunch](#)
[Volunteers Sign Up](#)

**VCPAC Rep,
Meeting Technician,
PAC Exec Members
at Large:** Join our team! Please contact willowspac@gmail.com for more details.

Willows PAC Contribution Drive

Each year the Willows PAC depends on your generous contributions to enhance the learning experiences and environment for our children and build our school community. We appreciate that your time is valuable, and have heard from parents that an annual contribution drive is preferable to running numerous fundraising events (calendars, chocolates, bake sales...). Thank you for considering a contribution to our school community that aligns with your family's financial situation. We also recognize that not all families are in the position to make monetary donations.

How do I donate?

We are pleased to be able to offer automatic tax receipts this year through the use of the School District's donation facility.

1. Please go to the donation page for Greater Victoria School District 61: [<SD61 Give Online>](#)
2. Fill out the Gift Information section: choose the amount/enter other amount, choose 'Willows Elementary-PAC' from the Fund Destination drop down list.
3. Click the [Add To Cart] button at the bottom right of the screen.
4. You should be directed to the cart, click the [Continue] button.
5. You will now be directed to [Sign-In] to your SchoolCash Online account or check out as a guest. Please complete the transaction as desired.
6. Once your transaction is complete, you should be able to print your tax receipt. It should also be emailed to you. Thank you!

Where does your money go?

- to supporting student learning by funding field trips, bus transportation and library purchases
- to helping teachers with funds to spend on their classrooms
- to enhancing our children's experience with funds for clubs, music
- to encouraging activity through the purchase of outside sports equipment: the gaga ball pit and replacement balls, skipping ropes
- to celebrating and thanking Willows staff with appreciation events and gifts
- to funding school community events such as Welcome to Willows coffee, Meet the Teacher night treats
- to empowering parents through parent education nights
- to building our school through long term capital investments, like the gym sound system, audio aids in each classroom, the Gr 4/5 playground and picnic tables

Note: We have designed some community events such as the dances, to be self-funding (e.g. through donations at the door, concession) which keeps our contributions for the important initiatives listed above.

PAC Meeting Wed. Nov 14th, 7 p.m. School Library

You are invited to attend our second PAC meeting of the year which will be in-person. We will continue to consider offering a hybrid option for future meetings once we have a volunteer to run the tech side of things.

Agenda:

- Welcome & Land Acknowledgement
- Verification of Quorum
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes from last meeting
- School Leadership Update (Brenna/Carey)
- Presentation on **School Based Student Support*** (Brenna)
- Co-Chair report (Ken/Janine)
- Treasurer report (Trevor)
- Dance and upcoming Movie Night (Michele A)
- New Business
- Motion to adjourn

***School Based Student Support**

At Willows, we have both school based staff and district staff who work with classroom teachers to support our students. During the next PAC meeting, staff will share information about school based supports, introduce the professionals who work at our school to support students in their classrooms and share how we work collaboratively as a staff to support our students and their diverse needs. This is an opportunity for parents to ask questions.

HALLOWEEN DANCE THANKS!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Halloween Dance this year! Each dance had approximately 250 attendees (including both students and their families).

An extra big **THANK YOU** to our volunteers who generously donated their time to help make this event possible! We are always looking for ways to improve how we can run these events. If you have any feedback to give our PAC team, please email willowsvolunteers@gmail.com.



THANK YOU WILLOWS PAC! - PICNIC TABLES INSTALLED!

Many thanks to many stakeholders in our school community for seeing the picnic tables/outdoor classroom project through to completion! This was championed by last year's PAC Exec and funding was approved at the final PAC meeting of the 22/23 school year. Thanks to all that supported this including the school administration and staff and the school district workers who completed the installation. I think we can all agree this is a beautiful addition to our school and shows how our efforts, contributions and grants can make a difference.

(please see the next page for a picture!)



Stay Tuned: PAC Movie Night: We are working out the details and you should hear from us within the next couple of weeks.

Where did our PAC logo go?: Willows PAC needs to develop their own logo - ideas welcome!

Newsletter Ideas/Content: If you have any stories or school event information you think would be relevant for our school community please let us know.