

MINUTES for the General Meeting of the **SD71 District Parent Advisory Council**, held Isfeld Library & via Zoom, on **MONDAY April 7th** at 6:30pm.

ATTENDANCE:

Joanne Barr - DPAC Chair	Kari Pratt* - Isfeld Secondary
Jennifer Fisher- DPAC Vice Chair (Isfeld Alt)	Rae Walsh* - Vanier Secondary
Megan Cowling - DPAC Secretary - (Brooklyn/Highland Alt)	Holly Anderson* - Puntledge Park El (shared role)
Kendall Packham* - DPAC Treasurer - Glacierview	Karen Parkinson* - Aspen Rep
Michelle Waite - Trustee Area B	Brooke Finlayson* - Highland Secondary
Chelsea McCannell-Keene - Trustee Area C	Emily Hanson* - Airport Elementary
Thea Cockerton - Food Services Coordinator	Jennifer Vaino - Highland Secondary
Justyne Smythe* - Huband Elementary	Letitia Pokiak - Indigenous Education Council
	Erika Davis* - Arden Elementary

9 of 21 voting reps (min. of 7 req'd for quorum)

**indicates DPAC Rep*

1 Call to Order 6:30

Recognition of Traditional Territories

Introductions

Approval of the Minutes from *March 3rd 2025 Moved by: Kendall, Seconded By: Brooke Motion Carried*

Approval of the Agenda for *April 7th 2025 Moved by: Kari, Seconded by: Kendall Motion Carried*

2 Correspondence

- BCCPAC AGM, May 23-25th in Prince George or Online participation. Megan will be registered to attend on DPAC's behalf, registration is closed May 14th
- Resolution for Motion to be presented and accepted, currently in wording approval.

3 Presentation: Thea Cockerton, Food Services Coordinator. Update on Food programs in the District Here to provide an update on what we are doing in each school and how the funding is making an impact in the different schools.

- Eight schools are currently status quo with allocation (meaning they are doing various programs like breakfast, lunch, grab & go, with no big changes based on need articulated by the Staff.) Recently added allocation support for Strong Start snacks. Glacierview had staff making food for the whole school through a variety of methods every day, and we have hired a dedicated Food Service Worker (FSW) at 25 hours a week to prepare and provide food that is nutritious and available at no cost. We did not look a cost recovery at Glacierview. Question: What does "cost recovery" look like? Answer: Cost recovery refers to selling a portion of the meals to help recover the costs to put back into the program. Highland and Aspen are sharing a FSW start at Highland for breakfast program to supervise and build connections then do the lunch program at Aspen, for targeted students who need food leave classrooms and come to the food. Sandwiches are going to Brooklyn to meet their identified needs adding up to approx 4-5 staff hours a week. Isfeld and Valleyview: trying something different to get the salad bar up and going, have struggled to find volunteers. Last salad bar last week, shifting to grab & go lunches trying to increase the nutrition from premade baked goods to cooked proteins. Universal pay-what-you-can for Isfeld in September. Similarly at VV, try a few options but the right fit hasn't happened yet, next universal program will start there in September. Can use federal funding to update VV small & medium-sized renos to make the program run more easily. The goal for September. Nala'atsi has a unique program where the staff cook with students four days a week, then all sit down together. This takes their FSW extra time to shop & plan. Have hired casual FSW 5 hours Monday and

that will help their Youth and Family Worker to redirect energy to students. Sandwich has a unique program that has dual-credit students with students on site at the college, specific funding for accounts at NIC cafeteria have food access when they are not on-site. The Arden Universal Pay-What-You-Can program is 3 months in, lunch 5 days a week, 50% cost recovery. Still waiting for final numbers some invoices still coming in, but the model structure will make the program sustainable. The District will pay the staff person and the food cost aim of 20% will mean the program is resilient and sustainable long term. Currently serves 230 students. Beginning a similar program at EPP, challenged by a different facility and greater student numbers, 520 bigger step up logistically. Have hired a dedicated FSW who is experienced and determined to meet the needs of the kids, all equipment in place, menu just gone out. Question: Could you give examples of the menu? Answer: Menu items include: taco bowl, sushi bowl, perogies, and a sandwich bar. Volunteers are always welcome and very useful.

- Question: Status quo and need? Answer: The schools which are running status quo have had Thea check and converse with PVP to see if there is support she can offer and they have identified that they have a plan and are good for now.
- Question: What is the long term goal? Long term goal all students eating the same food, no one knows how much people have paid, universal access,
- Question: Could you outline Universal Pay-What-You-Can?
Online ordering, parents choose what to order and they choose how much to pay, no one knows who paid or how much they paid, so no stigma or shame for families and students. A program that accepts parent payment is a cost-recovery model, versus a fully-subsidized model. A universal school food program provides equitable access to food for all students regardless of their ability to pay. Courtenay EI LTCES Denman Hornby all get funding and do their own thing, LTCES has a FSW and they are staffed and they are moving to a pay-what-you-can.

4 Reports

Chair Report - Joanne Barr

- With Volunteer Appreciation day approaching April 20th I would like to take the opportunity to say "Thank You" to each and every single one of you for giving your time to make your school community and our school district better. We see your hard work, and thank you for going above and beyond.
- Even though March was a short month with spring break it was a very productive month, we attended the Open COW, and board meeting as well as our monthly one-hour meeting with the superintendent. Jennifer attended the hiring committee for the P/VP pool.

DPAC Treasurer- Kendall Packham

- General account -\$5811.58
- Gaming \$4136.89

Anti Racism Committee - Carly Wintschel / Megan Cowling

- Subcommittee work continues, the reporting flowcharts are still in draft format but we hope to have finalized versions for June to review and ready for circulation in September. We have upcoming meeting dates to announce, including a potential invite for any interested representatives. The presentation is 9:30am May 9th at the Wachiay Friendship Centre. This presentation came about through the combined work of our excellent District Principal of Diversity, Equity and Non-Discrimination, Karma Taiji, the Wachiay staff and the CV Community Justice Centre. The presentation is designed for school audiences and has been presented in Brooklyn, Isfeld and Highland. It draws on the feedback and experiences of racialized students and families within our community to discuss racism and supports students to have conversations about racism in a productive, supportive and empathetic way.
- If you would like to see the presentation and celebrate this work, please RSVP to: antiracismcommittee.sd71@gmail.com (space limited to 30 spots)
 - Wachiay Presentation @ Wachiay Friendship Centre Society, [1625 McPhee Ave., Courtenay](#). 9:30am - approx. 11am, Friday, May 9th

- Next Subcommittee Meeting @ 9:00am-10:30am Friday, May 30th

Sexual Health Committee - Brooke Finlayson

- Anonymous Survey went out before Spring Break, PACs DPACs, huge shout out to the District for putting it through their social media feed, on the WAAG (week at a glance) as a standing item, open until May 1st, arrived and it was important. Creates more of an opportunity to have conversations. Shannon will go to the ISW regional meeting. The survey was also sent to staff through CUPE, as we continue to try and reach groups that connect with populations who are statistically overrepresented in GBV experience. More time to have more conversations. Information will be used in a fairly substantive report that will come at the end. The survey consists of two questions:
 - 1) How can our schools better prevent sexual harassment, assault and other forms of gender-based violence among students (including but not limited to school settings)?
 - 2) How can our schools better respond to disclosures and reports of sexual harassment, sexual assault and other forms of gender-based violence?
 With a follow-up space additional other feedback. Collaboration has been awesome and supportive.

School Food Subcommittee - Shawn Thir - Sends regrets, unable to attend the meeting

Speaker Series Committee - Megan Cowling

- LTCES Community Connections Day May 9th & May 10th. Working on how the day will look, parent education evening Friday night.
- Save the Date: "Understanding IEPs for Parents & Caregivers" 6:30-8pm on Thursday September 25th, at the SBO, with Tracy Pederson of Inclusive Education presenting. Question: will there be an opportunity for parents with specific questions to give them to Tracy in advance to respond to in the presentation? Answer: that would be a great addition, as 90% of so much District communication is knowing the right question to ask. Will incorporate this feedback into the evening's model.

Emergency Preparedness Committee - Shawn Thir - Sends regrets, unable to attend the meeting

Superintendent Report - Jeremy Morrow- Unable to attend

Trustees Report - Trustee Waite & Trustee McCannel-Keene

- Last board meeting was March 11th, with a presentation from a parent at the board meeting about concerns at Vanier regarding the rugby pitch. The players and the parents attending really helped to move and present the information and discussion in a positive and informative way. Good news, as we heard this, digging in, over spring break, we have been able to move the goalposts in a way that created a regulation-sized pitch at Vanier. The communication with the Regional District continues re: placement of their artificial turf field, process went through, Field Use Advisory Committee created, field closest to Vanier would be artificial turf field. Potential impact of alignment of rugby field, concrete cricket piece installed. Navigate moving goalposts and work with CVRD to find out the actual location of the turf field to allow width and allow for the most sport groups to use it. Have not heard what the outcome is yet but can share that goalposts have been moved creating a regulation-sized field. Our school district has joint use with the fields. Students have priority on the fields until 5pm, then teams with students are also supposed to have priority usage.
- Emergency Preparedness - points collected, formation of a District Incident Response Team (DIRT). Working on updating information and soon hope to have access to revised and rebranded emergency information and an updated section on the website. Provided information on the school messenger platform, either currently active or will be active soon. Improving the text option ready,
 - CV SD71 Broadcast Line 978338
- Emergency Supplies - food will be purchased and put in the Seacans and rotated out yearly.
- Present and future - BCCPAC and BCSTA are the votes weighted based on the number of students? Recent increase in the district 12,005, has increased BCSTA weighing.

- Applications open for BC Gov't for Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services until 2pm April 11th (should DPAC choose to do an in-person presentation.)
- Chelsea: Take a moment to express appreciation and gratitude and social media and personal responses that came from the report about food in the district. The discussion had valuable content regardless of the position but it was a lot to field. Important learning time.
- Upcoming Committee of the Whole on April 8th at 7pm, Inclusive Ed and Foundational Statements. Prepared the policy to a draft stage and would love to hear and appreciate feedback. In-depth look at Inclusive Ed. Roundtable format 2 seats for partner group feedback. Clarify questions during these sessions, grateful to have DPAC reps at all and encourage all partner groups to attend.
- Next Board Meeting is April 22nd, Capital Funding updates coming.
- Pre-Spring Break grateful to attend protocol and ceremony two canoes that were named and blessed as they entered the District's work, they are Pentlatch names for *st'ixim* (Sun) & *spilus* (Moon).

5 **New Business**

- Funding will be shared in the April Board meeting, approval for the Budget will go through the May meeting.
- Please review budget priorities at PAC meetings. More money won't be coming, but we can reflect on what we are doing with what we have, are good decisions being made? A survey will be sent out between April 22nd - May 7th. We have invited Secretary Treasurer Carrie McVeigh to attend our next DPAC meeting, this is a good opportunity to discuss the Budget process and review how

6 **Upcoming Events**

- Volunteer Appreciation Day April 20th
- Administrative Professionals' Day: Wednesday April 23, 2025
- National Child & Youth Mental Health Day is May 7th - may7icare.ca

7 **PAC Sharing**

- Justyne Smythe - Raffle - Queneesh lost a student in February, it was very tragic. All proceeds benefiting adaptive swing, three hole basketball net, 2000 tickets, there will be Brayden's corner as well as a bench.
 - Draw on September 19th. Email money transfer: raffleforBrayden@gmail.com
 - Name email phone number, they will send a photo of the tickets.
- MacKenzie Leslie PAC Sharing: I was going to share that Courtenay EI had a movie night fundraiser on Friday. We did a preorder for popcorn and pizza and then had some extra people that people could buy there. We also sold water and canned drinks. We played The Wild Robot. It was a hit! I don't have a final number for how much we raised, but I think it was around 450-480. Which was pretty good.
- Robb Rd raised \$16K each classroom did a group art project and they were bid upon. Each classroom picked a different theme. Silent Auction. Robb Road Playground instagram.
- Ecole Puntledge Park is having a plant sale at the school on April 24 from 2-5:30 for Earth Day
- April 26th GP Vanier Spring Craft Market
- Miracle Beach Fun Fair May 23rd.
- Royston May 4th Spring Market
- Arden April 29th Burger & Beer Fundraiser at Gladstones. Erikaoutside@gmail.com Open invite to all parents to maximize the fundraising.
- Arden Penny Carnival is May 22nd.

8 Next Meeting: Monday, May 5th, 2025 Presentation: Secretary/Treasurer Carrie McVeigh: School District Budget

9 Adjourn 8:11pm Motion to adjourn. Moved by: Kendall Seconded by: Erika. Motion carried.

Any questions or comments please don't hesitate to [contact us](#)