

MINUTES for the Annual General Meeting of the **SD71 District Parent Advisory Council**, held Isfeld Library & via Zoom, on **MONDAY January 8th** at 6:30pm.

ATTENDANCE:

Jennifer Fisher- DPAC Chair	Sarah Jane Howe- Trustee
Joanne Barr - DPAC Vice Chair	Janice Caton- Trustee
Megan Cowling* - DPAC Secretary - Brooklyn Alt	Dr Jeremy Morrow - Superintendent
Spring Halasz - DPAC Treasurer	Kendall Packham*- Glacier View
Dana Starritt*- Cumberland Community School	Chris Parker* - NIDES
Brooke Finlayson*- Highland Alternate Rep	Tara Pietrzak* - Royston
Shawn Thir*- Lake Trail	Karyn Parkinson* - Aspen Elementary
JJ Morgan* - Arden Elementary	Tom Cutler* - Puntledge
Emily Hanson* - Airport Elementary	Heather Morris - Miracle Beach Parent

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

***indicates DPAC Rep**

1 Call to Order 6:33pm

Recognition of Traditional Territories

Introductions -

Approval of the Minutes from *Dec. 4th, 2023* Moved by: *Brooke* Seconded by: *Tom*

Approval of the Agenda for *Jan. 48h, 2023* Moved by: *Emily* Seconded by: *Brooke*

2 Old Business

- Nothing at this time

3 Correspondence

- BCCPAC - Online Town Hall regarding Resolutions - A how to guide

4 Reports

Chair Report - Jennifer Fisher

- Just would like to take a minute to thank Spring for her three years as the DPAC Treasurer. It is an important job and I appreciate her time and dedication to the role. With a busy DPAC, trying to engage parents definitely increased the workload of the role and we appreciate her hanging in there and working hard.
- Year in Review:
 - Consulted on Volunteer Code of Conduct with the District, consulted with Senior Admin regarding bussing issues, consulted and participated in meetings surrounding Family Affordability fund, as well as the Feeding Futures funding;
 - Participated in hiring committees for Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer, and Principal/Vice Principal Pools;
 - Participated in the budget meetings for 2023-2024, attended regular board meetings, Committee of the Whole meetings and consulted with the District and other partner groups;
 - Attended the BCCPAC AGM and coordinated Proxy vote forms, as well as attending the BCCPAC Summit with multiple networking opportunities with other DPACs and PACs
 - Initiated multiple DPAC Committees, and worked to assist them in anyway needed
 - Speaker Series:

- “Sharing Cultural Perspectives: Where Paths Meet” with Wedlidi Speck and Jesse Morin - February 16th (partnered with CDTA),
- Moms Against Racism. “How to Raise an Anti-Racist Child” June 6th,
- “Creating Consent Culture” with Jessy Wollen of Shift Education September 21st ,
- “Cultivate Consent with Kids” with Jessy Wollen of Shift Education September 19th,
- “Community Connections” (partnered with LTCES), partially funded,
- “Unlock Your Future - Key to Scholarships” with Brittany Palmer for grades 10+ (partnered with Isfeld Secondary),
- “Food Safe Certification for Parent/Caregiver Volunteers” December 9th
- “Parental Digital Dive: A Parent’ s Roadmap to Learn71.ca and Office 365” with Kara Dawson and Shannon Hagen (partnered with SD71),
- Bike Safety Parent Presentation by Benoit Valliant (student-led presentation)
- “Food Safe Certification for Parent/Caregiver Volunteers” January 20th (partnered with Lush Valley)
- Presentations:
 - Christina (Tina) Willard-Stepan (she/her), B.Ed., Facilitator and Environmental Educator
 - Lush Valley - Maurita Prato
 - Comox Valley Rent Bank: presented by Dawn Schroeder through the Comox Valley Affordable Housing Society

DPAC Treasurer- Spring Halasz

Gaming - 2013.39

Non Gaming- 7806.59

Total- 9819.98

- Only activity was a reimbursement to Megan for the camera that is currently enhancing the Zoom capabilities allowing the Zoom participants to view the meeting.
- Account fees was a \$1.50 transaction fee for the e-transfer fee.
- 2023 Year in Review report to be sent to the Secretary:

DPAC 2023 Financial Review

DPAC Gaming Account

Jan. 1, 2023: Opening Balance: \$3,743.89

-Apr 14 \$548 Joanne reimbursement \$1.50 E-transfer fee

-Jun 12 \$800 MAR e-transfer

\$1.50 fee

-Jun 30 LTCES \$1300 e-transfer

\$1.50 fee

-Oct 5 \$2500 BC Gaming Grant deposited -Oct 12 \$1050 Shift Education e-transfer \$1.50 fee

-Nov 22 \$525 Key To Scholarships e-transfer \$1.50 fee

Dec. 31, 2023 Closing Balance: \$2,013.39 DPAC Non-Gaming Account

Jan. 1, 2023 Opening Balance: \$3,455.01

-Jan 6 \$389.35 Jenn reimbursement

\$1.50 E-transfer fee

-Jan 12 \$389.35 BCCPAC deposited reimbursement

-Mar 2 \$1200 cheque

-Mar 24 \$5000 SD71 Annual Grant deposited (\$2500 backpay for 2021/22 school year & \$2500 for 2022/23 school year)
-May 12 \$35.16 Megan reimbursement \$1.50 fee
-May 12 \$224.21 Megan reimbursement \$1.50 fee
-May 19 \$245.50 Megan reimbursement \$1.50 fee
-May 19 \$664.29 Joanne reimbursement \$1.50 fee
-Jun 15 \$174.59 Jenn reimbursement \$1.50 fee
-Jul 7 \$482.91 BCCPAC deposited reimbursement
-Sep 28 \$2500 SD71 Annual Grant deposited for 2023/24 school year
-Oct 17 \$150 Jenn reimbursement \$1.50 fee
-Nov 1 \$295.00 Jenn reimbursement \$1.50 fee
-Nov 22 \$460.26 Jenn reimbursement \$1.50 fee
-Dec 5 \$127.35 Megan reimbursement \$1.50 fee

Dec. 31, 2023 Closing Balance: \$7,846.56

Sexual Health Committee- Brooke Finlayson

A follow up email/mtg with Jay Dixon is necessary re: email sent in December 2023,

Follow up with Board Chair Michelle Waite: asking for clarification around the motion that was tabled around the possibility of striking a district wide Gender Based Violence committee. No response to date,

A huge shout out to Shannon Aldinger for all the research and groundwork she did before becoming a school trustee, in particular, we recognize and appreciate all her efforts to further expand upon the conversation around more and better sexual health in our district. Additionally, Shannon was instrumental in the topic of Consent being added to the provincial curriculum from K-12. Shannon is currently considered a subject matter expert in the topic of Sexual Health and our district is very lucky to have her knowledge, expertise, and guidance. Also, a huge thank you to Megan Cowling and Jennifer Fisher for furthering these important conversations through the advocacy work of the SD71 DPAC Sexual Health Committee,

Due to changing family commitments, I am stepping down as Chair of the SHC. I will stay on the committee and am happy to mentor or help whomever steps into this position because the work is not complete.

Speaker Series Committee - Megan Cowling

I would like to thank the team behind Speaker Series and note that one person couldn't do this, it's a group effort. Special thanks to Spring for the work of payment of the speakers, keeping the accounts balanced and for being such an upbeat and supportive person in general. Integral thanks for Jenn for mc'ing the Speaker Series.

One piece I am so excited about as we move into 2024 is the collaborative aspect of our presentations. As DPAC we strive to be a resource for parents regarding the district, and learning more about the components and subject matter experts will hopefully save our busy parents time and stress. 90% of navigating an unfamiliar system is knowing whom to ask, especially when you may not know how to word the question.

For the next few months I will be continuing to coordinate with new speakers we have not yet heard from and seeking partnerships whenever possible. I would like to continue to invite community partners of interest (YANA) to families to introduce themselves and also work with the district to feature their SMEs. I am meeting with Out In Schools this month to discuss a presentation regarding supporting LGBTQ2IA+ youth in schools. I believe I have found a speaker on the topic of bullying for a presentation this spring.

Please get in touch with me if you have a specific topic to request or a speaker to recommend. Email is great, dpac@sd71.bc.ca

And please note we have a dropbox library of recordings on topics ranging all ages. ADHD, Anxiety, Discipline, Racism, etc., Consent, Mental Health and more.

As this can be a tricky time of year post-holidays, please note that Kelty Mental through BC Children's Hospital has excellent resources for many different types of challenges that families may face.

<https://keltymentalhealth.ca>

School Food Subcommittee - Shawn Thir

- No meetings in December.

Emergency Preparedness Committee - Shawn Thir

- No meeting in December.
- The major earthquake in Japan, notes for DPAC that we should consider. Japan has a sophisticated system for alerting during an earthquake, with a few second warning prior to shaking. The system takes over your media and conveys the location and intensity of the quake. Phones and tvs will go off. Suddenly all devices will begin alarming. Can be dramatic in large groups. Japan does not use the Richter System. The alternate system uses 0-7 with 9 levels. Level 7 earthquake in Mishikawa. 28K people evacuation centres. Schools being used as evacuation centres resulting in making it challenging to teach students.
- Organization is done on a community level. Could not help but reflect on our local infrastructure (eg bridges) and how our CV environment would cope in a similar event.

Superintendent Report - Jeremy Morrow

- Honoring the effort that DPAC puts in through candid and collaborative conversations around ways we can improve connection and experience.
- New 3 Year Calendar coming. Next year's 3 Year Calendar will be done in two years to avoid the gap this year. Commitment will be done in two years so we are always a year in advance to avoid the headaches for families trying to plan in advance without a calendar.
- Feeding Futures Report will be presented in draft form to Trustees next week. It will likely be reported on at the Board Meeting.
- There are six months to go with this school year. Background administration year is January-to-January. Kindergarten registration happening in the next couple of weeks. Secretary Treasurer hiring this week. External consultant this Friday for how to move forward with the Strategic Plan consultation sessions.
- Acknowledge that this is a tricky time for everyone, and that the transit strike is impacting families.
- Post-holiday, it was nice to enjoy a break but equally nice to be excited about getting back to work.
- Job postings question: What is the HR Advisor role? Answer: A maternity leave that needs to be filled
- Assc Superintendent Indigenous Education position is a replacement to the deputy superintendent position prior. As a district we have established that we need to address the disparity and inequity of outcomes for indigenous vs non-indigenous students.
- Question from Chris Parker: The new PRISM system tracks injuries to employees. Will it be used to track incidents and injuries for students? Answer: Internal use for staff and HR. Question: What is PRISM? Answer: it is a new health and safety software that tracks incidents.

Trustees Report - Sarah Jane Howe & Janice Caton

- SJ was excited to come to the meeting tonight and looking forward to DPAC as she hadn't been for 6-8 months. SJ gets to see regular PAC reps but not all of the reps for the district and she is happy to see them. Comment about the Speaker Series: Can we bring back the White Hatter? Answer: Yes.
- Working with a consultant on a framework for community engagement, collecting information and connecting with community in the process of forging the Strategic Plan.
- Trustee Appointments for schools have stayed the same, as well as committees, move to change this to transition to follow the school year calendar vs the traditional board calendar.
- Jan 16th at 7pm Committee of the whole - Topics:
- 1) Library Report 2) Technology Report 3) Lake Park Society update.
- Presentation on International school program and the benefits of the program from the students and families participating.
- Craig Sorochan presented the year-in-review district media highlights and slideshow.
- Amazing holiday, Winter Concerts and Christmas concerts, music and band presentations.
- District choir festival hosted. How impactful that festival is for our young musicians. The depth of the adjudication process. Students spent 20 minutes with a professional adjudicator and the before and after contrast. Basketball games at Vanier have been fun to attend and nice to see the parents in the community.

5 **New Business**

- AGM - Elections
 - Nominations for Chair - Jo Barr nominates Jennifer Fisher. Accepts nomination. Jennifer Fisher acclaimed;
 - Nominations for Vice Chair - Jennifer Fisher nominates Jo Barr. Accepts nomination. Joanne Barr is acclaimed;
 - Nominations for Treasurer - Kendall Packham nominates herself, Accepts nomination. Kendall is acclaimed;
 - Nominations for Secretary - Jo Barr nominates Megan Cowling. Accepts nomination. Megan Cowling acclaimed
- *Jennifer motions, "to remove Spring as a signing authority for DPAC" Seconded by: Chris Motion Carried.*
- *Jennifer motions, "to add Kendall Packham as a signing authority for DPAC" Seconded by: Shawn CARRIED*
- Constitution and Bylaws: Joanne Barr Vice Chair - Joanne noticed that our C&B structure was not user-friendly. You should have received them via email. Do you have questions? Two main points, two sections added: Leave of Absence and Perception of Bias.
 - Spring: if the three year term elapses and the person would like to run again, can they? Jo: Require four weeks notice to update the C&B.
- *Motion to accept the amended Constitution & Bylaws as presented: Moved by: Joanne*
Chris: Question in a perception of bias? Limiting to advocacy.
Joanne: Not the goal to block parent voice.
"Chris motions to remove section Thirteen table until future Perception of Bias." Moved By Chris, Seconded By Joanne. Motion Carried.
"Motion to accept the newly amended Constitution and Bylaws with the removal of the Section 13 Perception of Bias". Moved by Joanne, seconded by Dana. Motion carried.

6 Upcoming Events - nothing at this time

7 PAC Sharing

- Shawn - before winter break lake trail had their winter feast, turkey dinner, was awesome kids loved it
- Be careful of scams- Shawn almost was scammed by outside jerks who texted him encouraging him to buy gift cards posing as the principal. Please check in with the person before you send anything, check the actual email address that the request is coming from.
- Spring: bus strike - kids are going to school in a cab, trying to arrange rideshares. It is impacting a lot of people. Student Union at NIC was writing letters. Sid Williams Theatre also affected. Bus Loop 99 Connector morning starts at Native Sons loops Vanier Isfeld Highland and loops again and then Vanier Isfeld Highland and loops again. Number 1 Route. Same thing again in reverse at 3pm. Should it be considered an essential service? Glacierview affected. Kendall: Glacierview devised a program with their administrator's help.
- Chris - Navigate PAC gaming funds usage idea. Connected with Foxglove Hollow for online art classes.

8 Next Meeting: Monday, February 5th

9 Motion to adjourn moved by: Jennifer

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