



Delta District Parent Advisory Council (Delta DPAC)

C/O Delta School Board
4485 Harvest Drive, Delta, BC, V4K3C9
Email: deltadpac@deltasd.bc.ca
Website: dpac.deltasd.bc.ca

DPAC General Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 20th, 2017

Meeting location: Delta School Board Office

Meeting time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Members in attendance:

Keith Punshon - Chair (Devon Gardens/Delview)
Joe Muego – Vice Chair (Beach Grove)
Wendy Thompson - Co-Secretary (Annieville)
Elaine Owsnett - Treasurer (Pinewood)
Tami Oudendijk - Parent Ed (South Delta Secondary)
Kerri Deane - Delta Secondary
Nicole Bevan - Sands
William Xie - Seaquam
Gwen McMonigal - Cliff Drive
Kristin Unger - Gray
Sonia Brookes - Hawthorne
Kyla Pittman - Hawthorne
Jennifer DeHartogh - Hawthorne
Kate Henderson - Holly
Tasha Mangat – Neilson Grove
Tia Litz - Port Guichon
Sol Stevenson - South Park
Bob Nath - Delview/Gibsons
Tyla Langdon - Ladner Elementary

Guests in Attendance:

Doug Sheppard – Superintendent
Joe Strain - Secretary Treasurer
Nicola Christ - Director of Financing Services
Jenn Hill - Director of Communications
Val Windsor - School trustee
Laura Dixon - School trustee

Meet & Greet - 6:45 pm

Meeting brought to order at: 7:10pm

Welcome & Introductions



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REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE - Doug Sheppard, Superintendent

Ongoing work on curriculum re development. Meetings and sharing information sessions still taking place as we work through these changes. Another Pro D coming up this Friday and again staff will be meeting and discussing these issues. May be some slight changes to the reporting from the schools, likely the District will ask for some feedback from the parents as we continue to tweak the reports. Approximately $\frac{2}{3}$ of the elementary teachers using the new template. Please provide feedback both positive and negative back to your child's teacher.

The work following the court case is ongoing and it sounds like it's going well between the BCTF and the Province. Additional funding was received in the District which turns out to 27 new teachers in the District. May see movement between Districts as teachers try to find work closer to home.

We are anticipating an announcement soon around some sort of a final decision as to how staffing will roll out in the fall.

Regarding snow closures, as any public service we try to remain open. Clearly other public services stay open i.e hospitals and emergency services. In any given morning when we're aware that there may be snow or a weather event, anything that we believe is an issue, we look at the information from the news as to the events of the day as well as the highway webcams and updates from staff who live in particular areas. This year Langley was definitely in a position to close and should have. It appears given that Surrey borders Langley they made the decision to close. Delta District tries to make their decision before 6:00am to reach parents before leaving for work for the day. Some parents chose to keep their kids home from school and that is always a parent's decision. We cannot make a decision for the entire district based on one road or route to school. We would also look at closing portions of the District if necessary. Staff as well have the ability to make a decision to drive to work if safe in these circumstances as well. The expectation is that they will come to work if able. There were also questions about the structures in these heavy snowfalls. Most of our facilities have been seismically updated. It was the snow and rain that was the big worry. We were told we would probably need about 3 times as much snow with the predicted rain for it to cause a concern. As long as we were clearing drains the water would flow away and not be a concern. There is a staff of 8 that works on clearing the school parking lots and as many sidewalks as they could. The school administrators were also doing a lot of working with the snow clearing. A number of school had parents volunteer to come and help with the shovelling. There is never an issue when parents choose to come to the school on their own time to help with an issue. The concern would be damage to the property or to themselves. This is however not something that the District can encourage. The only true source of information to provide on district closures is the radio stations. Those accounts can generally not be hacked.



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REPORT FROM JOE STRAIN AND NICOLA CHRIST

Initially tonight we were to speak to Pac Treasurers regarding reporting, records and expectations. Given we're going into budget season we've decided to do a discussion on budgets as well. The district is currently preparing for it's 2017 2018 budget. Funding for 2017 2018 is not announced until mid March. The agreement on the Supreme Court decision is not known yet. We don't know what the amount per pupil will be yet. It can be quite different from year to year. You may wonder why we start budgeting at this point then if we don't know these answers. The answer is we have to. We have to have a budget ready by the end of April and if you start budgeting very close to that deadline it's very hard to make those decisions in such a short period of time. At this time we are generating a number of different scenarios for when we are advised about funding. The majority of our funding come from the Ministry, the other sources of funding are provincial and federal grants, international fees, continuing ed and academy fees and all other revenue. February 28, 2017 is the consultation with the public on the 2017 and 2018 budget. You can meet with the trustees to let them know what you feel is important with the budget, what impacts you the most. By April 14 we release the public release of budget recommendations to the trustees and then the public has an opportunity to review this information. A public board meeting is held April 18 following that, public delegates come and speak to the trustees regarding the proposal. The final budget is adopted on April 25, 2017. Under the School Act school districts cannot incur a deficit. We have to balance our budget to zero, expenses cannot exceed revenues. We have two choices if a deficit occurs, we can cut ongoing costs or we can appropriate reserve funds from the prior year. The problem with that are they are of a one time nature and is not something that can continue ongoing. The composition of the reserves come from international programs, ministry holdback funds and funds resulting from unusual timing or circumstance. The reserves are normally used for one time projects or expenses and are generally used as a last resort. The preliminary budget looks at projected enrolment, salaries and benefits, expenses and revenues. Balancing the budget involves disposition of a deficit. Instruction & inclusive education expenses make up about 85% of the Operating Fund Expense budget. Salaries & benefits make up about 90% of the Operating Expense budget. Teacher, TTOC, EA and Support salaries make up 90.2% of total salaries. The student learning grant was just announced February 19, 2017. We understand there to be 29.4 Million dollars province wide. It is supposed to be \$50 per student. It needs to be spent by June 30, 2018. As it's one time funding it should not be used for ongoing expenditures. It's intended to be used for things that will benefit directly into the classroom.

Are there things or information that the district can help with or provide to PAC's regarding handling their school funds? Suggestions:

- The expectation of the treasurer and reporting
- Money carried over, what are the expectations of how that will be spent in the future



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- Difference between gaming funds and PAC funds
- Guidelines on interaction between PAC and administration
- Holding PAC's accountable for spending the money, not holding a large balance
- Each PAC uses a different bank with different rates and fees, could those accounts be consolidated at the same bank for a better rate
- Precedent setting for fund raising versus grants, if a large amount is raised does it affect our funding?

There is a lot of good information on the BCCPAC website for PAC's in this regard.

General Business Meeting: Start time 9:00

Approval of Agenda:

Moved by Nicole Bevan & seconded by William Xie ; approved.

Approval of Last 3 Minutes (October, November, January) :

Approved by Elaine Owsnett & seconded by Tami Oudendijk

Chairs report - Keith Punshon

Keith went back and forth with the district about the accounting presentation today. He has not attended any school boarding meetings this month. Other meetings scheduled have been cancelled.

Vice-Chair's report – Joe Muego

Nil to report

BCCPAC Rep report - Lakhvir Gill

Not in attendance

Treasurer's Report - Elaine Owsnett

Only had one education grant request from Beach Grove. Our gaming fund currently as of January 31, 2017 is \$3,758.96. Operating account is \$7,326.41. We are awaiting the invoices for the Terry Small presentations.



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Parent Education Report - Tami Oudendijk

Tami attended the Terry Small presentation as did some others in the group. He addressed how the brain works. It was a light and entertaining presentation. Good for both parents and students to attend. How the brain works and food to help with brain health. It was approximately 1.5 hours long. At the end some of his materials were available for purchase. It was well received by both parents and student. There was good turnout for the presentations. Delview presentation has been postponed to March 1st and it is currently sold out at around 300 attendees. It is good to do cross body stretches every once in awhile to reactive the other side of your brain you are not using in the current activity. On his website you can sign up to receive a newsletter from him approximately 4 times a year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: (See DPAC website to view links with information on the following)

Superintendent's Council – Keith Punshon (alternate: Joe Muego)

Meeting was cancelled

Emergency Preparedness Committee – vacant

Aboriginal Advisory Committee – vacant

Special Programs Community Advisory Committee – vacant

Social Responsibility Advisory Committee/Healthy Schools– Joe Muego

Unable to attend meeting

MEETING ADJOURNED

9:17 pm

Next meeting April 10, 2017 at 7:00pm

Location: Delta School District Office, Main Board Room