



## Delta District Parent Advisory Council (Delta DPAC)

C/O Delta School Board  
4485 Harvest Drive, Delta, BC, V4K3C9  
Email: [deltadpac@deltasd.bc.ca](mailto:deltadpac@deltasd.bc.ca)  
Website: [dpac.deltasd.bc.ca](http://dpac.deltasd.bc.ca)

### DPAC General Meeting Minutes

#### **Monday, January 16, 2017**

Meeting location: Delta School Board Office

Meeting time: 7:00 – 9:30 pm

#### **Members in attendance:**

Keith Punshon - Chair (Devon Gardens/Delview)  
Joe Muego – Vice Chair (Beach Grove)  
Wendy Thompson - Co-Secretary (Annieville)  
Rassamee Ling- Co-Secretary (Burnsview)  
Elaine Owsnett - Treasurer (Pinewood)  
Tami Oudendijk - Parent Ed (South Delta Secondary)  
Lakhvir Brar – District Representative to BCCPAC (Cougar Canyon)  
Kerri Deane - Delta Secondary  
Alka Jawanda - Brooke  
Diana Thompson - Cliff Drive  
Bob Nath - Gibson  
Kristin Unger - Gray  
Jennifer DenHartogh - Hawthorne  
Tyla Langdon - Ladner  
Tasha Mangat – Neilson Grove  
Nadine Daviss – Sunshine Hills

#### **Guests in Attendance:**

Doug Sheppard – Superintendent  
Nancy Gordon - Assistant Vice Superintendent (South Delta/Ladner and Sunshine Woods/Hills schools)  
Brad Bowman – Assistant Superintendent (all remaining North Delta Schools)  
Joe Strain - Secretary Treasurer  
Jenn Hill - Director of Communications  
Nick Kanakos - School Trustee  
Val Windsor- School Trustee  
Fabian Milat - School Trustee  
Rhiannon Bennett - School Trustee  
Dale Saip - School Trustee  
Laura Dixon - School Trustee



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Meet & Greet - 6:45 pm

Meeting brought to order at: 7:05pm

Welcome & Introductions

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

Focus on high school graduation rates soar. Assessment done in the Spring 2015, PISA (Program for International Student Assessment). Major focus was on science. Canadian data is broken out by Province. Delta may have had a sampling from 1 or 2 schools in the district. In the World Singapore ranks the top followed by British Columbia and Alberta in 2nd. This is the first time that BC has ever finished at the top of the ranking in the World. In mathematics Canada as a whole is up there, BC is the second best Province always behind Quebec. Quebec is always ahead in math. *Study shows that this is because parents speak to their kids about math topics from a much earlier age.*

What about Delta specifically and what about metro? Metro has almost 45% of the Province's population and Delta has only 3% of the Province's population. Over the last 5 years we have gone from 86% to 88.9% graduation rate over a 6 year timeframe. Some of the remaining 11% receive their Evergreen certificate (2-3%), or they leave to complete high school in another province, and finally, some take more than 6 years to complete High School (and a small percentage do not complete high school). Delta's graduation rate is higher than Metro (87.5%) and the Province (83.6%). Highest completion student group is ELL, followed by girls, then boys. In all three groups, Delta ranks higher than Metro and the Province.

Delta has ~70 indigenous students. In 2016, their graduation rate was 76.7% (Delta) compared with 63.8% (Province) and 61% (Metro). Our goal is to see all these graduation rates continue to improve. We want all students to graduate with dignity, feel strong, have a purpose and have options moving forward.

**"The number one indicator of student success is parental expectations and meaningful discussions."**

Overall School District Vision: "Learners are fully prepared and empowered to contribute their personal best to society and become tomorrow's citizens and leaders."

### **REPORT FROM DELTA SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR - Laura Dixon**

"Congratulations to the School District, teachers and students for being on track for reaching our District goal."

Val Windsor is part of a team looking after our high risk, vulnerable learners.



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Laura Dixon is working with a group on Student Wellness & Mental Health. Brad Bauman has worked with the medical community and the school community to align the language used so that both are working on issues with the children in the District. The District has now setup some community meetings to discuss some of these issues. They are trying to pull the resources of the District together so that it's readily available to the doctors and parents of our students. Physician offices should now have a checklist of family health services, apps, etc that can benefit students. (Eg. "Child & Youth Mental Health & Substance Use Resources for Surrey-North Delta".) Overall, there is improved access for students and families to obtain help. Also, community health groups are hosting Parent Education sessions. See link below for an event on February 15th.

**The Mindful Parent: Strategies from Peaceful Cultures to Raise Compassionate, Competent Kids.**

<http://web.deltasd.bc.ca/event/315>

Registration here:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/growing-kind-kids-tickets-30619099551>

## ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE TRUSTEES

Items that were discussed: playground funding, music programs, coaching of sports at a lower age group, traffic at the schools, allergy protocols, libraries, tech plans for the schools, report cards, sensory rooms (implemented at Hawthorne Elementary - resultant lower number of student 'visits' to the Principal's office), BC Teachers Federation settlement (how to help get earlier increase in teacher numbers - send an email to Mike Bernier encouraging quick resolution of issues), overall parent engagement in PAC's.

Parents are invited to email their School Trustees with their questions and praise items. It helps them know what needs attention and what is going well in the School District.

MEETING ADJOURNED                      9:30

Next meeting Monday February 20, 2017 at 7:00pm,

LOCATION: Delta School District Office, Main Boardroom.

TOPIC: **School District Recommendations for PAC Treasurer (policies and best practices),**  
by Nicola Christ, Director of Finance. **All PAC Executive invited to attend.**