



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, April 16, 2018

Meeting location: Delta School Board Office

Meeting time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Members in attendance:

Joe Muego - Chair (Beach Grove/SDSS)
Kristin Unger - Secretary (Gray)
Elaine Owsnett - Treasurer (Pinewood)
William Zie - 1st Member At Large (Seaquam)
Jennifer DenHartogh – Hawthorne (BCCPAC Rep)
Natasha Gray - Neilson Grove
Trish Uppal - Sunshine Hills
Shane Todhunter - South Park
Kerri Deane - Delta Secondary
Melanie Bannister - Burnsvie
Parveen Loodu - Pinewood
Julia Mellish - Holly
Jennifer Graham - Ladner

Guests in Attendance:

Doug Sheppard - Superintendent, Delta School District
Laura Dixon - Board of Education, School Trustee, Chairperson
Brad Baumann - Assistant Superintendent, Delta School District
Nancy Gordon - Assistant Superintendent, (South Delta/Ladner and Sunshine Woods/Hills schools)
Jen Hill - Communications & Marketing Manager, Delta School District
John Pavao - Vice Principal, Delta Secondary
Harmony Powell - Delta Secondary Student, DYAC
Amrita Bains - Delta Secondary Student, DYAC
Ryna Zhang - Delta Secondary Student, DYAC



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Meet & Greet - 6:45 pm

Meeting brought to order at - 7:05pm

Welcome & Introductions

REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Nancy Gordon - Assistant Vice Superintendent, Delta School District

Healthy Schools Report

Nancy introduced the Delta Youth Advisory Council and spoke about Delta Secondary's DYAC focus, stress and anxiety. Surveys were given and the data that came back revealed six broad areas which connect into two main areas of focus: healthy minds, and healthy bodies; in other words, mental health and physical activity.

The physical activity piece focuses on kindergarten to grade three for now, within the Physical Education curriculum. It teaches foundational skills children should master, ie. two-foot jump, hopping, skipping, galloping, pass and catch. A group of teachers came together to develop this curriculum for K-3 teachers. After this year, the goal is to revamp grades four and five PE curriculum.

For further information on the mental health piece, Nancy referred to Brad Bauman.

Brad Bauman - Assistant Superintendent, Delta School District

Delta Youth Advisory Council

The Delta Youth Advisory Council (DYAC) has been going on for a number of years in the district. This year, students have been working for real impact on issues; there were a lot of voices of frustration and fear, overwhelming pressures on kids, and kids are more aware these days about what others are going through, and how can peers help each other.

The information the DYAC employs comes from surveys of schools in Delta done every year (among other sources) and they compared the data to schools in the country, and put together a presentation.



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Presentation:

Stress and anxiety together are common occurrences in students. Delta female student rates are higher than males students in Delta, but both male and female rates are above the average in Canada.

For self esteem, female students in Delta are again below the average.

For depression, female students in Delta are above the average, almost double.

Why are the female levels so high? Speculation is that traditional and modern expectations cause more stress. Technology is a major factor, along with social media. This has an impact on stress and anxiety levels.

Action plan: Delta Secondary is going to start a program called “flex time”; this is extra support for students. They can get help from the teachers in this time, if they need it. DYAC is focused on teaching students how to deal with stress and anxiety, how to stay more organized. DYAC will also talk at staff meetings to get this information across because staff plays a large role.

Support the Supporters: DYAC is dedicating a portion of the resources into teaching the people closest to those in need how to better help them.

Parents: what about us? How can we help? We can encourage our children to succeed but don't pressure them; suggest a break, suggest something to eat, breathe, calm down, and “either way, we'll be proud.”

More findings from the surveys were that grade eights have very high levels of stress because it's a new school and new surroundings, and then levels spike again in grades' 11 and 12, likely because of graduation.

Parents can go to their local DYAC group at their local high school and ask for their action plan, get their presentation and share it with other parents. They can talk to the sponsor Vice Principal of the DYAC program in each school, as well.

Emergency Preparedness

There is going to be changes with language around Emergency Preparedness to make the language more provincially aligned. The main piece for parents is that the Delta School District is shifting away from code red, yellow, green in terms of school safety procedures, and towards a more North American protocol. Delta is one of the last districts to make this shift. New terms will be (tentatively): ‘lockdown’, ‘hold and secure’, ‘room clear’, ‘shelter in place’, ‘evacuate’.

Lockdown: “armed and dangerous person in the school.” This is the same as code red in its current form. There will be a few more steps to go through before ‘all clear’ now. The



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District worked with Delta police and fire for recommendations. Most differences will be for staff.

Hold & Secure: “security concern in the neighbourhood”. This is similar to code yellow. Some procedures will be different for staff but communication will be more standardized and there will be more timely manner of information for parents, so they know when to expect communication.

Room Clear: Move people away from a hazard contained in one room/area.

Shelter in Place: Used if an environmental hazard may impact the school. There are steps here that that weren't there in a code yellow.

Evacuate: Used to move people out of the school.

The colour codes will be kept until June. September will be the official shift. The District is looking into having a place where parents can look to for official information.

Doug Sheppard - Superintendent, Delta School District

Budget Recommendations

Every April is challenging, and usually there are cuts to staffing. This is the first year since 2010 of putting more staff back into the schools.

The budget numbers are on Delta School District website:

<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/>

There's a budget of just over \$150 million from the provincial government. The per person amount increased by about \$122 per student, and allowed the District to have a surplus for the first time since 2010, of about \$56,000.

There will be eight more teachers for the District and approximately \$500,000 dollars to inclusive learning.

The funding formula review (discussed in more detail later) will impact the budget for the fall so the District is still waiting to see what that looks like.

Assuming all the kids predicted show up, the student population will be slightly increasing.

We've been pretty lucky, being one of the more comparatively affordable areas in the Lower Mainland to live, and Delta has a good reputation amongst metro teachers as a positive place to work.



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General Business Meeting: Start time 8:15 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda:

Moved by Jennifer DenHartogh & seconded by Trish Uppal; unanimous.

Approval of January 15, 2018 Minutes:

Moved by Shane Todhunter & Elaine Owsnett seconded by; unanimous.

Chair's Update - Joe Muego

School Board Meeting, February 27, 2018

Healthy Schools Committee Meeting, March 5, 2018

Funding Formula Review, March 12, 2018

The Trustees Board believes there should be a clearer vision of what public education should be doing, then divide the funds. They'd like to find out what works well with the current formula, and what's not working. The Trustees Board believes the government is missing a step in between stages, and would like to model the new formula for the parents before implementation.

School Board Meeting, April 10, 2018

School District Budget Rec., April 12, 2018

Vice-Chair's report – Lakhvir Brar

Absent.

Treasurer's Report - Elaine Owsnett

A couple of grants went out for \$500 each. The gaming account has \$3361 and the operating account has \$7067. There is \$1800 left for parent events.

BCCPAC Update - Jen DenHartogh



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The BCCPAC is offering a newbie rate where it is \$100 to attend all three days of the BCCPAC AGM in Richmond, May 4-6, 2018. You can choose which topics you'd like to sit in on.

Business Arising From Minutes:

N/A

New Business:

Movies in Schools - Copyright Issues

Three schools got notified about copyright issues. Technically, the schools must have permission to broadcast the movies played at movie nights. The school can apply for a public performance copyright license and must pay per showing.

ACF is the licensing company who hold the Canadian rights to most films.

Executive Nominations

Nominations and appointing of the Executive will be held in May, so give some thought to who you would like to nominate.

MEETING ADJOURNED

8:47 p.m.

Next meeting May 21, 2018 at 7:00pm

Location: Delta School District Office, Main Board Room