



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, September 18, 2017

Meeting location: Delta School Board Office

Meeting time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Members in attendance:

Joe Muego - Chair (Beach Grove/SDSS)
Lakhvir Brar - Vice Chair (Cougar Canyon)
Kristin Unger - Secretary (Gray)
Elaine Owsnett - Treasurer (Pinewood)
William Xie - 1st Member At Large (Seaquam)
Bob Nath - 2nd Member At Large (Delview/Gibsons)
Mandy Jones - Brooke
Jennifer DenHartogh - Hawthorne
Kristin Visscher - Holly
Natasha Gray - Neilson Grove
Tia Litz - Port Guichon
Kristene Welch - South Park
Trish Uppal - Sunshine Hills
Dave Dunn - Chalmers
Caroline Williams - Chalmers
Jennifer Graham - Ladner
Tyla Langdon - Ladner

Guests in Attendance:

Doug Sheppard - Superintendent
Jenn Hill - Communications & Marketing Manager
Paige Hansen – District VP, Choice and Academy Programs
Brooke Moore – District Principal of Inquiry and Innovation
Laura Dixon – Board of Education, School Trustee

Meet & Greet - 6:45 pm

Meeting brought to order at - 7:05pm

Welcome & Introductions

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



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Paige Hansen (District VP, Choice and Academy Programs)

Academy Programs are Choice programs, elective programs, run by the District. Children can take the district bus from their school at lunch to a different school to work with a teacher coordinator and instructors/coaches skilled in the program areas.

Program areas are:

Athletics: Baseball, golf, hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball

Fine Arts: dance, film acting, film production, opera & performance

Any student in Delta schools at or above the grade seven level can apply.

<http://www.deltaacademies.ca/>

Brooke Moore (District Principal of Inquiry and Innovation)

Farm Roots Mini School uses curriculum as the main source of content and learning. The school district has an eight-acre property in the Boundary Beach area with the mini school on it. Grades 10 through 12 attend every second day, take socials, science, finance, marketing, business, independent studies along with other courses to maintain the farm. This program is done in partnership with Kwantlen Polytechnic University and students can get dual credit for it.

The two programs are hosting a Dirt & Candlelight Gala, an evening of elegance at the farm to raise money for bursaries for the Performance & Opera Academy, and for running the Farm Roots Mini School. The gala is on September 30, 2017, at 6PM. It's a white tent gala evening, with the Vancouver opera and a cover band made up of Delta School District employees performing. There will be a silent and live auction and auction items are needed. Contact via email with any questions. bmoore@deltasd.bc.ca

<http://de.deltasd.bc.ca/content/delta-secondary-farm-roots-mini-school>

Doug Sheppard, Superintendent

Close to 3,000 new teachers have been hired across the province, with about 80 in full-time equivalents in Delta. Almost all the positions are filled except for a few specialty positions. The difference this year is that there has been more movement across positions than normal, as it is the best time for educators to get closer to their home.

Enrollment is slightly higher than last year with about 16,000 students. We have space for them in Delta.

As a positive announcement, the very last school needing seismic upgrades, Gibsons, is getting finished.

The two questions the District would like to pose to the PACs:



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1. Are there any concerns coming out of your schools?
2. Are there any specific topics you would like to see come forward this year from the school district staff?

We are in year two of the curriculum change. It is in full force in grades K through 9. Grade's 4 through 7 will be writing the revised FSAs in October instead of Spring. Current grade 12s will graduate on the previous program, while grade 11s and below will graduate on the new curriculum.

When you're hearing concerns, the School District would love to hear about them; issues like parking lots, traffic, animals, other outside-of-school issues that might be a challenge for parents. Communication is encouraged.

Laura Dixon (Board Chair):

A trustee is elected to be a representative between parents and government and the School District. They help fashion the budget and they are out in the community listening. They fill a liaison role. They love to come to PAC meetings and ceremonies, please invite them! They are available at public Board meetings which are open, and you can suggest topics via their website. There are open public budget sessions, and they are happy to have coffee and talk, too!

Available by phone and email.

<https://web.deltasd.bc.ca/content/about/boardofeducation/trustees>

William Xie (Sequam): How do the School District and the City work together?

Laura Dixon: Most issues are traffic issues. There are usually direct calls between the school Principal and Municipality representative. Various committees can have issues directed to them to communicate between the School District and Municipality. There are also Liaison committees. Sometimes the Board of Trustees will call a City Councillor directly. There are many different ways to communicate, and it depends on the issue.

Jenn Hill - Communications & Marketing Manager

There is a new website at the District level coming soon. All the content will be updated. If anything is missing, please let the School District know. All the schools will be getting websites and updates as well. The process will be starting at the end of September, 2017.

William Xie (Sequam): Seaquam talked about website content update, but is having challenges. Who is responsible to update content?

Jenn Hill: Schools are responsible for their own content. PACs have their own District website with an outside link and info, with a 'for more information, go to this site' message, which redirects to a site controlled by the PACs, with support from the School District if needed.

Lakhvir Brar (Cougar Canyon): When will school sites come online?



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Jenn Hill: All will come on at different times, and hopefully all will be done by Christmas. A chunk of them should be in by the end of October. There will be more info to come.

General Business Meeting: Start time 8:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved by Lakhvir Brar & seconded by William Xie; unanimous.

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Jennifer DenHartogh & seconded by William Xie; unanimous.

Chairs report - Joe Muego

The DPAC Mandate is clearly written, and there is not much business to be conducted. The DPAC is more of a conduit for information between the School District and school PACs.

Meeting Format/Schedule: The DPAC meeting generally begins with a Superintendent's update or presentation. After the presentation we attend to regular DPAC business. Approximately 2 weeks before the DPAC meeting, Joe meets with Doug to discuss topics. With regards to schedule, there are 7 meetings throughout the year. The dates are listed on the DPAC website.

DPAC Mandate: The purpose of DPAC is all about advocating for parents and ensuring their appropriate access to the education system. The DPAC assists parents and PACs with communication with the School District. We encourage the formation and continued operation of PACs. Everyone's homework is to keep listening to PAC Executives and parents at the school and bring concerns to the DPAC.

Executive Positions:

Parent Education Coordinator: This is an important role, but unfilled. The DPAC puts together parent education nights. If interested in filling the role or for more information, contact Joe Muego.

Meeting Convener: The Meeting Convener generally books the venue, but the DPAC is booked here at the School District already. The position is also organizing snacks. The DPAC can rotate through the position, and your own PAC will reimburse the funding for the snacks. The DPAC can have a sign-up sheet so whoever wants to rotate through the position can. It is even possible to pair up.



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Vice-Chair's report – Lakhvir Brar

No updates.

Treasurer's Report - Elaine Owsnett

Gaming account, \$1659

Operating account, \$7816

The DPAC is still waiting on the gaming grant, which is \$2500, and will hopefully be given on October 1, 2017, and then the DPAC can set our budget

Overall, we will have approximately \$4100 for parent education.

PACs can start putting together applications for grant money. \$200 to a single PAC for an individual parent ed night. There are two individual grants for North Delta, and two individual grants for South Delta. If two PACs get together, there is a \$300 grant. For a large group grant, three or more PACs, there is the possibility of \$600, but they must invite the entire district. There is one large group grant for North Delta and one large group grant for North Delta. The grants are given on a first-come first-serve basis.

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

Over the last year, committees have been in the process of being revamped. Currently, no committees have a parent representative, except for the Healthy Schools committee. Joe Muego will contact committee Chairs for the minutes to see if someone would like to be a parent representative on the committees.

Healthy Schools – Joe Muego

Emergency Preparedness Committee – vacant

Aboriginal Advisory Committee – vacant

Business Arising From Minutes (May 2017):

No business.

New Business:



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Business Arising from Minutes: **NIL**

New Business:

Account Signing Authority Update:

Motion: to remove Keith Punshon as a signing authority on the Delta District Parent Advisory Council's bank accounts at Envision Credit Union.

Moved by Lakhvir Brar & seconded by Tia Litz; unanimous.

Motion to appoint Joe Muego and Lakhvir Brar as signing authorities on the Delta District Parent Advisory Council's bank accounts at Envision Credit Union.

Moved by Lakhvir Brar & seconded by Dave Dunn; unanimous.

Budget Update:

Money gets into the budget through the gaming grant of \$2500, which the DPAC receives in October. It then decides how to spend it. The budget will be circulated, and there will be a discussion of streamlining the budget to pass or amend at the next meeting.

DPAC Communications:

How do we get our message out to PACs and just generally?

Who keeps track of the DPAC web site? Jenn DenHartogh might take on the reins of the web site.

We need a system in place to make sure that we're keeping track of things we need to follow up on.



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Partner Agency Transmittals:

BCCPAC: Survey of Parents of Special Needs Children who are not receiving a Full Day at School <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BCCPACFullDaySchool>

Parks & Rec Corp of Delta: \$5 access to all Delta Rec Facilities for Grades 5 through 8, drop-in activities all year long

Fraser Health: Fraser Health Content and Resources for School Districts
www.Fraserhealth.ca/schoolhealth

Future Agendas:

If there are any questions, please bring them to the DPAC; any issues at your school, we can work together with the School District to discuss and solve them.

Lakhbir Brar: We should incorporate a discussion of sharing challenges and strategies from schools and PACs into the DPAC meetings to increase engagement and participation.

Joe Muego: The DPAC is the recognized voice at the District level. If an individual PAC doesn't come through the DPAC to address their issue to the School District, it makes it harder on that individual PAC to accomplish things.

Comment: Many schools were not represented at the DPAC meeting. Possibly they were not aware?

Joe Muego: Joe emailed every single principal in the District with a common message with meeting details. Suggestions would be for representatives to maybe speak to their principal and PACs to get the message out.

MEETING ADJOURNED

8:45 p.m.

Next meeting October 16, 2017 at 7:00pm

Location: Delta School District Office, Main Board Room

Certified Correct

Joe Muego, Chairperson Delta DPAC