



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 20, 2021

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

ATTENDEE	
Lakhvir Brar (Chair, Seaquam)	Julia Mellish (Holly)
Meenakshi Bhatti (Co-Chair/Secretary, Cougar Canyon)	Kat (Cliff Drive)
Tia Litz (BCCPAC Rep, DSS)	Kerri Deane (DSS)
Annette Kozicki (Annieville)	Lara Wilson (Beach Grove)
Azeem (Devon Gardens)	Michelle Fuchs (Pebble Hills)
Catharine Russell (Member at Large, Brooke/Sands)	Parveen Loodu (Pinewood)
Cindy Andresen (English Bluff)	Ryoko Campbell (Neilson Grove)
Crystal Challoner (Hawthorne)	Sarah Carrasco (Chalmers)
Diane Chubb (Neilson Grove)	Stephanie Davis (Ladner)
Ishita Verma (Jarvis)	Tanya Foley (Hawthorne)
Jasmeen Dick (Hawthorne)	

Guests in Attendance:

- Doug Sheppard - Superintendent, Delta School District
- Val Windsor - School Board Trustee Chairperson
- Laura Dixon - School Board Trustee

1.0 CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME 7:05 pm

2.0 REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

• COVID-19 Updates:

- As per BCCDC data, Delta has the lowest case count in Fraser Valley and reducing. It has the highest vaccine rate in all age categories in the Fraser Health region; including a higher first dose vaccine rate in high school aged children, with rates approaching 80% vs 40% in other communities. High vaccination rate in communities has a tremendous impact on safety and better COVID management in schools.
- Very few COVID cases and contact tracing notices. Great communication between Delta School District and Fraser Health Authority. The notification process remains the same as last year with health authority notifying close contacts.
- Families and staff are encouraged to follow COVID protocols and guidelines including mask mandates and hand hygiene. The school district feels confident from a health and



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safety perspective. The parents are suggested to keep their children home when unwell.

- There will be additional protocols in place and announcements expected from PHO.
- High school students are not allowed to travel overnight for athletics until further notice.
- Ongoing discussions regarding athletic programs in elementary schools. More information to follow after a meeting on Thursday, September 23rd.

- **District News:**

- School District Vision: Vision for 2030 underway with expected release in the next month or so.
- District Strategic Plan: To be brought forward to the board September 28 for approval; built from 31 school goals and data from District Vision.

- **Student Enrollment:**

- Stable enrollment this school year with students attending distributed/online learning returning to in-class learning. There is an increase in some schools. District is tracking new housing developments to understand impact on school enrollment in Delta.

- **Parent Education:**

- District has hosted 2-3 virtual events for parent information and support during the past year. These parent education events have high attendance and the District plans to continue hosting these. The District will also ensure that DPAC is informed of these events. They are also listed on the Delta School District events page. PACs can connect with DPAC or Doug if they have specific topics that they would like to host in their schools.

- **Indigenous Education and Awareness:** Truth and Reconciliation Day will be on September 30, 2021. There is information and resources on the District website to help raise awareness.

- **Anti-Racism:** District has received a grant to support students working on anti-racism projects at Sands Secondary. Students will be working to engage peers and adults in deeper discussions around racism.

- **Mental and Physical Health:** The pandemic has emphasized the importance of health and well-being. There will be more information and education for children in classrooms.

- **Teachers Contract:** The contract is in place until the end of this year and there are currently no concerns of disruptions this year.

- **School District Funding:** There will be an announcement from the Ministry of Education in the Spring on the budget. The District will keep the parent community informed of any updates. One change is in the online and distributed learning programs which will be announced shortly.

- **Childcare Options:** The Ministry of Children and Family Development oversees child care in the provincial government, but the Ministry of Education will overtake effective April. The school district will receive more information over the next 6-12 months regarding expectations, educational and organizational elements.



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2.1 PARENT QUESTIONS

Q1: Difficulty enrolling in secondary school courses and grades is still a leading issue for university admissions

A: Space, funding, scheduling, and limited numbers impact ability for students to get into desired courses. The semester system is another factor as it is in the trial phase for many schools. Post-secondary admissions are unique this year due to the pandemic.

Q2: Burnaby School District has implemented extended school zone hours to manage traffic in school zones (7am-10 pm). Will this apply to the Delta School District?

A: Doug Sheppard will inquire and follow up with more information.

Q3: Is there support available for parents of students in kindergarten starting during the pandemic?

A: There is a support team for principals and administrators. Communication with PACs and is important as well. The principal can reach out to senior management and District for additional help. This will vary for each school and group of students. There has been time invested on things such as trauma informed practice, compassion systems leadership and training/tools for safer return to school. The first step for parents will be to connect with your child's teacher or school administrator.

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) September 20, 2021 Meeting Agenda

Moved by Meenakshi Bhatti & seconded by Catherine Russell; Approved.

b) May 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Moved by Michelle Fuchs & seconded by Meenakshi Bhatti; Approved.

4.0 INTRODUCTIONS

- 2021/22 DPAC Executive Team
 - Lakhvir Brar: DPAC Chair and Seaquam DPAC Rep
 - Meenakshi Bhatti: DPAC Vice-Chair & Secretary, Cougar Canyon DPAC Rep and Seaquam PAC Member at large
 - Jennifer Rak: Treasurer and Parent Ed Coordinator
 - Catharine Russel: First Member at Large



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- 2021/22 DPAC Representatives
 - The DPAC Reps from attending schools introduced themselves and brought forward their priorities/issues for this school year.

5.0 NORTH DELTA AND SEAQUAM SECONDARY TRACK UPDATES

- North Delta Secondary track to be resurfaced: Item tabled by the mayor
- Seaquam Secondary track: The track is challenging as it was previously a gravel pit site and will require tree removal which may not be popular with the community. More discussion is needed to identify possible solutions (i.e. investing in transportation to/from NDSS).

6.0 VACANT POSITIONS:

- Nominations are open for two vacant positions: Meeting Convener and Second Member at Large. Interested members can contact Lakhvir Brar.

7.0 EXECUTIVE REPORTS:

- Nothing to report by the executives except initiative of parent connection to come together and discuss fundraising events, etc.

8.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- NIL

9.0 MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:47PM

NEXT MEETING (VIRTUAL): October 18, 2021 at 7 PM