



General Meeting Minutes April 19, 2016 Henry Grube Educational Centre

Chair: Wil Dekker-Lonquist

Attendees:

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|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Don K. | SKSS | Karl DeBruijn. | SD73 Superintendent. |
| Kira W. | SSES, McGowan | Claire T. | Juniper Ridge |
| Jessica K | Beattie Elem | Lisa K. | McGowan Elementary |
| Tia W. | Westside Sec | Erin M. | Lloyd George Elem. |
| Valerie N. | David Thompson | Tibor B. | Brock Middle |
| Rhonda K. | Trustee SD73 | Meghan W. | Trustee SD73 |
| Meghan W. | Trustee SD73 | Ginger T. | Westmount Elem. |

1. **Meeting to order** at 7:30pm
2. **Agenda.** Approved as submitted.
3. **Adoption of Previous Minutes.** Moved by Tia. Seconded by Ginger.
4. **Financial Report.**
 - a. Statement provided by Treasurer. Gaming Account has current balance of \$2,418.68. General Account has current balance of \$11,047.51. By the end of the school year (after the withdrawal of funds to cover FoodSafe and Askable Adult) the Gaming Account should be depleted.
 - b. **Bursary.** The Executive proposes moving \$5500 from the General Account into a high interest savings account in order to establish a bursary for the students of SD73. The following is the proposal:
 - i. *We, the School District #73 Parent Advisory Council, wish to establish a Bursary for the students of SD73.*
 - ii. *The name of the Bursary shall be the **School District #73 District Parent Advisory Council Bursary***
 - iii. *The intent of the Bursary is to award bursaries to students that are 18+ who have left high school in School District 73 and have subsequently returned to an institution within the District to achieve their adult graduation diploma.*
 - iv. *We move that DPAC establish the **School District #73 District Parent Advisory Council Bursary** Awarding a maximum of two \$250 bursaries to two students that are 18+ who have left high school in School District 73 and have subsequently returned to an institution within the district to achieve their adult graduation diploma.*
 - v. *We move that \$5000 of DPAC General Funds be allocated to a 10 year high interest account with the TD Bank for the sole purpose of distributing a maximum of two \$250 bursaries per year to up to two successful applicants as selected by the DPAC Bursary Committee*

- vi. *We move that a DPAC bursary committee consisting of one DPAC Executive member and 2 or 4 DPAC reps be established. Committee members will be elected at the DPAC Annual General Meetings on two year rotations. The committee will be responsible for establishing the application framework, publishing and marketing the existence of the bursary and successful candidates, accepting applications determining successful bursary winners and disburse funds of up to \$500 per year for a maximum of 10 years beginning with the first disbursement for 2017/2018 school year.*

DISCUSSION:

- Should we broaden the criteria to include any student who has been a student at SD73 at any point in their scholastic career?
- **New wording for first motion:** I move that DPAC establish the School District 73 District Parent Advisory Council Bursary awarding a maximum of two \$250 Bursaries per year to two students who are 18+ years old and attending high school in SD73 and have subsequently returned to an institution within the district to achieve their adult graduation diploma.
 - Moved by Claire, Seconded by Kira. All in Favour. So moved.
- **New wording for the second motion:** I move that \$5500 of DPAC General Funds be allocated to a high interest savings account for 10 years with the TD Bank for the sole purposes of distributing a maximum of two \$250 bursaries per year to up to two successful applicants as selected by the DPAC Bursary Committee.
 - Moved by Wil, Seconded by Kira. All in Favour. So moved.
- **New wording for the third motion:** I move that a DPAC bursary committee consisting of one DPAC Executive member and 2 or 4 DPAC representatives be established. Committee members will be elected at the DPAC Annual General Meetings on two year rotations. The purpose of the committee will be to establish and administer the DPAC bursary.
 - Moved by Wil, Seconded by Ginger. All in Favour. So moved.

5. Correspondence:

- a. **Focus Group Invitation.** As the SD embarks on a new long term 5 year strategic plan, facilitators have been invited to participate in a discussion with parents to solicit feedback on 1) what children need to be successful in the future, 2) in what ways can technology enhance learning further, and 3) in what ways can our schools best prepare the children.

There are two evening focus group meetings for parents and the public in general, as follows:

Wednesday, April 27th 7-9 pm at the Henry Grube, Room 6
This meeting is for DPAC Executive and School PAC Executives

Thursday, April 28th 7-9 pm at the Henry Grube, Rooms 1A/B

This meeting is for parents and also for the general community - for a broader range of attendees.

Of course, members of DPAC and School PAC's are welcome to attend on the 28th, but we offered the smaller focus group on the 27th for PAC Executives just to ensure that everyone had a chance to share input.

To Register: Contact **Dana Heyman** Executive Assistant School District No. 73 V2C 3X7
Tel: [\(250\) 374-0679](tel:(250)374-0679)
email: dheyman@sd73.bc.ca

6. **Executive Report:** The executive met to discuss bursary and parent education.

7. **Parent Education:**

- a. **FOODSAFE April 23rd 8:30-4:30.** 12 people registered to attend.
- b. **Askable Adult.** Aberdeen Elementary will host the event on April 26. Discussion surrounded promotion of the event. ACTION: Erin will contact B100 and other local radio stations to promote the event, as well as follow up with Dale Bass from Kamloops This Week.

8. **Old Business:**

- i. **BCCPAC Spring Conference.** April 29-May 1 in Kelowna. Tibor from Rayleigh and Brock will attend on behalf of DPAC and will do a short presentation at the May 17th meeting.

9. **New Business.** None.

10. **Assistant-Superintendent's remarks:**

- a. **Budget:** there is a 3.7M budget problem in the operating budget. The pension plan has done well with the investments so the employer contributions are reduced which is about a 1.2 million savings, leaving a 2.5 million dollar challenge. Enrollment is down by 312 students which is 2.3 million in funding lost. There is also mandated ministry cuts. The board has a mandate to balance the budget. Priorities include maintaining programs and supports for special needs programs, maintaining classroom sizes and maintaining classroom staffing ratios. How do we balance the budget? Fewer teachers due to fewer students (proportional decline, maintains current staffing ratios). Fewer support staff. Fewer administration. All proportionate to fewer students. Some budgets have been reduced. The balanced budget will be brought forward. Feedback will be solicited, suggestions will be incorporated and then the board will vote on the amended budget. There will continue to be trained and certified teachers for children.
- b. **Question from DT Elementary:** Can specialized programs (physics/advanced mathematics for example) continue to be offered in rural schools through satellite programs if there is not enough local demand to hire a teacher (for example, if there are only 3 students in a remote location who want grade 12 physics). Yes,

there are local education agreements across different regions to provide for these students through collaborative programming.

- c. **Question from Juniper Ridge:** What is the plan for expanding communities with already filled to the gills schools? **Answer:** The board is considering this. Solutions may involve boundary expansion/bus routes/ portable classroom insertion, etc.
- d. **Question re: rumour of North Shore immersion school:** Will it happen?
Answer: Right now it's off the table due to budget issues in 2016/17. However, there is possibly room for 176 spaces for French Immersion on the North Shore. Planning meetings will be held for parents to talk about their interest in French Immersion on the NS.
- e. **Question from Lloyd George re: Technology plan for the district.** There was recently a situation in Merritt where a PAC fundraised for Chrome Books, only to have the SD decide later in the year to fund Chrome Books. As a result the Merritt parents were forced to pay for something the school district would have bought later on anyway, and lost out on all that money. LGES is concerned that they are now being asked to fundraise for additional Chrome Books. If the SD decides to allocate money for this technology later in the year, if PAC has already paid for it, will the total money allocated to LGES be decreased accordingly? **Answer:** Money is allocated to the schools for individual distribution to learning resources. Your school will get the same money whether or not you buy your own chrome books.

11. Trustee's Remarks:

Board AGM has occurred. There was discussion on 33 diverse and wide ranging motions that have been put forward. All school districts were represented except for Vancouver. Keynote speaker was Dr. Samantha Nutt (www.warchild.ca) who has spent more than 2 decades working with children in war torn countries. It was an incredibly powerful speech, which informed a discussion on how to welcome refugee children into our local schools.

Budget meeting Thursday night.

12. KTTA Remarks: No remarks.

Meeting adjourned: 8:45 pm.

NEXT MEETING: TBD

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