



General Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2015

Henry Grube Educational Centre

Chair: Wil Dekker-Lonquist (McGowan Elem)

Attendees:

Don K	SKSS	Lisa K	McGowan
Jessica K.	Beattie	Erin M	Lloyd George
Andrea H.	Chase	Valerie N.	David Thompson
Tia W	Westsyde	Ginger T	Westmount
Jenni M	Kay Bingham	Mr. Schoen representing	
Amber H	Juniper Ridge	Superintendent	
Tibor B.	Brock/Rayleigh	Meghan Wade	SD73
Claire T.	Juniper Ridge	Rhonda K.	SD73
Scott R.	WSS	David	KTTA
Dana Lee B	Aberdeen		
Kristin S-A	South Sahali		

1. **Meeting to order:** 7:00 pm
2. **Agenda.** Approved with the addition of "Changes at SKSS" under New Business.
3. **Minutes.** Approved with spelling corrections.
4. **Treasurer's report:** see attached. Gaming application has been approved. We will be receiving \$2500 by next month. Question as to where the general account funds came from. This money has come from a conference that DPAC put on many years ago. That money was originally put into a GIC and has since been sitting in a general account. There is ongoing discussion as to what will be done with this money, including a scholarship being set up.
5. **Correspondence:**
 - a. **Boogie The Bridge:** In some instances the PAC groups have funded registration fees for those children who would not be able to participate otherwise. **Action:** PAC Chairs will be given the information for the co-chairpersons for Boogie The Bridge and asked to follow up if they feel appropriate.
 - b. **PAC Correspondence:**
 - i. **Elementary School Breakfast Program.** A Juniper Ridge parent was approached by another elementary school for financial support for a Breakfast Program that they can no longer afford. A South Sahali Elementary parent was approached as well. Discussion followed, including a "sister school" program or a multi-school initiative where groups with a bit more money could support those groups with less. Other points were raised that when one PAC raises money, the parents at the school expect the money raised to be for *their* children. Further discussion surrounded whether or not DPAC should only be approached when all community resources have been exhausted, and whether that was the case. Other points included asking the "me to we" students to take on a breakfast

initiative for local students. Meghan Wade from SD73 will touch base with the Principal of the elementary school requesting the funds and report back her findings at the next meeting. Should it be appropriate at that point, a larger discussion will then ensue as to whether there is a role for PAC/DPAC participation in helping with funding-needs. **Action:** Meghan will touch base with the elementary school's principal and report back on needs.

- ii. **Hour of Code.** Hour of Code is an international program where for an hour in December children are taught about computer code. School districts are encouraged to participate. Is our school district going to participate? Meghan will contact our District Principal and follow up at the next meeting. Information can be found at www.hourofcode.com **Action:** Meghan will report back from the District Principal at the next meeting.
- iii. **Representation of Special Need Students and Families.** An elementary school has requested information as to where or not there is "representation of special need students and families". We are unclear as to what this school is asking exactly. **Action:** Erin will clarify the request and follow up at the next meeting.

6. **Executive Report.** No report.

7. **Parent Education:**

- a. **Remind.com:** Remind.com is an online tool that will help keep people in the loop with DPAC issues. It will, for example, be able to shoot out an email to anyone on our list (automatically) prior to every meeting. This service would also be able to send out updates or reports. Issues: Keeping updated lists (for example, what to do when we don't get updated lists from schools). Discussion: Moodle is a piece of software that is used all over the district and may be already capable of performing these tasks. District IT may be able to give us some education on this issue. **Action:** Scott will contact SD IT and report back.
- b. **Askable Adult:** Many PACs are asking for an Askable Adult – discussion ensued as to whether or not we should sponsor a District-wide event rather than an individual PAC event. There was also a request for general information on the Askable Adult event. **Action:** Erin will contact Mme. Devries regarding the previous events and whether we can coordinate on a winter date.
- c. **"Tech" conference:** There is interest from some PACs for an education session on Internet Safety, Google Accounts for the chromebooks and Social Media components. Background: Many parents have concerns about how this information is stored, where, why, and what this means. Other parents have questions about the success of these technologies – do they work, how they work. DPAC may be able to put on an event where these issues are touched on if there is interest from PAC groups. **Action:** Jesse Miller will be invited to present to the school district's parents on internet safety, and at the same event, information will be made available on the Chromebooks and their use in school.

8. **Old Business:**

- a. **Tech Conference:** See above. Jesse Miller will be invited to do an Internet Safety presentation for district parents.

9. **New Business:**

- a. **BCCPAC** Summit/brainstorming session is November 7th in Burnaby. Volunteers are being solicited to attend. A draft agenda is available. This is a fantastic educational and networking opportunity. Travel and accommodation expenses are provided to attend. Deadline to register is October 26th. **Action:** If you would like to attend, please let us know asap.
- b. **SKSS Gym:** When JP Gym reverts back to JP next year, what happens? Meghan states that the board has approved some investment funds for South Kam for this. A large curtain can go across the gym so that two gym classes can be held at the same time. However, 4 meetings will be held over the course of this school year and those impacted by this consolidation will be invited to attend this discussion.
- c. **Art Class at SKSS:** Meghan reported that some of the specialized art classes will be accessed by SKSS and that the cross-table timekeeping will happen.

10. **Superintendent's remarks:** Mr. Schoen read remarks on behalf of Superintendent DeBruijn. From last meeting's conversation, Mr. DeBruijn has met with the principals and he has created a pamphlet to help education parents about these types of classes and demystify some of the myths around split classes. On September 28th the new Minister of Education announced a 3 year plan to support teachers to support the new curriculum. One million dollars has been put aside to train 2000 teachers across the province to train "trainer" teachers who will train their colleagues. 2 additional inservice days will happen to support the teacher training. This is seen as less disruptive than 4 half-days would be to parents. In year 2 and 3 there will be an additional 5 hours taken from the calendar plus a pro-d day (existing). A provincial framework will be used for the basis of this work. The consultation on this will be missing this year due to the truncated timeline. Again, we will be two instructional days short this year. **Discussion:** There was some discussion as to the new BC Ed plan and whether or not there has been a presentation to the parents in the district. Although this information is available on the Ministry of Ed website, this education for parents has not yet happened. **Action:** Rhonda and Meghan will bring this information forward after the framework and the training happens.

11. **Trustee's Remarks:** There are now groupings within the district called "families of schools": these are the elementary schools that feed into the high schools. The board now has Trustee Liaisons with the schools in order to parallel with "families of schools". As a result, there is some shift in Board Trustees. This information is available on the website. Juniper and Valleyview continue to have Meghan, but she no longer has Beattie, for example. Beattie now has the Logan Lake and Savona trustee.

12. **KTTA Remarks:** No remarks.

Meeting adjourned: 9 pm. **NEXT MEETING: November 17, 2015 7pm. HENRY GRUBE CENTRE**