



General Meeting Minutes

November 24, 2015

Henry Grube Educational Centre

Chair: Wil Dekker-Lonquist (McGowan Elem)

Attendees:

Don K	SKSS	Hillary R.	WSS
Jessica K.	Beattie	Tia W.	WSS
Claire T.	Juniper Ridge	Peter H.	SKSS
Lisa K	McGowan		
Erin M	Lloyd George	Karl deBruijn	Superintendent
Valerie N.	David Thompson	Meghan Wade	SD73
Kristin S-A	South Sahali Elem		
Cindy J	Sahali Secondary		
Amber H.	Juniper Ridge		

1. **Meeting to order:** 7:05 pm
2. **Agenda.** Unavailable at the meeting – agenda followed the headings of the old minutes from October 20th.
3. **Minutes from the previous meeting.**
 - a. Attached to the minutes is the Ministry of Education’s “Introduction to BC’s Redesigned Curriculum”. DPAC reps are asked to bring this information back to their PAC meeting.
 - b. The minutes were not approved as page two was unavailable. **ACTION:** Tabled until the next meeting.
4. **Treasurer’s report:** The October statement came through and we did receive the \$2500 in Gaming money. There is just over \$15,000 in the DPAC accounts. The proposed SD73 DPAC budget was presented (as attached). Discussion took place surrounding the proposed \$5000 bursary that DPAC would like to set up. Meghan Wade has put DPAC in touch with a foundation that will help manage the investment/bursary. The Executive will set up a meeting with a representative of the foundation that will help guide us through the next steps to help us understand potential selection criteria. Once DPAC Exec has some basic understanding and information about bursaries and scholarships, the Executive will bring the information back to the general DPAC to vote on. Cindy J suggested that DPAC Exec speak with the counsellors at the high schools in the district to see if there are any gaps in currently existing bursaries and potentially DPAC could fill some of these voids. Amber suggested that TRU also has a financial aids department that we might consult for guidance as well. Superintendent deBruijn suggested again that many awards have similar criteria and perhaps DPAC Exec could find a niche that is currently less supported. Meghan W suggested that DPAC speak with Russ Chambers because of his educational background and general expertise. **ACTION:** The Executive will take these suggestions forward and report back to the general meeting.
5. **Executive Report:** The executive meeting surrounded the follow up of action items to be followed up from the October general meeting.

6. Correspondence:

- a. **BCCPAC Newsletter:** Circulated at the meeting. Of interest was their guide surrounding anti-bullying resources. We also received guidelines for food and beverage sales in schools. These resources are all available online at the BCCPAC website.

7. Old Business:

- i. **Breakfast Program:** The Principal of the school whose parents were asking for money for the breakfast program was approached for information. This principal stated that they do not have any funding issues for their breakfast program and they have no need for additional funds.
- ii. **Hour of Code.** Hour of Code is an international program where for an hour in December children are taught about computer code. Schools are welcome to participate but there is no official school district program being run. If any school is interested in participating, the school can consult the website at www.hourofcode.com or Tracey Poelzer at Henry Grube.
- iii. **Representation of Special Need Students and Families.** An elementary school had requested information as to whether or not there is “representation of special need students and families”. Erin sent an information request to the school requesting clarity as DPAC was unclear as to what they were asking. We have not received a response to our request.
- iv. **Moodle capabilities for DPAC.** No new information to report.
- v. **Parent Education Sessions.** We are still working to confirm dates and rates. We will report back as soon as they are available. With respect to Internet Safety, Karl deBruijn has been in contact with the RCMP Community Policing who has agreed to partner with DPAC and the School District in bringing in Jesse Miller to speak to parents and students.
ACTION: Wil and Karl will follow up with Jesse to confirm dates and rates. Parents can learn more about Jesse at www.mediatedreality.com
- vi. **Consolidation of SKSS and Beattie.** The south shore consolidation team has met. The logistical plans have been developed and for the next meeting of the committee will be the first week in December. Principals are using a variety of formats to community with staff. In January the assistant Superintendents will meet with each of the school PACs (Beattie, Stuart Wood and SKSS) to discuss plans and concerns. Generally speaking, all of the equipment that belongs to a particular school will move with that school, including large equipment, small equipment, and classroom supplies. Beattie is still selecting their playground equipment, but this selection has narrowed and in its final planning stages. Questions from particular parents can be directed either to their school’s administration, their PAC or the Trustees at the Board office.

8. New Business.

- a. **Scooters.** David Thompson is wondering if other schools have created policy regarding scooters (the two wheeled scooters that children bring to school). At McGowan and Juniper the children leave them parked at the bike rack. Weststyde has had classrooms where children were allowed to bring their scooters to the

classroom but they were parked by the teachers desk. Superintendent deBruijn suggested that schools have generally created their own policies on an individual basis. Superintendent deBruijn has offered to chat directly with David Thompson parents to discuss any safety concerns that will both keep children safe but also still allow them to exercise and bring their scooters safely to school. **ACTION:** Superintendent deBruijn will ask his contacts at the schools if they have any ideas, then report back at the next meeting.

- b. Question from Juniper Ridge regarding parent education initiatives.** The RCMP School Liaison/Community Policing/SD 73 Board and DPAC want to work with schools in the district to partner on education initiatives such as those surrounding social media and bullying. Superintendent deBruijn suggested that Andrea Wallen at Henry Grube can also help identify resources available within the district. If Juniper Ridge will look into these contacts.
- c. December Meeting.** The Chair asked the group whether there interest in having a December meeting (currently scheduled December 15th). As 4 people voiced interest in attending, the scheduled meeting will go ahead as planned.
- d. Upcoming Executive Vacancies.** As of the end of the 2015/16 school year there will be two new vacancies on the DPAC Executive – Chair and Vice Chair—in addition to several Member at Large positions. We ask that everyone consider stepping up to an executive position and/or speak with other parents who may be interested/qualified.

9. Superintendent's remarks:

- a. Superintendent deBruijn is working with Principals to create FAQs regarding split classes, including why they exist and pluses and minuses.
- b. Superintendent deBruijn has confirmed January 22nd and April 4th as the two new Pro-D days to cover training for teachers (new curriculum). This follows a government mandate. The Board continues to work on an education and support initiative for both teachers and parents/students. There will be an upcoming evening parent forum. A date for the forum is TBD.
- c. Superintendent deBruijn has announced his retirement as of July of 2016.

10. Trustee's Remarks:

- a. The Board will now begin the search for a new Superintendent. The search and selection criteria is currently under discussion, but the Board is pleased to announce that this will be a country-wide search, and that this is a top priority.
- b. Late last year the Ministry created new opportunities for some capital money to come into districts. We have been fortunate enough to have been awarded \$1.1 million dollars that will cover lighting refitting to Valleyview and Brock Middle School that will not only replace old fluorescent lighting, but will also result in utility savings over the long run.

11. KTTA Remarks: No remarks.

Meeting adjourned: 8:30 pm. **NEXT MEETING: December 15, 2015 7pm. HENRY GRUBE CENTRE**