



Executive Committee

Don K: Chair, **Sheri L** Vice-Chair, **Erin M** (Secretary)
Jessica K (Treasurer), **Allison T** (Member at Large),
Kira W (Member at Large) **Brad G** (Member at Large),
Katie C (Member at Large), **Melinda H** (member at
Large), **Valerie N** (member at Large)

DPAC General Meeting Minutes Tuesday November 21, 2017 Lloyd George Elementary -Library 830 Pine St 7pm

1. Call to order - 7:00

Don K. (SKSS), Brad G (Dufferin), Sheri L (Westmount), Kira W (SSES), Melinda H (Arthur Hatton), Katie C (Westmount), Kerrie F (ASES & Westsyde Sec), Claire T (Juniper Ridge), Carla M (Summit), Lisa Carson (SBO), Rob Schoen (SBO), Cara McKelvey (Trustee), Rhonda Kershaw (Trustee), Doug S (Beattie), Shannon S (Beattie), Stephanie H (RLC), Valeri N (David Thompson), Tboore (Brock & Rayleigh)

2. Review of the Agenda.

Amend the agenda. Added two items

Sheri motioned

Katie seconded

3. Minutes from the Previous Meeting (September 19, 2017). No meeting was held in

October due to severe weather.

Sheri motioned

Brad seconded

4. Old Business

- i. **Student Resource Learning Grant** (Update on final fund disbursement. L. Carson)

It was mentioned again that this is something that all Principals should be sharing with their PACs.

The issue was addressed that some principal did not share with the PAC how the money was being spent.

Lisa emphasized that this should be a very open process. This was supposed to be a discussion between PAC and the principals.

Question: Where did the money come from. Came from the past government to help with new circumuli.

All schools that applied for the second round of the funds, got some money. However, maybe not all they asked for.



ii. **Capital Advocacy Plan** (Update on next steps. Superintendent and Trustees)

Rhonda - A Trustee was/is going out to each PAC meeting

This plan was presented to Minister Fleming when he was in town. It was well received. Next steps are more mass communications. There will be a push in the spring.

There are post cards that are available to send to the government to advocated to spend more money.

SD73 is going for the squeaky wheel.

iii. **Bursary Committee.** (Brad G)

They want to meet before the end of the year!

iv. **Aboriginal Parent Engagement.** (Valerie N)

There was a teleconference with Valerie and others around the province to discuss parent engagement. What are some barriers that are preventing first nations participating in the system? Discussion at the Exec. meeting.

Some points that came out in this meeting;

-Parents don't come out to support their child if they didn't have a pleasant experience in school

-Feel like their voice is not appreciated

-Do we change protocols to express what territory that we are on or are around?

-Aboriginal education council. Seems to be too elite? And have lost their grassroots.

-Always being questioned about why they get funding? Always having to justify where spending is.

-Melinda: Arthur Hatton have lots of after school functions that are very well attended by first nations students.

-Childcare may be an issue. Not willing to pay for childcare to come to a meeting (for example)

-Valerie feels like things are getting better. She feels like there is a better voice out there to advocate for them

-Parent commented that she is now seeing her grade 3 student is bringing home a lot more content as apposed to when her grade 10 child was at that age.

v. **DPAC meetings via conference call.** (Kira)

The Henry Grube is getting a new phone system and should be rolled out in January. DPAC will communicate to out of town schools on how they can call in. Kira has asked that there be a document on how to call in to make it easier for parents.

vi. **Parent Education for upcoming year.**

1. **Askable Adult:** Erin contacted Opt to try to book educator for March 1st, but unfortunately the educator will be away that entire week for a national conference in Ottawa. Other date suggestions?
2. **Anxiety and Mental Health:** Erin is looking into a parent-focused workshop (how parents can support their children with anxiety and coping skills). Once we confirm Askable Adult date, Erin will return with possible dates for this workshop.
3. **Gord Newfeld:** Not possible. He no longer speaks to parent groups. There is an option of purchasing a DVD if we are interested in showing this at an event.



4. **Jesse Miller.** Discussion around the fact that last year there wasn't a good turnout and that this is a very costly program, approximately \$5000.
5. **Vanessa Lapointe:** Was just here (September 2017). Based out of Vancouver so there would be significant cost associated with travel expenses in addition to presenter fees.
6. Elizabeth Devries is the District Coordinator for Technology. She will come up with some ideas and present it to the DPAC in the new year.
7. Talked to Trish Smilie about a District Resource Teacher about mental Health problems with Students.
8. Note: Wherever possible we will look to invite local presenters and educators from the district office in order to save costs and utilize our district resources.

vii. Traffic Calming near Beattie – (Follow up from Beattie and District office)

Talked to Blair Lloyd - he talked with the city. The city said that it is out of their hands. Shannon will contact Alison to figure out how to help the situation. Dominos and starbucks have said that they will work with the school, but they haven't proven that. RCMP will do a check. But that wont solve the problem.

Juniper had similar situation and the city - Safe school program really helped them.

viii. BCCPAC. Valerie is no longer able to attend. No representatives will be attending sd73. We will put our conference money towards the Spring Conference instead.

No representation

ix. Updated school district policies – Technology, Nutrition and Child Protection. (Superintendent Sidow)

Going into notice of motion

Side note: Social media policy is adopted. Trustees will make sure that it is correct and send out again. Policy #413.1

5.New Business:

- a. **Foundational Skills Assessment.** KTTA/BCTF have been invited to respond to the multiple parent concerns forwarded to DPAC Exec about the sealed letter that came home to SD73 students who wrote the FSA this year. (Update from Exec)

Katie was concerned that the KTTA sent out a secret letter. Why did they do that and how were they allowed?

Amanda will come to a meeting to answer why they did that.

- b. **Vaping.** This issue is coming up in the high schools. Where does the district policy stand? (Superintendent)



There is a policy around it. 1012.1 (2014) - However, the board has agreed that this should be looked at again since it hasn't been updated recently.

c. Sports

Shannon (Beattie) - Their 1 volleyball - went to playoffs. Had first playoff game tonight at RLC. Tiffany Hawkins is the sports council. Told they needed 10 players - last minute received an email that RLC didn't have 10 player and they were allowed to play into the playoffs.

Would like to challenge that RLC played and won.

Beth Morgan (Coach of tier 2) had the same problem.

Rob Schoen - In support of Shannon, Rob is an advocate of getting as many kids to play sports as they can. He will look into this. Rob doesn't know what has happened or why.

d. Field Trips

Westmount - Increasing # of field trips. Most of it is being put back on Parents for money. Is there a maximum?

Rob - If you are feeling it is a financial drain, this needs to be talked about with Administration and teacher.

Example. Gr 7 Eagle Bay. Has turned into a gr 5,6,7 trip at a cost of \$180 for 3 days. Plus other teachers have already done 4 trips

Shannon - PAC works with teachers to figure out how many trips they

6. Treasurer's Report.

7. Correspondence –

- a. The Edge.** Some Grade 6 students had a presentation this year called The Edge. One parent has brought forward written concerns to DPAC/SD73 Superintendent and Board Chair/School Admin for clarification on what exactly this program is and the evidence behind it. See attached letter.

Rob - What is the best way to teach it? They are trying to figure that out. RCMP is an organization that they like to work with. it is a good resource in classes. Will continue to use them. Kids like them and want to hear more. The Edge isn't the only thing they do. SD tries to use as many resources as they can. Program has be running for 10 years and this is the first complaint.

Comments were that parents need to be aware of this so that they can be aware of it so they can follow up. The schools need to do a better job at following up as well

- b. Foodsafe.** Next date is Nov 27.



- c. **Unplug and Play Family Literacy Week will be from January 20-27.** PACs are asked to consider organizing a free activity. See attached.
- d. **BCCPAC Board Vacancies**
- e. **Big Little Science Centre**
- f. Stuart Wood (Bus stop for Beattie Elementary) Doug- there are needles that have been found. Rob has been there in the afternoon to check out the drop off zone. He will be going there tomorrow morning to see what that looks like. Concerns that there is people around the school bus zone
- g. Doug (Beattie) Water fountain - wanted to know process. Was told to talk to his principal and he should know the people to talk to in purchasing.

Ended - 8:58

NEXT MEETING: EXEC WILL MEET IN DECEMBER. NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS JANUARY 16 AT 7PM AT GRUBE.