***Executive Committee***

**Sheri L**: Chair, **Valerie N** Vice-Chair, **Erin M** (Secretary) **Jessica K** (Treasurer), **Brad G** (Member at Large), **Katie C** (Member at Large), **Melinda H** (member at Large), **Don K** (Member-at-Large), (Vacant Position– Member at Large) x 2

**DPAC General Meeting**

**What exactly is DPAC?**

* DPAC stands for District Parent Advisory Council. We are the official parent voice for School District 73 (Kamloops/Thompson).
* Each PAC is encouraged to elect 2 DPAC reps to attend our monthly meetings.
* We elect an executive to conduct business between meetings, but our direction is determined by our members, just like at PACs.

**What is the role of DPAC?**

* Our mandate, according to the School Act, is to advise the Board of Education on any matter relating to education in the school district. We funnel parent input to decision-makers in our district.
* We facilitate communication – we send a lot of information out to the PACs on upcoming events and programs that might interest them.
* We provide training and education for parents, as well as opportunities for exchanging ideas. We host speakers and put on workshops and networking events.
* We function as a resource for individual parents and PACs as they do their work at the school level.

**Minutes**

**Tuesday June 19, 2018**

**Henry Grube Education Centre**

**7pm**

Present: Sheri Lakusta, Jessica Kleissen, Martha Solomon, Valerie Neubreast, Chris Ponti, Brad Gerow, Rhonda Kershaw, Cara McKelvey, Melinda Hunter, Katie Cavaletto

1. Call to Order: 7:12 pm
2. Guest presenter: Martha Solomon. *Parent Education Session:* Martha has two children in SD 73 and has obtained her designation from Option for Sexual Health as an Educator. She now provides inclusive, comprehensive, shame-free in-school lessions for grades K-12 that covers the BC Ministry of Education learning standards for sexual health education. Mosaic Sexual Health Education offers up to 4 sessions to various grade groups for $200/day or $60/session. Grade K- 3 sessions are 30 minutes, Gr. 4-7 are 45 minutes. A minimum of 2 sessions should be considered for each class. Martha is looking at adding a parent night for the schools she goes into. Has presented at Lloyd George. It was wonderful and everyone, teachers, parents were very receptive. She doesn’t separate by gender.This builds knowledge and empathy.
3. Review of the Agenda: Motion to accept Brad, seconded by Katie. All in favour.
4. Minutes from the previous meeting of May 15, 2018: Motion to accept Brad, seconded by Valerie. All in favour.
5. Old Business:
   1. There are two vacancies on the DPAC executive both Member at Large positions. Over the past month Don Kitt stepped forward and DPAC executive appointed Don a member at large position. Kira Wood resigned her member at large position due to conflict of interest as she has a paid positions with SD 73.

* Possible candidates coming forward in September with the new school year.
  1. Aboriginal Education Policy changes came forward at the school board meeting in June. This policy governs partnerships. SD73 has representation on the Board from the Aboriginal Advisory Council. Valerie is looking at how parent representation could be approached with the council as there are currently no parent voices on the council. Does not appear that parents’ voices are of high concern. Suggestion: To invite the council to a DPAC general meeting.
  2. Letter to Superintendent Sidow from the DPAC Executive – Trustee Kershaw spoke to the stated purpose of DPAC which is to advise the Board of Trustees of parent matters of and in education. The letter should have been directed to the Board and not to Superintendent Sidow. DPAC to the Board is at an advisory level and therefore concerns need to come to the Board as the Superintendent take direction from the Board and not DPAC. The letter was also interpreted as confrontational.

With regards to the contents of the letter: the Task force is a focused, discreet group of professionals tasked to look at the policies and protocols and if they should changes and if so, how they should change. See Task Force report for 7 recommendations. Link: *https://www.sd73.bc.ca/Modules/News/index.aspx?feedId=10c49675-bbce-4733-a8c0-fbbd3a3ec9ae,be1116c5-ab98-434e-8a10-8a00f49b774c,208dc79b-e7d6-4c56-be49-d1a958ce7890,22ff3110-d793-43a6-840c-c4111ce97696,bea72a8a-9acb-4e39-a622-a93619bbcb20,609debc8-f306-4231-82f6-0ccdd05741ff,1a8871c1-91be-45ab-b39d-92ef36375147,f8da9119-5861-4244-9bef-1bcc52d3b354,864e5895-2441-42e4-88b6-d6159a4c573e,693bbd8a-7a76-4569-a4cc-0a6c73399faf&newsId=48505c88-baab-4f30-9110-35a672b89404*

* + 1. Valerie asked if there is anything to compare to other districts’ policies. Trustee Kershaw responded that most districts have nothing.
    2. Valerie noted that with respect to bullying and assaults many schools do not have the capacity to deal with the situations. That the supervision isn’t always there. Trustee Kershaw responded that staffing is at the highest levels ever. Students are not always comfortable telling an adult that may be available. Perhaps we (the District) is looking at an App or some other methods for students to access.
    3. Chris Ponti (Marion Shilling) suggested that more supports be offered. Trustee Kershaw highlighted how difficult it was for the Board to come to a definition of sexual misconduct. Defining ‘sexual misconduct’ will be one of the Task Forces’ first tasks in the new year. The report is a starting point. Parent engagement will be considered again in the new school year.
    4. With respect to the EDGE. Superintendent Shoen took DPAC concerns to an all Principles’ meeting. There was good discourse between principles about the EDGE presentation. RCMP was followed up with as well. While Harm Reduction was the suggestion, the RCMPs message is prevention. A good portion of the principles’ feedback was positive. The RCMP thought the presentation was accurate and correct and no need to dial back on the graphic content. Harm Reduction is taught at later grades. Particularly noted that “The Superintendent does not vet every presentation. Principals do”.
    5. Katie suggested that DPACs concerns should have been addressed much sooner as this was brought up in the November’s meeting. Trustee Kershaw said concerns couldn’t have been addressed sooner. Melinda asked if inconsistencies in presentations between schools could be addressed? Trustee Kershaw said that the EDGE presentation has now been tagged under ‘sensitive matter’ policy and will follow established protocols as such.

1. Bursary: There is $250 each for 2 students available. Applications to be submitted electronically to SD PAC gmail.
2. Trustee’s report: BC Trustee Association are doing a handbook and adding local content about being a trustee. Possible candidates have until a few weeks before election to file papers for elections to a 4 year term. There are 5 trustee seats within the City of Kamloops, 1 – Barriere, 1- Chase/Sun Peaks, 1- Clearwater, 1 – Logan Lake/Savona
3. DPAC to invite the Aboriginal Education Council to send a representative
4. DPAC to invite the Aboriginal Advosory Council rep to September 2018 meeting.
5. Question: Is Superintendent Sidow not attending DPAC meetings going forward? How does DPAC wish to go forward when requesting information as Superintendent Sidow does not take direction from DPAC. The way the information should flow is that DPAC requests information through the Board liaison. The Trustee liaison takes the request to the Board meeting and then back to DPAC for the response. Moving forward an adversarial relationship will determine if Superintendent Sidow will attend DPAC meetings. Valerie responded that DPACs role is to bring up touch issues, not to be adversarial but instead to bring a voice from the parents. Trustee Kershaw responded that what ever the concerns it must be directed to the Board every time. The Board supports Superintendent Sidow.
6. Trustee Kershaw spoke about the presentation about Encounters with Canada presentation the Board received. That is for students ages 14-17, to go to Ottawa for the week. $750, there are 73 spots available for the region. Will mention it again in the Fall.
7. Ajourned 8:57 pm
8. Next meeting Sept 18th, 2018, 7 pm, Henry Grube