***Executive Committee***

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

**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.

**Draft Minutes**

**Tuesday May 15, 2018**

**Henry Grube Education Centre -7pm**

1. Presentation by Constable Rod Buchanan, RCMP: “The EDGE”. *BACKGROUND: Constable Buchanan attended to give parents “The Edge” presentation, which was requested by parents in 2017. Parents expressed verbal and written concern over the content of the presentation being given to grade 6 students in the District. This presentation is a partnership between the RCMP and the Kamloops Blazers.* The following are notes taken from Constable Buchanan’s presentation:
	* The purpose of The EDGE is to educate and help develop skills so that you (students) make good choices.
	* The purpose: the RCMP take 6-8 Blazers into the Downtown Eastside. These boys then come back and educate grade 6 students in SD73 about the dangers of drugs. The intention is to encourage healthy choices, promote positive role models and promote goal setting.
	* The partnership with the Blazers for EDGE began in 2006. The Kamloops RCMP team up with members of the Kamloops Blazers, including approximately 6 players, a coach and other staff members.
	* The group meets the Odd Squad and members of the VPD. They receive a presentation on dangers of drugs, gangs, and a personal presentation by Joe Calendino. They then set out on foot through the Downtown eastside talking to residents and addicts about their experiences with addiction. The Kamloops RCMP members are in civilian attire, but remain armed with guns.
	* Addicts are generally very willing to talk with the Blazers because they know the message is intended for youth to keep them off drugs and encourage them to make healthy choices.
	* Elementary schools are contacted n the Fall. The EDGE presentation consists of 1-2 police officers and 2 players presenting to the students. The RCMP officers have to help in the beginning, but the goal is for the players to completely lead the presentation to students, and they get better at this as time goes on.
	* “Role Models Make Mistakes”: Joe Calendino is an ex-Hells Angels Gang member, former drug addict. In 2009 he started Yo Bro/Yo Girl youth initiative to support at risk youth. In 2014 he won the Courage To Come Back award. In 2017 he was the Author of “To Hell and Back”, a story of recovery and redemption.
	* “EDGE: How do drugs affect our community”: Violence, theft from vehicles/break and enters etc, Gangs, Personal Health suffers, Dirty/Unsafe Neighborhoods, Keeps parents from raising healthy kids.
	* “DTES Street Market Example” – full of stolen/salvaged items. Garbage and needles. Smells.
	* “Anybody want to stay? (hotels in DTES)”: Talk to kids about housing situation/hotels in DTES.
	* “All Types of People Live Here”: some addicts say they come from a good family, but now homeless due to drugs.
	* “graphic Images”: Wounds, shooting up in leg, lacerations, teeth (missing/rotten)
	* Video of Fentanyl Addiction: Noted by RCMP officer that this video is new, and children would have seen an older video that had different content.
	* “Meth Quality Control”: Made in basement, made in garbage bins
	* “RX pills”: From “Odd Squad Productions”
	* “Make Good Choices”
	* “Why not DARE?”: Research shows it was ineffective primary prevention
	* “The Future”: Collaborate with the Kamloops Blazers hockey club – better program, follow up program.

The following Comments were made by attendees of the presentation, including parents, health professionals (addictions worker, medical doctor) and the SD73 Staff:

* + 1. This seems like Elites taking an Appreciation Walk (in the Downtown eastside). There was no discussion of the complicated concurrent issues including mental health and housing issues.
		2. Hockey Players: They are huge role models, but expecting them to go out and teach this material after literally one day of very limited exposure and understanding sets them up for failure on this very complex issue.
		3. There was no process of getting consent for the stories and pictures presented in The EDGE. Query whether consent can be given when armed officers in a position of authority are literally standing over you asking you questions with a hockey team in tow.
		4. The language used in the presentation, including “Addict” is an outdated understanding of substance use.
		5. Research has shown that Scare Tactics like those in this presentation do not work.
		6. The conversation was one-sided, driving substance use underground.
		7. There is medical mis-information in this presentation.
		8. There is no information around harm reduction strategies, focusing solely on scare tactics and abstinence only.
		9. Blazers were not brought to Insite, only shown part of this complicated issue.
		10. Pictures used in the presentation not accurate in the vast majority of cases (medical standpoint)
		11. The Fentanyl video showed a mischaracterization of a typical fentanyl video – this video was not academic, it was part of a news story.
		12. There is no evaluation research on this presentation or its effectiveness.
		13. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent had not seen the presentation prior to tonight, and yet it was being framed as an SD73 endorsed presentation
		14. There is no evidence that this is the right level of information to give to Grade 6 students (ie. Is the content in line with the curriculum? Is it age and developmentally appropriate?)
		15. The Curriculum content around Drug Education already exists. Why are we still using misinformation and what is the school already doing to support students.
		16. Why weren’t experts in medicine and addiction involved in developing this content.
		17. These concerns have been raised for almost the entire school year by parents. Why hasn’t a partnership or working group been struck to look at this before now?

NEXT STEPS:

-Superintendent to bring this new information back to the Board and District.

-Superintendent suggests that while partnership is good, the content is from 2006 and needs to be re-examined.

-Superintendent will report back on the working group by the next meeting. States new content should be looked at before the presentation is offered next year.

1. **Call to order and Introductions:** Attendees: Claire M (SD73 parent and Guest from Staples.) Brahm (SD73 parent and guest from Staples), Rob S (Assistant Superintendent), Chris P (Marion Schilling), Valerie N (David Thompson, DPAC Vice-Chair), Cara McKelvie (Trustee), Allison S (Superintendent of Schools), Rhonda Kershaw (Trustee), , Wendy C (Lloyd George), Tibor (Brock), Katie (Westmount, DPAC Member at Large), Melinda H (Arthur Hatton, DPAC Member at Large), Tracy M (Juniper), Jess K (KSA and Treasurer), Brad G (Dufferin, DPAC Member at Large), Kira W (South Sahali, DPAC Member at Large), Erin M (Secretary and Lloyd George), Sheri (Westmount, DPAC Chair)

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1. **Review of the Agenda.** Add “Staples” under new business. Moved by Kira, Seconded by Brad. Accepted as amended.
2. **Minutes from the Previous Meeting.** Accepted as submitted. Moved by Brad, Seconded by Katie. Accepted as submitted. All in Favour.
3. **Old Business.**
	* Aboriginal Parent Engagement (Valerie): Concerned aboriginal parents at the BCCPAC decided to get together and talk about more aboriginal parent engagement within the system. If you go to BCCPAC and go to Resources drop down and then go to the Aboriginal Parent Engagement there is a website. The result of the survey from input from the province. Gives good ideas about more partnership building and bridge building and participation of aboriginal parents feeling comfortable within the system. Information should be taken back to PACs. The district principal for aboriginal education was also given a copy, as was the superintendent. In May at the BCCPAC there was a segment to reinforce and talk about this to the general population there. There is always more information being sought on partnership opportunities.
	* Askable Adult. Tomorrow at Grube at 6pm.
	* Superintendent’s task force on school safety: task force representatives joined us. We were given the same questionnaire as other groups. We were given an opportunity to provide input. Chair of the task force states that the data they’ve been given has been very good information and recommendations will be developed and presented to the Board in June. This will be brought forward to the 19th of June DPAC General meeting.
	* Water Filtration: Superintendent states that all PACs should have received reimbursements. All receipts have been submitted. All reimbursements should have been processed. If not, please follow up with the Superintendent’s office, who will follow up further. A plumber has been hired who will install water filtration systems.
	* Bursary Committee: Brad is looking for someone to help him on the Bursary Committee. Kira has joined committee. Money needs to be disbursed by August to be in place for the next school year.
	* Movie Licences: Andrea sends out information every year regarding movie licences. This information has been recirculated by the Superintendent’s office to the principals and is attached. Parent input: Is there a city movie license that we could borrow? Ie. Pac movie nights through the Blazer’s license (movie in the park).
4. **New Business:** Staples associates (also parents in the District) attended to inform parents about programs they have and partnerships that are available. There are lots of things they can do for PACs (fundraising, for example), they can print on a variety of surfaces (“almost anything you can think of”), for example, anti-bullying awards, logo design as leadership projects, athletic gear and more. “Super Power Your School” – enter a contest to win $20,000 of technology that schools can enter (recycling, community gardens, compost, etc). Details to be released soon on how to apply for this money. There are also several times a year where PAC can participate in the “Teacher” programs to obtain a 20% off PAC office supplies. There is also the ability to participate in a recycling program: boxes for empty pens, empty toners, etc. Staples drops off the boxes, and then collect the goods and then recycles them (free of charge).
5. **Correspondence:** New trained sexual health educator, Martha S, would like to come to the June meeting to introduce herself and pass info on to PACs about the sexual health curriculum and the education she can provide.
6. **Treasurer’s Report.** Same as AGM.
7. **Superintendent’s Report.** Summit received playground funding ($90K). Other report deferred to Trustee. School learning plan: Families of schools come together with senior management and board and the schools present where their strengths and weaknesses lie. These are happening over the next few weeks. A final report and plan is sent to the Assistant Superintendents and then are sent to the board for final approval in the new school year.
8. **Trustee Remarks:** Capital plan passed to purchase dust collection system (x2) and 4 buses (replacements for old buses). Approval for project development report for Valleyview. Final budget was passed. Minor school calendar amendment regarding family day. Student Board advisory council has been adopted.

Adjourned: 9pm