



#### 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.

#### Executive Committee

**Sheri L:** Chair, **Brad G.** Vice-Chair, **Erin M** (Treasurer/Secretary) **Chris P** (Member at Large), **Heather A** (Member at Large), **Kerri S** (Member-at-Large), **Megan F** (Member at Large), **Tibor B** (Member at Large), **Valerie N** (Member at Large)

#### DPAC General Meeting Draft Minutes

**Tuesday October 20, 2020, 7pm VIA ZOOM**

1. **Call to order.** Attendees included 32 representatives from Marion Schilling, Barriere, KSA, Lloyd George, SKSS, Westmount, NorKam, South SaHali, Parkcrest, McGowan, Westsyde Secondary, Brock, Westsyde Elementary, Arthur Stevenson, Dufferin, Arthur Hatton, Juniper, Summit Elementary and RLC. Trustees McKelvey, Board Chair Kershaw and Superintendent Sullivan were also in attendance.
2. **Review of the Agenda.** Accepted as submitted. Moved by Brad, Seconded by Val. All in Favour.
3. **Minutes from the Previous Meeting.** Moved by Crystal. Seconded by Melinda. All in Favour.
4. **Old Business**
  - i. **Bursary Committee Update.** (Brad G). No update.
  - ii. **BCCPAC – Update** (Kerri S). All FAQs from Ministry of Education and BCCDC are up on their websites.

BCCPAC website has a plethora of information for parents. Please check out the Resources page for the most up-to-date information.

Membership fees are due: Importance of parent advocacy and being at the table with Educational stakeholders. Executive is an elected group of volunteer parents with children in the school system.

Please start to think about incredible PAC or DPAC parents that would be effective members of the BCCPAC Board of Directors. Nominations are just around the corner. SD73 Kamloops – Thompson BCCPAC Director Kerri Schill will be concluding her two-year term. Having one or two nominees from SD73 to represent our region is extremely important. There are several positions coming to conclusion of their terms that need to be filled. It is a crucial time to be elected to the BCCPAC Board of Directors.

**Next Virtual General Meeting: November 17 at 6:30pm via ZOOM**



Zoom Licenses Update: All DPAC and PAC licenses are available. Each DPAC will connect directly with their PACs to distribute. There are no restrictions; we are providing to non-member PACs too. Does all PACs have licences that require them?

Restart President Calls Update: Calls are fewer as it is back to school time.

Steering Committee Update: Meetings are not occurring as often, but we are still present and at the table.

Summit Discussion/Update: An itinerary has been approved by the board for the two-day summit, including breakout room opportunities and presenters. DPAC Summit Survey data was very helpful, the survey closed on October 12<sup>th</sup>

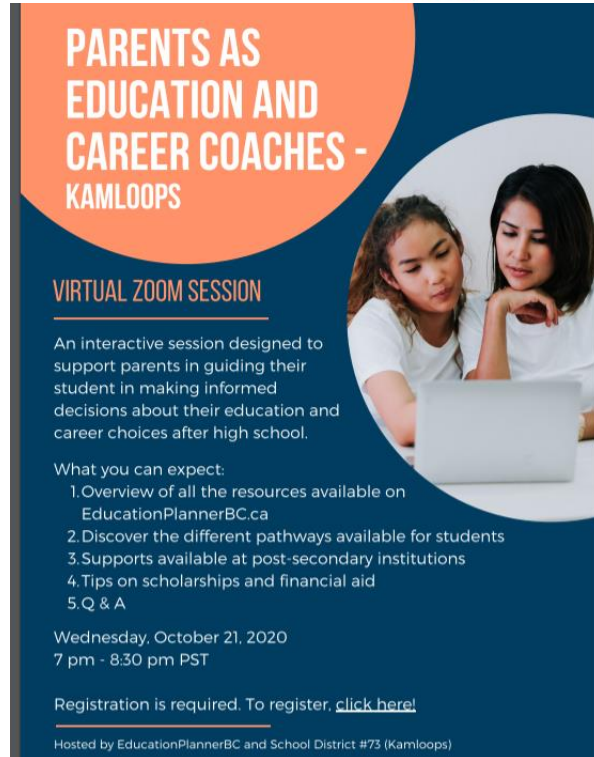
- **Moving Forward: Our Individual and Collective Learning Journeys toward a Better Education System** with Jo Chrona, Curriculum Manager, First Nations Education Steering Committee
- **Policy for Enhanced Student Learning** with Keith Godin, Assistant Deputy Minister Governance & Analytics and Shelaina Postings, Executive Director
- **Mental Health in Schools, Anti-Racism and the Inclusive Education Parent Handbook** with Jennifer McCrae, Assistant Deputy Minister, Learning Division and Patricia Kovacs, Executive Director
- **Emerging Topics Discussion and/or group breakout discussions**
- **Minister of Education Address** (Plan B is DM Address).

Northern Aboriginal Early Childhood Development was attended on October 6<sup>th</sup> awaiting Board update at next meeting.

SOGI Educators Summit is coming up on October 26<sup>th</sup> VP Shakespeare will be attending

- iii. **Indigenous People's DPAC Update (Val)**. Working with aboriginal education principal. He will be scheduling an initial meeting as soon as possible. They are still deciding with indigenous DPAC will look like (terms of reference, etc) but there should be an official announcement by the end of the month. Information will be sent out to the aboriginal parents (first nations, metis and inuit)
- iv. **Education for Parents:** (See email attached below:

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**PARENTS AS EDUCATION AND CAREER COACHES - KAMLOOPS**

**VIRTUAL ZOOM SESSION**

An interactive session designed to support parents in guiding their student in making informed decisions about their education and career choices after high school.

What you can expect:

1. Overview of all the resources available on EducationPlannerBC.ca
2. Discover the different pathways available for students
3. Supports available at post-secondary institutions
4. Tips on scholarships and financial aid
5. Q & A

Wednesday, October 21, 2020  
7 pm - 8:30 pm PST

Registration is required. To register, [click here!](#)

Hosted by EducationPlannerBC and School District #73 (Kamloops)

[https://sfu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJErFuqtPz0sG91zNIOI6\\_Yf8g8dpUIS3K3V](https://sfu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJErFuqtPz0sG91zNIOI6_Yf8g8dpUIS3K3V)

**Askable Adult:** Erin has reached out to local educator Martha Solomon. She is doing a session with the SD73 teachers on Friday (pro-D Day) and will let us know what her availability is for a district-wide parent Askable Adult education session by Zoom. She is still working out the details on how to provide this education virtually.

**Foodsafe:** We do have a new provider available for this. Her name is Kathy Russell and she has taken over now that Karen Heiberg has retired. She is willing to provide Foodsafe training for our parent volunteers per previous-years procedures. However, given the COVID situation, we are unsure when parents will be allowed back into schools to cook/volunteer for food-related fundraisers. As a group we need to decide if we want to continue to fund foodsafe spots this school year.

**Parenting in a Digital Age:** We have not yet followed up on this, but will do so by next meeting.

**Anxiety** – looking for presenters on this topic of interest for parents.

- v. **Future of schools committee** (Chris). *Carried Forward from previous meeting:* awaiting update from Superintendent Sullivan as to status of this Committee

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- vi. Return to School – 2 additional Zoom Licences for PACs** (Heather). We now have 5 Zoom licenses for PACs. We have 25-30 PACs that have reached out. Recording of PAC meetings: When you record, it takes approx. 3 hours for Zoom to download. Please let us know if you want your PAC meeting downloaded and sent directly to you.
- vii. Indoor Air Quality Concerns** (Dr. Sullivan) – *Carried forward from previous meeting.* Issue has been resolved and can be removed from Old Business
- viii. Electronic Submission of PAC Contacts for 2020/21 school year** (Sheri) – *Carried forward from previous meeting.* Reminder for PACs to fill out this form, which they should have received from their Principal. This information goes back to the board office and is copied for the DPAC Secretary and is our only way to have your contact info.
- ix. Health Questionnaire/ Parent’s Daily screening of students** (Dr. Sullivan) – *Carried forward from previous meeting to see if anything has changed since September.* No news to report at this time. We still have not yet had a case of COVID in our school district students.
- x. PACs using school Premises:** (Dr. Sullivan) – *Carried forward from previous meeting. Question around what the rules are as to whether PACs are able to use schools/school grounds to hold meetings/AGMs in person.* PACs are allowed to use school facilities for PAC business as long as COVID protocols are followed and the Principal is in agreement.
- xi. DPAC AGM:** (Sheri): AGM will directly follow this meeting. We will be voting to update our bylaws to allow for a Fall AGM going forward (instead of Spring). Reminder of Executive Vacancies up for election: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, 5 Members at Large.

## **5. New Business**

- i. Dress Code** (Brought forward by SKSS). Recent incident at SKSS involving a child being “Dress Coded”. This escalated into a school-wide petition being created, and then the senior male students showing up in “crop tops” in support

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of their female classmate. A situation similar to this in the States has received international news media attention. Message received from the Trustee for the school seemed to place the ball firmly in the court of the school administrators with matters of dress code "...I'm sure you appreciate the potential myriad of situations a principal or vice-principal could face and understand that it is essentially impossible for our School Board to have a policy to address them all. As such, we need to rely on the discretion and good judgement of our school administration." This is in contrast to the Principal's message that seemed to place the burden on the backs of the SD Administrative Procedures "Administrative Procedures for SD #73 provide us with a platform to guide school-based conversations as they pertain to all aspects of school management. As you can see with all of our AP's, there are consistent expectations in place for all schools in SD #73." SKSS Respectfully requests the District clarify who has the ultimate say in Dress Code issues, and further, whether the District has an official stance on this particular issue to help guide PAC discussions. **Answer:** Dr. Sullivan reports that the issue wasn't one of dress code per se, it was about an inappropriate remark. The inappropriate remark escalated into other things. As far as school dress codes: there are broad parameters set as far as the dress code and then each school is expected to set a dress code in alignment with their communities. This can vary from community to community. Principals are hesitant to enforce dress codes because they are going to be challenged. It is very difficult with respect to dress codes to try to come up with one that will satisfy everyone. Dr. Sullivan is willing to go back and look at this administrative procedure and report back at next meeting..

- ii. **Meetings for the school year:** We will continue to hold meetings via Zoom until it is safe again to gather in large groups. Upcoming meeting dates are Nov 17, Jan 19, Feb 16, Mar (none due to spring break), Apr 20, May 18

**6. Treasurer's Report.** Gaming money has been received (\$2,500). No other disbursements or deposits to note during this period. We need to approve our annual budget at the AGM.



KAMLOOPS DPAC FINANCIAL REPORT – OCTOBER 2020

Gaming Account	Details	Debit	Revenue	Balance
September 30, 2020	Monthly Plan Fee	\$1.95		\$125.89
October 20, 2020	Gaming Funds		\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
October 31, 2020	Monthly Plan Fee	\$1.95		\$2,623.94
<b>Est. Balance – Oct 31, 2020**</b>				<b>\$2,623.94</b>

*\*Italics indicate that debit has not yet appeared on monthly bank statement/cheque still has not been cashed by payee.*

General Account	Details	Debit	Revenue	Balance
September 30, 2020	Monthly Plan Fee	\$1.95		\$4,369.58
October 31, 2020	Monthly Plan Fee	\$1.95		\$4,367.63
<b>Est. Balance – October 31, 2020</b>				<b>\$4,367.63</b>

*\*Italics indicate that debit has not yet appeared on monthly bank statement/cheque still has not been cashed by payee.*

Bursary Account	Details	Debit	Revenue	Balance
September 30, 2020				\$1,035.51
October 31, 2020	Monthly interest credit		\$0.22	\$1,035.73
<b>Est. Balance -Oct 31, 2020</b>				<b>\$1,035.73</b>

*\*Italics indicate that debit has not yet appeared on monthly bank statement/cheque still has not been cashed by payee.*

GIC Accounts	Details	Debit	Revenue	Balance
	<u>1 year</u> GIC, Matures November 18, 2020 – 1.5% or \$15.04 at maturity			\$1,000.00 (investment w/o interest)
	<u>18 month</u> GIC, Mature May 17/21 – 1.95% at or \$102.56 at maturity			\$3,500.00 (investment w/o interest)
<b>Balance -October 31, 2020</b>				<b>\$4,500.00 (before interest)</b>



Est. Balance -October 31, 2020				\$12,527.30
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\*\*Note: There is a \$90 credit for DPAC to use for a future Foodsafe Course Tuition with Karen Heiberg. This is due to a pre-booked registrant being cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

**7. Superintendent Report.** On Thursday, October 1st I attended the principals/vice-principals meeting. In the afternoon I met with Director McDonald and Secretary Treasurer Stretch to discuss enrolment projections. Later that same afternoon I met with the Chair and Vice Chair to help plan the Board Workshop. On Friday, October 2nd I attended the COVID-19 Response Committee Meeting.

On Monday morning October 5th I chaired the Superintendent’s Council Meeting, and, in the afternoon, I attended the Board In-Camera Meeting and the Public Board Meeting at the Valley First Lounge – Sandman Center. On October 6<sup>th</sup>, along with Trustee Small, I toured Valleyview Secondary School. On Wednesday, October 7 I visited Parkcrest Elementary school in the George Hilliard building. In the afternoon I attended a weekly briefing by the Deputy Minister of Education. On October 8th I attended the Aboriginal Education Council meeting and in the afternoon the Board agenda setting meeting. On Friday, October 9th I attended a special presentation by District Principal Bowden on Cultural Competency.

On October 13th I attended a budget update discussion meeting with Secretary Treasurer Stretch and Director Cassidy. On Wednesday, October 14 I visited Twin Rivers Education Centre and the program offered at the Northhills Mall. On October 15th I visited Norkam Senior Secondary School and later in the morning Brock Middle School. On Friday, October 16th I attended a data strategy discussion meeting.

On Monday, October 19th I chaired the AOC Support Managers Meeting which was followed by the Superintendents Council Meeting which I also chaired. In the evening I attended the

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Board In-Camera Meeting as well as the Board Public Meeting. On Wednesday, October 21st I will visit Marian Schilling Elementary School and will attend a briefing by the Deputy Minister of Education in the afternoon. On Thursday, October 22nd, I will attend the COVID-19 Response Committee Meeting and on Friday, October 23rd, Saturday, October 24th, and Sunday October 25th I will attend the Board Workshop.

On Monday, October 26th I will chair the regular Superintendents Council Meeting. On Tuesday, October 27th I will attend the COVID-19 Response Committee Meeting. On Wednesday, October 28th I will attend the briefing by the Deputy Minister of Education and on October 29th I will attend a Joint Use Committee Meeting with the City of Kamloops. On Friday, October 30th I will visit schools in Vavenby and Blue River.

Regarding DPAC Questions: Classrooms are being repurposed and we will need to continue to do this. Education evolves. We are moving away from computer labs, for example. Tech is progressing so quickly that there will be other variations on this. Things are changing. We need to project what the schools will look like 5 and 10 years down the road. Some of the repurposing is happening due to enrollment pressures, but others will happen whether we are under pressure or not.

As far as enrollment: As long as COVID stays away, students will come back to school. We are funded based on who was in seats on sept 30. That particular day is very important, but the enrollment itself is fluid. Yes, homeschoolers are not part of the school district. We are trying to maintain a connection with these families. These children will come back. We are trying to maintain connections with these families and we will not cut staff where enrollment is down. We will maintain connections with students in dl as well. Each month Dr. Sullivan will make a report public as to where he spends his time. Confidential issues will not be included. **Question:** will rooms like music/art/LART/aboriginal education rooms be considered for repurposing. **Answer:** Some of this will happen as a result of enrollment pressure. It depends on the various schools and its configuration. Enrollment is expanding slightly. As a result of that (and the BCTF win at the supreme court) that's also added to the pressure on classroom space.

**Question;** Parkcrest update. **Answer:** Last year Art gave a project definition to the ministry. Once that was done, the ministry informed them that the process was changed and it had to be done all over again. Mr. Macdonald did it all over again and submitted it in May. We have done everything that was meant for us to do, but we understand that it is first in queue to be heard by the treasury board once we have a new government. In the spring or late spring we hope to have sod turning and then there would hopefully be a new Parkcrest in 2023. **Question:** signage prohibiting dogs on school grounds – responsibility of school or city? **Answer:** Super will look into this and report back.

- 8. Trustee Report.** Since we last met, we have tabled the aboriginal education annual report. This report is still in draft and is available on the website. Some of the big takaways are that we are close to parity and we have a lot of great initiatives moving

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forward. We did receive our 1701 enrollment report. Not considered formal until they do their echo, but those numbers will come out towards the end of October and then we will get our final budgeting dollars. We are down 114 students from our estimated from last spring. This means 1.55 million budget shortfall. We are hopeful that when the government forms again they will make up the difference but we did make a motion last night to take that out of our operating reserves and not reduce our budgets at this time (no staffing or supply reductions). *(note: the following questions were tabled from previous meeting:*

- a. *Update on Parkcrest?* See Superintendent's report.
  
- b. *New Development land in Aberdeen – who was involved in consultation with the city, what other options were given for school sites.* Site zoned P3 for schools in new development in Aberdeen. There was “extensive consultation with the district” according to the developer. At the Board Level, consultation like that would typically have gone through Art McDonald but we have not received a response yet. As far as the board is aware, there is no school site at this time. The questions that have been submitted to the Board have been submitted through the “Chain of Command” and answers will be forthcoming as soon as possible.  
**Portables:** 7 new portables purchased with 54 in use (last one installed at Juniper Ridge tomorrow). Total portables by end of 2020 will be 60 for the district. Projecting numbers are to add 15 more over the next 4 years. That will be 7, 2, 2, 4 over the next 4 school years.  
**Question:** are rooms being repurposed? **Answer:** that answer will be posed to Art Macdonald and brought back to DPAC. See answer from Superintendent as well. **Question:** Enrollment: if COVID didn't happen, we would have been up students? **Answer:** Yes. Individual school numbers won't be available until after the echo reports from the ministry.
  
- c. *Catchment changes and School Re-openings – any discussion?* Not discussed.

9. **KTTA Report.** Correspondence received on September 24: (see next page). Since that letter was written, the assessment was apparently postponed until February.





September 24, 2020

Board of Education  
School District No. 73 Kamloops-Thompson SENT VIA EMAIL 1383 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Kamloops, BC. V2C 3X7

**Re: Foundations Skills Assessment (FSA) and District literacy and numeracy assessments**

Dear Trustees,

The Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) passed the following two motions on September 22, 2020:

1. **That the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) write a letter to the Minister of Education requesting that the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) testing for 2020/2021 be cancelled due to COVID-19.**
2. **That the Board supports parents who choose to withdraw their child from the FSA for extenuating circumstances related to COVID-19.**

We are respectfully requesting the Board of Education of School District 73 (Kamloops Thompson) consider passing similar motions, which we believe would be consistent with Trauma Informed best practice. On Twitter today, it was shared that Richmond trustees are requesting the FSA not take place until at least the new year.

The Association is similarly concerned about the many district assessments scheduled for students at all grade levels. We question the validity of these assessments given the lengthy period of emergency learning for students in recent months and the many cases of inequity in learning opportunities due to the pandemic. Cancelling or delaying these assessments would also be consistent with Trauma Informed best practice.

Thank you for your anticipated consideration of the above. Please call me at 250-554-1223 if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

*Laurel Macpherson*  
*KTTA President*

**10. Other Correspondence:** None

**11. Other business.** None

**12. Adjourn at 7:43pm**

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