

District Parents Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes – November 21, 2006 – 7pm
Henry Grube Centre

Attendees:

Paula Schmidt, Sahali Secondary, DPAC Chair
Dean Watts, South Sahali Elementary
Kimberly Redman, George Hilliard Elementary
Sharlene McIlwain, Marion Schilling Elementary
Lynne Monteith, McGowan Elementary
Heather Bryon, Arthur Stevenson Elementary
Arnie Kidner, Brock Secondary
Gwen Leahy, Dufferin Elementary
Wendy Matheson, David Thompson Elementary

Meghan Wade, Trustee
Rob Schoen, SD #73
Sara Cummings, SD #73
Mark McVitte, KTTA

Introductions:

Delegations:

Sara Cummings, Special Projects Coordinator with SD #73. Contact: 374-0679

- New position based on salary recovery
- Coordinates various district level, school level, teacher and PAC initiatives or help/information requirements (see Links handout – Partnerships in Education).

<p><i>Action:</i> Sara will have links handout delivered to each school in district, <i>Paula Schmidt</i> will forward to email distribution list.</p>
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Adoption of Minutes:

Minutes reviewed. Motion to adopt/second: Dean/Arnie. Passed.

Additions to Agenda/Adoption of Agenda:

- Old Business – Add Parent Education Day; New Business – Add DPAC Exec.
- Agenda adopted after additions.

Financial Report: (Arnie Kidner)

Financial statements to October 31, 2006.

GIC	\$ 6479.33
General	\$ 2114.63
Gaming	\$ 1822.94

DPAC IS LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER TO BE TREASURER.

Correspondence:

Notification of upcoming conferences:

- Gender and Student Achievement – Oct 18, 2007 (<http://www.sd73.bc.ca/conference/>)
- Early Childhood Development in the Kamloops Region – Nov 29, 2006, Henry Grube

Letters:

- Environment Canada letter to SD73 DPAC Re: health risks due to vehicle idling.
- BCTF Newsmagazine – Oct 2006, Vol 19, #2
- Report submitted by Gilsela Ruckert Re: BCTF Conference in Richmond, B.C. – Rethinking Accountability, Oct 27, 28.
- Report submitted by Nelson Grant Re: BCCPAC Nov. 2006 Conference in Kelowna, B.C.

Old Business:

- a) Invitation by SD 73 to have DPAC rep. on the Health and Safety Policy Review Committee.

*Motion to have **Judy Wigmore** as representative – Arnie w/ Kimberly to second.
Motion passed.*

- b) DPAC attendance to School Board meetings – we have volunteers to Christmas.

- c) School Board Committed Liasons – 3 of 5 committee positions filled.
Chair of each committee will contact DPAC rep. – likely after Dec. 4th as new committee chairs are selected.

***Wendy Matheson** volunteers to be Human Resources rep. 4/5 positions now filled.
Still looking for Finance and Planning rep.*

- d) Parent Education Day – February 2007

*Action: **Wendy Matheson** and **Heather Bryon** will chair/co-chair this event.*

- e) Grad Portfolio – Paula attended review meeting in Kelowna. Comments from review – Parents generally not happy with structure, support, and communication issues re: file. Physical and voluntary requirements will not be going away.
- f) School Fees
- PAC feedback to date varies, but generally feelings are that the impacts need to be addressed. Many parents (PAC's) are providing feedback directly to the Ministry of Education, the District, Principals, DPAC's and/or PAC's. Generally felt that parent input into how this ruling will effect 2007/2008 year in SD 73 is important.
 - Trustee comments – Lots of interpretations out there with likely more legal action to come. Interpretations vary from Ministry, to Districts, to Trustees, etc. Lots of uncertainty around the issue to date.
 - Agreed that more parent involvement is required with respect to at least the second committee to be struck. This committee is to assess what will be charged and what will be restricted. May involve program restructuring and/or elimination.

Action: DPAC School Fees sub-committee struck at October DPAC meeting (Dean Watts, Lesley Davidson, Gisela Ruckert, Paula Schmidt) will approach the SD to have input into how parents will be consulted and how strategies for 2007/2008 are developed. (Nelson Grant (South Sahali Elementary parent) has expressed interest in this sub-committee as well. Arnie noted that it would also be a good idea to have a rep. from the North shore represented on this DPAC subcommittee.)

New Business:

- a) Attendance/Delegation Policy – defer to next meeting.
- b) Teacher/Librarian Committee – still looking for a chair or rep.
- c) School Planning Council Web Cast – Will happen on December 6th.
- d) School Inter-advertising re: events and fundraisers – defer to next meeting.
- e) **DPAC Executive – Treasurer needed as soon as possible.**

Chair's Report:

- a) Superintendent's Welcome Reception – attended and spoke.
- b) Parent Congress in Kelowna – attended and reports generated by reps.

Motion carried to pay \$109 for hotel expenses to Laura Soles (Clearwater Secondary) who attended the parent congress on Thursday, November 16th on behalf of DPAC.

- c) Report Cards – There is a new district format for Elementary schools. This was developed as mandated by the Ministry of Education. Karl DeBruijn will attend the January DPAC meeting to discuss this as well as the new curriculum IRP for Language Arts.

- d) Ministry of Education Facilities Funding – There are delays in the process, but facility grants are coming. SD 73 has budgeted accordingly.

Committee Reports:

- BCCPAC, BCTF and Rural Schools conferences – reports submitted.

Superintendents Remarks:

- Remarks deferred to next meeting due to lateness of current meeting.

Trustee Remarks:

- None at this time.

Next Meeting:

January 16, 2007.