***Executive Committee***

**Sheri L**: Chair, **(Vacant)** Vice-Chair, **Erin M** (Secretary) **Jessica K** (Treasurer), **AllisonT** (Member at Large), **Don K** (Member at Large) **Tamara V** (Member at Large), **Tibor B** (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.

**Agenda**

**Tuesday January 17, 2017**

**Henry Grube Educational Centre**

1. **Call to order and Introductions**

**Attendees: Sheri Lakusta (Westmount), Allison Tremblay (South Sa-hali), Kira Wood (South Sa-hali and McGowan Park), Cathy Sloan, Gwen Leahy, Valerie Newbreast (David Thompson), Doug Stanley (Beattie), Amber Hooton (Juniper), Nicole Crichton (Juniper), Jennifer Davis, Elizabeth Wroz, Don Kitt (South Kamloops Secondary), Jessia Kleissen (KSA), Katie Cavaletto (Westmount), Melinda Hunter, Carly Honeyman, Dianna Johnston, Tibor B, Rhonda Kershaw (Board of Education), Superintendent Alison Sidow, Meghan Wade (Board of Education), Cara McKelvey, and Trish Smillie (Board of Education).**

1. **Review of the Agenda**

**Motion to accept: Allison Tremblay, Seconded: Katie Cavaletto (Westmount)**

1. **Minutes from the Previous Meeting**

**Motion to accept: Tibor B., Seconded: Allison Tremblay (South Sa-hali)**

1. **Education Session – Angela Lawrence, SD 73 Counsellor presented on the topic of Opioid Crisis and Fentanyl. An electronic copy of her presentation will be forwarded to schools once it’s received by DPAC. Angela spoke about Fentanyl and what it is. She also spoke about the developments of our children’s brains and what they are experiencing during their adolescence. Trish Smillie with the School Board indicated that as of January 2017, Naloxone kits are now available to schools who request them. They are not in all schools but are available to any Principals who request them.**
2. **Education Session – Amanda Russett, SD 73 Numeracy Coordinator presented on the topic of Math in the New Curriculum. An electronic copy of her presentation will be forwarded to schools once it’s received by DPAC. Amanda spoke about the changing in teaching methods and the curriculum. There have been so many changes in the world especially with technology that have served as a catalyst for these changes. She led the group through an exercise to model the new teaching methods.**
3. **Old Business**

**Lenore Skenazy from New York City to talk about Free Range Kids and helicopter parenting Thursday, January 26th. She will be doing an afternoon presentation at the Grube at 12.30pm and then an evening presentation at 6.30pm at the Sandman Centre. The attendees were reminded of this event and asked to share the information with their schools.**

**Social Media and the PAC – KSA Question – Allison T, Kira W, and Don K. met with Assistant Superintendent Rob Schoen to discuss the Social Media policy that the SD is currently working on. A draft is being done up and will be shared to the Executive upon receipt.**

**Community Meeting, hosted by the Ministry of Education and SD73, on what student reporting for K-9 will look like with the new curriculum.  The meeting will take place on Monday, January 30th, 5:00 - 8:00 pm at the Henry Grube Education Centre.  All are welcome to attend, hear the presentation and provide feedback. The attendees were reminded of this event and asked to share the information with their schools.**

1. **New Business (5 minutes)**
   1. **DPAC Executive – Kira W. has had to step down from her position on the Executive given a new employment situation.**
   2. **Bylaws and Constitution – A proposal to change some portions of the current DPAC Bylaws and Constitution will be presented at the February 7th Executive Meeting.**
2. **Treasurer’s Report** 
   1. **Jessica’s Report. – The Treasurer presented her report and was provided to all of the attendees.**
   2. **Bursary Committee – No report available.**
3. **Correspondence –** 
   1. **Question from South Sa-hali Elementary: “Why did the Board vote 4-3 in favour of going back to a 1 week Spring Break in 2018?”**

**Response from Trustee Meghan Wade – This was a very difficult decision for the Board. They looked at a number of pieces of information when making their decisions. Trustee Wade noted three key pieces of information: (1) time in the classroom for our children, (2) the financial and childcare issues faced by many parents as a result of the two week Spring Break and (3) the recent Thought Exchange survey showed that of the approximately 4,000 respondents only a few hundred put a two week Spring Break as a high priority.**

1. **Executive Report – None (see old/new business)**
2. **Superintendent Remarks – Superintendent Sidow indicated that Trustee Wade and she had the same items to share. Trustee Wade will speak to these items.**
3. **Trustee Remarks** 
   1. **The Strategic Plan will be presented on January 25 at 6:00 pm at the Henry Grube. This is a culmination of a long process and hard work.**
   2. **On February 9 (Time to be Announced) at the Henry Grube, a representative from the Ministry of Education will visit Kamloops to discuss Rural Engagement. The discussion will center on the Rural schools in SD #73 and their engagement in the greater SD #73 community.**
   3. **As a result of the recent Supreme Court ruling, School District #73 is in receipt of $1.3 million (approximately 20-21 Teachers). The KTTA will present their Priority Measures to the School Board on January 20, 2017. The Priority Measures are developed using a group up approach meaning that the teachers have identified their priorities for this money and will present them to the School Board.**
   4. **School District #73 has been given $63,000 to engage in a cost comparison study for an expansion of Westmount Elementary and a new school construction in Pineview. While there is no guarantee of the expansion or new construction, Trustee Wade indicated that this go ahead on a cost comparison is a promising start.**
4. **NEXT GENERAL MEETING February 21 at 7pm at Grube.**