**DPAC General Meeting**

***Executive Committee***

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

**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 January 16, 2018**

**Henry Grube Education Centre -7pm**

1. **Call to order : 7:08pm. Attendees: Don K (SKSS), Jessica K (KSA), Melinda H (Arthur Hatton), Katie C (Westmount), Brad G (Dufferin), Erin M (Lloyd George), Valerie N (D Thompson), Chris P (MSES), Cara M (SBO), Alison S (Superintendent), Kerrie F (WSS), Tibor B (Brock /NKSS)**
2. **Review of the Agenda. Accepted with the addition of “Bullying in high schools” under New Business (item 3).**
3. **Minutes from the Previous Meeting (Nov 21, 2017)**. Moved by Brad. Seconded by Jessica. All in Favour.
4. **Old Business**

**Bursary Committee.** Moving forward. Paperwork has bee given to exec to review and then will be moving forward.

**Aboriginal Parent Engagement.** No change from November. Valerie has not heard from the group since before the Xmas break.

**DPAC meetings via conference call.** (Update on new phone system). Kira was looking into this and was unable to attend tonight. Will follow up at next meeting.

**Parent Education for upcoming year.**

**Askable Adult-** Try for mid-april. April 23rd is a non instructional day. See if that would work.

**BCCPAC.** Next conference is May 4-6. If anyone is interested in attending, DPAC will pay for conference fees and accommodation. We will also pay a portion of meals.

**Vaping Policy –** Policy committee meets next week. The policy has been drafted. The Board will see it on Monday. It will come forward to DPAC after that time.

**The Edge.** Thoughts from parents around table: Sensitivity, education, notice to parents. Is this something we can do as parent engagement? Can DPAC facilitate a parent night and involving the viewing of the video and hosting a night regarding all things substance use/misuse. Exec will invite the RCMP to the general meeting.

**Social Media Policy-** Kamloops School District has a “Page” on Facebook. Clarification on whether schools’ PACs can have “Pages” that are open but administered by school administrators rather than just closed groups? Some schools were told that PACs must only have Closed Groups rather than Pages. (It was noted that some schools have added “Social Media Directors” in the PAC Executive to help deal with social media challenges.) Superintendent and Trustee will clarify and report back.

**Water Fountain filters –** Last night the Board approved 1-2 filters per school (based on size of school). 17 PACs have already been fundraising. PACs that have put the money out will be reimbursed. Schools that have purchased filtrations systems that have been delivered but still have not been installed may be able to return these systems and wait for the district tender process to be completed.

**KTTA and FSA-** KTTA coming to February’s general meeting to discuss.

1. **New Business:**

**KTTA Campaign -**Superintendent Sidow. New Campaign “Negotiate, don’t violate” by KTTA. The KTTA has accused the district of not following collective agreement. Superintendent notes that 80 teachers have been added ($7.7 million in staffing). Class sizes is at an all time low in this district. Composition is significantly changed in this district. There are 16 violations currently. The teachers are paid for this additional work. The District is confident that they are following the collective agreement. There is a process for resolving disputes and the District is honoring that process.

**School Completion Rates –** Superintendent Sidow highlighted our six-year completion and grade 12 graduation rates. Compared with 2012/13, in 2016/17 all categories of students (All Students/Residents/ Females/Males/Aboriginal/ELL/Special Needs) have had an increased six-year completion rate, including a 20.5% increase for special needs students. These are remarkable achievements by our district’s teachers, and these numbers are surely to increase even further with the class size and composition changes.

**Bullying in high schools. (Question from Westsyde)** Procedure for parents to follow? What happens when parents want to help their child who is being bullied? How do I approach multiple teachers? Or the school? Where do I start addressing my concern? How to empower parents to help their children. *Can DPACs disseminate information? (Discussion: High School parents don’t always get involved in PACs/ sign up to receive PAC correspondence). Can SD73 Webpage have this information?*

1. **Treasurer’s Report.** We continue to have a total of $13,581.70 in the gaming account. We were expecting to have an invoice from KELLI for the Unplug and Play speaker, but have not been asked for these funds (traditionally $500). We therefore have an additional $500 to spend.
2. **Correspondence –**

**BCCPAC – Call for nominations**

**BCCPAC – AGM and Resolutions**

**BCCPAC – statement on SOGI Inclusive education in BC**

**Walk for Peace organizing ctee looking for volunteers**

**Foodsafe.** Next date is Jan 26

**Board Notes**

1. **Superintendent’s Report.** Minister visited before Christmas break. No further correspondence has been received from the Minister’s office at this time.
2. **Trustee’s Report.** Board meeting was the first of the year (last night). Topics have been mostly covered. New Terms of Reference for the Aboriginal Education Council (currently leader is retiring so the terms of reference are being updated in preparation for the incoming leader. This is an update to the goals, purpose of the council).

Meeting adjourned at 8:44pm