



## Executive Committee

**Sheri L:** Chair **Brad G:** Vice-Chair **Heather A:** Secretary **Erin M:** Treasurer/Zoom Coordinator  
**Chris P:** Member-at-Large. **Valerie N:** Member-at-Large

2021 May 18th at 6:30 PM General Meeting Minutes

### 1. Welcome/Call to Order: 6:37pm

---

a) **In Attendance:** DPAC executive plus 17 attendees

### 2. Review of the Agenda: add New business e: Meeting with the Minister of Education – Erin 1<sup>st</sup> candace 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Carried**

---

### 3. Review of Previous Minutes: Courtney moves Chris 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Carried**

---

### 4. Old Business:

---

a) **FoodSafe:** no news

---

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 as well as workshops and networking events.
- We function as a resource for individual parents and PACs as they do their work at the school level.



- b) **IFVE (Indigenous Family Voices for Education):** June 9<sup>th</sup> next general meeting.
- c) **Dress Code:** Erin- Students did not get much feedback after SKSS presentation.
  - Stakeholders were very impressed with their presentation
  - May 14<sup>th</sup> stakeholders held a meeting: in attendance, crisis center, Ktta, Board, SKSS, etc. they are amending and creating an updated draft to be presented May 28<sup>th</sup>
  - Erin asks how many parents presented feedback from the first draft? Sheri: about 20
  - unfortunately, only 2 chat groups held so not everyone received a lot of time to present
  - Bill Hamblet has said they will continue to focus on safe environment attire.

## 5. New Business:

---

- a) **Spring Break – two weeks vs. one**
  - We had some parents that have been asking for the possibility of 2 weeks of spring break, what would be required to change this.
  - Laurel: There is just this really big gap between Christmas and spring break and when there was 2 weeks of spring break teachers really enjoyed the break and seemed to be more relaxed. When it went back to one week the teachers have really suffered. The KTTA has had a lot of pressure to reimplement the 2 weeks. We are only 1 of 3 districts that have only the 1 week. KTTA has been hearing from a lot of parents that this would be a desired change. This is definitely being looked at extensively. Contract ends in June 2022, and this will be brought back to the bargaining table at that time for the following years.
  - Rhonda: right now, spring break is enshrined in the collective agreement so it has to be negotiated at that level, and until that changes, it cannot be negotiated.
- b) **WEBSITE IS BACK!**

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**



- <https://dpac.sd73.bc.ca>
- Please email DPAC with what content you look for at our website: sd73dpac@gmail.com
  - What would you like there?
  - How would you improve it?
  - What do you know about Dpac? Would you like more information what we do?
  - Reach out to other members of your PAC, how can we improve?
  
- Check out new FACEBOOK site (Please follow!)
  - DPAC 73 Kamloops-Thompson:  
[https://www.facebook.com/DPAC-73-Kamloops-Thompson-102187408678963/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/DPAC-73-Kamloops-Thompson-102187408678963/?ref=page_internal)
  - Is anyone out there able to help with social networking?

**c) Proposed general meeting in June:**

- Usually do not meet in June, but being a very busy year and a new superintendent in town maybe we could ask her to introduce herself at this meeting?
- Rhonda: The new superintendent, Dr. Rhonda Nixon has arrived in Kamloops but at this point is still fully engaged with her prior district in Alberta that has just shifted back to online only for education
- Erin Proposes June 15<sup>th</sup>, they we could also discuss the updated dress code draft.
- Meeting Planned June 15<sup>th</sup>**

**d) New Superintendent:**

- If there is an added meeting in June, we can invite her to attend

**e) Meeting with Minister of education:**

- **Chris:** Been working on this for while trying to get a meeting with the minister since December last year. Will be meeting with the Administrative Coordinator/capital management, and Rob Drew
- Rhonda K.: something we have found in the past that the government has no idea the scale of Kamloops, this would

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**



definitely be something that should be highlighted in the discussion.

- Focus on capital funding to sd 73.

## 6. Reports:

---

### a) Treasurer's Report:

- Erin would like to make a motion to release the remaining \$378 (approx.) from the gaming account to be able to delegate from the foodsafe budget Courtney 2<sup>nd</sup> **Carried**
- Erin would like to motion using \$130 to pay trilogy solutions Candace 2<sup>nd</sup> **Carried**
- Erin motions to spend \$241 to zoom licenses (from gaming) for the new year as BCCPAC Licences, Chris 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Having a zoom account would improve accessibility to other areas of our district even if in person meetings can proceed. **Carried**
- **Erin** makes a motion to role the GIC back into a 18 month GIC as interest rates are just not set to increase until the second half of 2022. Heather 1<sup>st</sup> Chris 2<sup>nd</sup> **Carried**

### b) Superintendent Report:

- dress code was discussed by stakeholders of sd 73 May 14<sup>th</sup>, SKSS did a great job and did have time to present their policy
  - will hopefully have a finalized dress code that will be implemented in the school district by September 2021
- 4 public catchment reviews have been completed as well with PAC executive
- did a tour of the grounds today at Ralph Bell as well as interior and exterior
- Lots of engagement with catchment changes which is showing success in the process.
- Covid-19 very few cases since March, that was unexpected but still remains positive. Health Guidelines will remain in

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**



place until the end of the school year. Likely will still have some form of restrictions in September, but it is looking more promising for a return to “normal”.

**c) Trustee Report:**

- **Rhonda:** Does not have a lot to add to this very in-depth Agenda thus far.

-Erin asks: in terms of the “shuffle” of principles and staffing, are there any anticipated need for administrator shuffle?

**Rhonda:** More of a question for Dr. Sullivan

-Erin: Losing 3 very prominent French immersion staff are leaving, are there any anticipated recruitment challenges?

Dr. Sullivan: I am not aware at this time any shortages in staffing and recruitment, but will make note of this question and ask if there are any changes.

-Chris: I have been in discussion with a lot of Juniper residents and I know there is a proposed site for a new Juniper West school, and I know as of now that this land has not yet been purchased, Where are we on this process?

- Rhonda: as of right now Juniper West is priority 4 on the district list, and it would be unlikely acquired in the very near future, and would likely BEST case scenario be acquired and built

-Erin: typically at this time of year we usually get an update from the trustees in terms of Grads and planning. For this year, it will look very much like last year.

-Erin, Legacy grant announcement?

Rhonda: at this time, this has not been made public to the board yet.

**d) KTTA Report:**

- **Darcy:** A lot of advocacy of vaccines and teachers have been able to make their appointments as of last week. Very much support the work of the districts in regards to catchment changes. It is important to alleviate the capacity concerns and it is excellent that the board is listening to parents, staff and all involved in these changes.

-Chris: In the district or provincial budget announcements, do you have any concerns?

- Darcy: Our response was posted, but some highlights are in regards to the need for increased capital funding, and still

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**



some schools with some concerning capacity (for example: Sunpeaks)

-FSAs this year, stance hasn't changed, they were postponed but would rather have this test eliminated. Feels that this test does not demonstrate a lot of valuable information. It really takes more parents to be involved in this process if it is thought that these are unvaluable.

**e) BCCPAC Report:**

May is a busy time for BCCPAC and its members – Our AGM with board elections and resolutions discussions is May 1 and our annual parent education conference is May 28-29 and both are virtual. Your Board continues to represent members and parents on the provincial K-12 Steering Committee as plans for September are being discussed.

## Annual Parent Education Conference – May 28-29, 2021

We are excited for you to join us virtually for our annual parent education conference on Friday May 28 and Saturday May 29, 2021. Our conference [speakers and sessions](#) will cover 10+ hours of valuable content for you and your PAC parent community! Our online format over two days enables parents/guardians/caregivers from across the province to safely participate from their home or office. [Register Now!](#)

And just like in prior years when we were able to meet face-to-face, we are unique in our ability to provide parents the opportunity to hear directly from the Minister and senior officials within the Ministry of Education and to provide the opportunity to give direct feedback and engage in dialogue.

We are excited to announce our **Saturday opening Keynote Speaker is Dr. Gordon Neufeld**, a Vancouver-based developmental psychologist with over 45 years of experience with children and youth and those responsible for them. A foremost authority on child development, Dr. Neufeld is an international speaker, a bestselling author ("*Hold On To Your Kids*") and a leading interpreter of the developmental paradigm. Dr. Neufeld has a widespread reputation for making sense of complex problems and for opening doors for change.

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**



And why have one keynote when you can have two?! We are excited that our **closing Keynote Speaker is Dr. Ashley Miller**, child and adolescent psychiatrist, family therapist, and

Award-winning educator and author of "*What to Say to Kids When Nothing Seems to Work*". She is a clinical assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of British Columbia where she serves as co-director of family therapy training.

But that's not all! We have top quality speakers on both Friday and Saturday including:

- Friday opening address and Q&A with the Minister of Education, the Honorable Jennifer Whiteside
- Mental Health in Schools with Jennifer McCrae, Assistant Deputy Minister, Learning Division, Ministry of Education
- Framework for Enhancing Student Learning with Shelaina Postings, Executive Director, Sector Policy and Performance, Ministry of Education
- Social Media Awareness, Digital Citizenship, and Cyberbullying with Dr. Greg Gerber from Safer Schools Together BC.
- Tyrone McNeil, president of First Nations Education Steering Committee(FNESC) and vice-president of the Stó:lō Tribal Council will be discussing First Nations Education and Your Role

---

## Children Benefit from Parents and Schools Working Together

Have you read the article by President Sinclair on the Benefit of Parents and Schools Working Together in the last issue of the BC Principals and Vice Principals magazine? You should and so should your Executive and your larger parent community. It reinforces the value of PACs at the school level for both parents and administrators. [Have a read.](#)

## Enhancing Student Learning Ministerial Reporting Order

The Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Policy and Ministerial Reporting Order came into effect September 1 and serves to hold boards of education more

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**



accountable and ensure student outcomes are the focus of their strategic and operational plans. During April 2021, your Board provided requested feedback on the [Implementation Guide](#).

The [Implementation Guide](#) for the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning was developed to support Boards of Education to fulfil the responsibilities as outlined in the Policy and Order. The planning and reporting processes that school districts use to improve educational outcomes are integral to public assurance and accountability. The Implementation Guide provides the policy requirements and guidelines for: development of district strategic plans; alignment of district annual operational plans; creation of the Enhancing Student Learning Report. The Guide is intended to share research-informed strategies and promising practices collected from the sector to build capacity. As part of a continuous improvement review cycle, the Ministry will update this document annually to include adapted strategies collected from the sector. [Learn More](#).

---

## Member Community Forum

Have you checked out the new online [Member Forum](#) yet? We invite you to visit and login and start connecting with members from across the province. The Member Community Forum is available to Executive members of our active PAC and DPAC members ([review your membership status](#)) based on information provided to BCCPAC during the membership registration process. Go take a look and start connecting!

---

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**





## Survey about Understanding Pandemic Impacts

British Columbians have made significant sacrifices to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and to protect others in their communities. Help us understand the impact of COVID-19 on you and your community by taking part in the [BC COVID-19 SPEAK survey](#).

## Update on Zoom Licenses Issued to DPACs and PACs

As part of our ongoing efforts to support district and school PACs and their parent communities, in September 2020 BCCPAC had secured Zoom licenses (Education) for DPACs/PACs across the province to be able to host virtual meetings during the pandemic. We are grateful for the Ministry of Education's support of parents. We had secured a sub-group license with 100 Zoom licenses as part of the Ministry's enterprise license agreement. As the owner of the licenses, BCCPAC had released and issued them to DPACs and PACs.

Please be advised that the Ministry of Education is not extending the funding for the K-12 Zoom enterprise license that was established last year. **Therefore, all the Zoom licenses BCCPAC has released to DPACs and PACs will expire June 30, 2021.**

---

## Provincial Budget, K-12 Budget & Service Plan

President Sinclair and VP Shakespeare were in the BC Budget Lockup on April 20 on behalf of BCCPAC and its members. While it was virtual this year, we were pleased to be attending as we normally do. Please [read our response to Budget 2021](#) and funding for K-12 education. Additionally, the updated Ministry of Education Service Plan was released with the Budget. The Plan is worth reading and sharing as it's the guiding document for the Ministry. It's for three years and is updated annually. BCCPAC provided input to this document via our work and participation on the FESL Advisory Group.

---

## Demand for French Immersion Survey until May 18

Give your input on future decisions on French Immersion K-12 education. The Ministry of

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**



Education wants to better understand the factors leading to increased demand for French Immersion across the province. [Now is the time to give your input!](#) Survey is open until May 18/21.

---

## Updates from BCCDC

On April 15 the PHO released an updated modelling update and data on school exposures during the MHO/PHO briefing. [Members are encouraged to read the summary of key messages.](#) The [recording of the full briefing](#) is available to view as is the [PPT which was shared and discussed.](#)

See slides 20-27 for the latest information related to school-aged children, including community transmission rates following Spring Break, infection rates for students, and school transmission studies conducted in the Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health Authorities.

[It's all noted in our Update](#) including that there is evidence that there was an "increase of cases in the community during both the winter and spring break, which led to increased exposure events in schools after the breaks"; "overall we still have a low infection rate in school age children relative to their proportion of the population particularly true for ages 5-12"; "despite what is happening in the community, schools are a low transmission environment and the measures that are in place are effective in preventing widespread transmission"; "transmission is not driven by schools".

---

## Services for Children re: Anxiety

Are you the primary caregiver of a child between 5-18 years of age and concerned about your child's anxiety? If you have sought out services for childhood anxiety in the past 6 months and have been living in Canada for at least the last 5yrs, researchers at UBC are interested in hearing about your experience. In this UBC research study, primary caregivers will have the opportunity to share their experiences of seeking psychological services for their child regarding anxiety. Your participation will provide valuable information that may help other families. The total participation time is approximately 2-3 hours over two virtual meetings. The first meeting will last approximately 1.5-2 hours. You may also be contacted with follow up questions. During the final meeting, approximately 30-45 minutes, you will get to share your feedback. Interested? Please call 604-822-4602 or email [cfc.lab@ubc.ca](mailto:cfc.lab@ubc.ca)

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**



and provide your name and contact details. Someone from the research team will contact you.

---

## Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Resources

Did you miss the "Why is Outdoor Risky Play More Important Now Than Ever?" webinar presented by Dr. Mariana Brussoni and the BC Injury Research & Prevention Unit? Research is clear on the importance of regular and repeated access to outdoor risky play. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the importance of supporting children's play outdoors is even more urgent to support infection control and child health and well-being. With children spending more time indoors and on screens, engagement in outdoor play has never been lower and inequities of access are widening. We will explore the effects of changing childhoods, as well as strategies to restore balance. [Watch it now!](#)

Now more than ever, it's important to keep up to speed with how your preteens are interacting on social media. Be familiar with the social media websites and apps they're using. Know what a "Snap" is. Post every now and then. Set your kids up for a positive experience on social media by having open conversations about respect, privacy, smart decision making, and what it means to think critically about what they see and hear online. To help, Saleema Noon has created the [Smart Things to Say](#) free resource. [Get your copy.](#)

Have a child in high school? Did you know that you can find info on undergrad programs offered at the 25 public BC post-secondary institutions in one place? That's right, find them all on one Search Database! [Take a look.](#)

It's important to know the difference between bullying, single acts of aggression, and conflict. Not all mean behaviour, rude behaviour, or conflict is bullying. The erase bc website has information for families and students. [Learn more.](#)

The Ministries of Education and Public Safety & Solicitor General and Safer Schools Together have launched the Gangs and Guns Online Resources: a suite of videos and guides to increase awareness, knowledge and competencies related to gang and gun violence prevention for parents and students, educators and school support staff. It's all part of the larger erase strategy. [Access the resources.](#)

Children are spending more and more time online. It is important to talk with them regularly to understand what they do online and set ground rules. [Here's how to start the conversation.](#)

Have you heard about the "Ask Kelty" mental health tool? It's not easy for families to navigate the mental health system. Access the new interactive tool where you can ask and

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**



see answers to common questions families have about accessing mental health supports and services for your child. [Check it out!](#)

DYK about SEL? SEL – or Social Emotional Learning – is all about how children identify and manage emotions, make good decisions, show empathy, and maintain positive relationships – and the benefits of SEL are shown to last a lifetime. Check out the Kelty Mental Health [podcast on SEL](#) to learn more about what parents and caregivers can do to support SEL at home, and to learn about the role of schools in promoting SEL.

---

## Key Dates and Events

### May 1

[BC Youth Week](#)

### May 7

[National Child/Youth Mental Health Day](#)

### May 28-29

[Parent Education Conference](#)

### May 31

[Bike to School Week](#)

#### 1. Other business/Correspondence received:

- a. From UBC Faculty of Education “CampOUT”:

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**



This June and July, we are offering fourteen FREE virtual workshops and activities for queer, trans, and Two-Spirit youth to connect with each other, share knowledge, and learn about 2SLGBTQ+ resources and leadership. If you are a queer, trans, Two-Spirit, Indigiqueer, questioning, or allied youth (2SLGBTQ+) between the ages of 13-21

**Registration form link** to copy and paste in your browser:  
[https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0TUbYs6pSkkWnUG](https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0TUbYs6pSkkWnUG)

**CampOUT! sessions guide link** to copy and paste in your browser:  
<https://campout.ubc.ca/come-to-camp-virtual-edition/>

**7. Other Correspondence: none**

---

**8. Adjournment: 7:46pm**

---

**Next Meeting: June 15th, 2021 at 6:30 PM**