



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.

2025/26 Executive Committee

Bonnie M (Chair), Mel D (Vice Chair), Erin M (Acting Secretary), Erin M (Treasurer/Zoom Coordinator),
Members at Large: Elwira R, Jen B, Jessica J, Jessica K, Nadine W, Manu S, Crystal P, Rachel A

DPAC General Meeting - Draft Minutes

Tuesday February 17, 2026 6:30pm

Zoom log in: www.zoom.us

Meeting ID: 849 6862 0676

Passcode: 456446

1. **Welcome/Call to Order. Attendees:** Chris P (VSS), Jessica J (DPAC MoL), Melissa W (George Hilliard), Alyssa R, Jonathan B (McGowan), Caroline M (Bert Edwards), Erin M (SKSS), Bonnie M (DPAC Chair), Ricki A, Elwira (Lloyd George), Jen B (SKSS), Katie (Dufferin), Manu (DPAC MoL), Shauna (Beattie), Will (PAC Way), Jamie (Westsyde Elem), Michelle (David Thompson), Claire (VV Sec).
2. **Land Acknowledgement.** *We would like to recognize and acknowledge the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Dăkelh Dené, Ktunaxa, Nlaka'pamux, Secwépemc, St'át'imc, Syilx, and Tšilhqot'in Nations, where we live, learn, collaborate and work together.*
3. **Education Session - Gaudenza Ramunno, Interior Health – Take Home Naloxone info and demonstration.**
Thank you to Gaudenza for this presentation and demonstration. We are grateful for your time, and have found the information critically valuable. More information can be found at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/overdose/naloxone-kit>
4. **Acceptance of the Agenda/Minutes** (Accepted as submitted)
5. **Reports:**
 - a. Chair's Report:
See attached **addendum A**
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - i. See **Addendum B** for report
 - c. Committee Reports
 - i. Bylaw and Constitution (Erin) – No report.
 - ii. Active Transportation/Safer Streets (Elwira). Elwira from DPAC has been very involved in this work and DPAC has now completed it's portion, including meetings, highlighting interested schools, and regular follow up with the district. It is now up to the district to continue



and confirm a school, and we eagerly await an announcement.

- iii. Feeding Futures (Elwira) – the Food security roundtable has been attended. We are part of a working group meeting every two months. We know the money is there for the federal government, and we want the SD73 folks to move forward with meaningful food (not just granola bars, but free hot and nutritious meals) to those in need. If your pac has ideas, please connect with Elwira and Bonnie. Ideally we'd love for families and children to have access to commercial kitchens and staff for hot meals to feed kids every day.
- iv. Advocacy (Bonnie/Elwira) – Update given in Chair's report.
- v. Rural Committee (Mel) – No formal update, but see VoIP concerns below.
- vi. DPAC Coalition (Bonnie) – letter sent to Minister Beare re : recent motion passed by VSB calling on BC Trustees association to see a re-definition of the roles of PACs and DPACs under the school act.
- vii. Capital Funding/School Site Acquisition (Bonnie) – We have met with the city to discuss city planning and schools. We continue to advocate for funds for schools – we have left capital dollars spent here than any other district in the Province over the last 30 years.

6. Old Business

- a. PAC 101 – March 2nd, 4:30-8:30pm, Henry Grube . Please keep your eye on our Website for how to register. There will be a light meal/snacks and entertainment, but we have not been able to put together a formal childcare plan this year. Of course, if you need to bring your child and are able to supervise them while you are attending, you are welcome to bring them! There will be a per KM stipend available for parents attending from outside of the City of Kamloops boundaries.
- b. Foodsafe – Please reach out to sd73dpactreasurer@gmail.com if your PAC needs reimbursement for a 2025/26 Foodsafe tuition

7. New Business

- a. Thank you letters sent to KTTA, CUPE, KTPVPA re support of students (Tumbler Ridge event) (See Addendum C)
- b. VOIP phones (Rachel). Vavenby will be losing its school landlines. The Emergency Plan seems to involve a teacher having to drive to cell service (15 minutes away) if they need to call for help. This seems completely unreasonable. We are looking for anyone who has had similar experiences with VOIP replacing landlines in areas without cell service. Please get in touch with Bonnie at sd73dpac@gmail.com
- c. Catchment Changes – updates (Future Growth Planning Committee- Bonnie). We no longer have a Snine planning committee in the district. Transition planning is happening. It looks more and more like we will be



SD 73 District Parent Advisory Council

Web: <https://dpac.sd73.bc.ca>

Email: sd73dpac@gmail.com

Facebook: [Kamloops-Thompson](#)

[SD73 PAC Discussions](#)

seeing split schedules and/or extended days possible as a result of catchment changes. Some students have been taken from schools with active band programs, or from their school where they've been active on sports teams and clubs and are being told they have no choice but to move to a new school because of a catchment change, and now will have to lose their band program or their sport or their club as a result. If your PAC is looking for DPAC assistance to advocate for your students, please reach out and we will help you with a communications plan.

- d. Budget Consultation 2026/27, Parent questions from 2nd quarter report from SD73. See Chair's report. We are looking for feedback from parents as to what the reality is at your school: Are you still being asked, as a PAC, to pay for supplies? To buy things that prior to last year were covered by the school? Please let us know as we are keeping track.
- e. SD73's certified education assistant program – parent questions and concerns should be directed to Bonnie at sd73dpac@gmail.com

8. Correspondance

9. Other Business

10. Adjournment



Addendum A: Chair's Report

Focus Goals:

Goal 1: Strengthen our local commitment to family inclusion through accessibility awareness and accountability. As our communities and neighbourhoods grow, and our world shrinks and expands, the realities, experiences and needs of our families becomes more diverse. The economic challenges we hear about so often from our District also impact our families. How are we making sure our PAC activities and our school investments are equitably available to all students and caregivers? Are we taking into account the needs of all students and families? Are we representing them or are we including them in representation? We need to lead by example.

Goal 2: Create a vision for student-focused planning and reporting that families can access and understand when it comes to how we meet the needs of each individual child in our community. I'd like to know that the decisions made at every level in our education system have been considered in the context of how they value each learner. I'd like to know that the needs of students with disabilities have been considered, that vulnerable learners are invested in as they identify their needs, not as they can be after the obligations to all are met. Do we plan for the whole child, the whole community and our children's families who will likely attend the same schools we are trying to get build now. Every decision in our District should consider EACH child. I would like to see us lead that work.

Supporting PACs:

- -Answered questions and supported PACs in their governance issues as they arose.
- -Continue to work towards obtaining district support for the Safer Streets program and @20,000 grant to be available to a school community in Kamloops
- -Provided support and guidance to individual caregivers navigating procedures as they relate to school inclusion and planning for students.

District Advocacy:

- Attend partner engagement meetings with SD73, KTTA, CUPE, BCPVPA leadership monthly.
- Virtually attend Board meetings and review all Board packages and correspondence
- Review first quarter financial statements and 25/26 projected budget
- Met with Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer to provide input on parent priorities for the amended budget
- Met with Kamloops City Council members in advance of the annual City/School District Planning meeting to address parent concerns regarding long-term planning and forecasting
- Researched provincial standards and investment in Board composition and size to measure our district investment in governance compared to other jurisdictions.
- Many media hits and opportunities to share parent values publicly.

Provincial Advocacy:

- Continued work with other DPAC leaders and partners to advance critical education issues with the province. Budget dropped tonight.
- Media hits responding to the rural/interior challenges we experience with a provincial and national audience.
- Supported SD59 DPAC in managing post-incident communication with and for parents in their school community.

Communication:

Most of the communication we have is discussed on other parts of the agenda tonight.

Governance and Strategic Planning:

-Dylan has resigned his post as Secretary for personal reasons.

Notable News: PAC 101 will take place on March 2nd at 4:30pm at the Henry Grube Education Centre.

Questions and Comments from the floor:

-Discussion happening at DPAC Coalition level re: Roles of school boards and school trustees in other places in Canada. See also the following link: instituteforpubliceducation.org "BC's school boards matter, but only if they act like it"

-Letters sent to KTTA, CUPE and PVPA re: response to Tumbler Ridge (See attached under Correspondence)

-The new SD73 Secretary/Treasurer starts March 1st

-PAC will hopefully be coming to TREC/@KOOL, we have been working with them to try to get ducks in a row so they can apply for gaming funding in April.

-Ongoing Priorities – the SD73 has more money than they thought they would have thanks in part to increased enrollment and more level 2 designated students, as well as a greater than anticipated classroom enhancement fund.

-Last year, we were invited in person to share our parent's priorities for the budget. We are still looking to get that invitation this year despite a rapidly closing timeline for feedback before the budget must be presented and approved. We have noted previously that our parents have asked for focus on increased classroom supports, supports for supplies and supports for students in the way of library, intramurals, field trips, mental health supports, food and lunch programming and career/experiential programming.



SD 73 District Parent Advisory Council

Web: <https://dpac.sd73.bc.ca>

Email: sd73dpac@gmail.com

Facebook: [Kamloops-Thompson](#)
[SD73 PAC Discussions](#)

MOTION: To write a letter to the School Board to request DPAC be included in consultation for Budget preparation.

Moved: Erin, **Seconded** Elwira. **Discussion:** We request that board be transparent with the fiscal picture so that we can understand where money is being spent and why. Request involvement as parents since families are the largest stakeholder group in the district. We don't understand where we're making cuts, where we're still scrimping. It's not common to have the new lack of robust financial reporting, and we feel it's impossible to have a meaningful consultation if the budget is presented and passed in the same meeting without prior consultation or involvement from parents. **All in Favour. Motion Passed.**



SD 73 District Parent Advisory Council

Web: <https://dpac.sd73.bc.ca>

Email: sd73dpac@gmail.com

Facebook: [Kamloops-Thompson](#)

[SD73 PAC Discussions](#)

Addendum B: Treasurer's report

SD73 DPAC FINANCIAL REPORT - February 2026

	Chequing Acct (5374)	Details	Debit	Revenue	Balance
GAMING		June 30 2025 Opening Balance			\$694.42
	July 4, 2025	Zoom Plan for DPAC-Reimburse Erin Mitchell (paid by Credit Card) - Cheq 102	\$240.69		\$453.73
	July 16, 2025	Foodsafe Reimbursement - RLC pac parent Sharon Newman - Cheq 103	\$69.00		\$384.73
	July 31, 2025	July Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$382.78
	August 20, 2025	Foodsafe Reimbursement - RLC Pac Parent Diane Koehn cheq 104	\$69.00		\$313.78
	August 20, 2025	BCCPAC EGM Registration (Erin Mitchell - Proxy holder for 4 votes) -chq105	\$75.00		\$238.78
	Aug 31, 2025	August Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$236.83
	Sept 10, 2025	Foodsafe Reimbursement - Aberdeen PAC parent Trina Burkatsky -Chq106	\$69.00		\$167.83
	Sept 26, 2025	Annual Community Gaming Grant for DPAC		\$2,500.00	\$2,667.83
	Sept 30, 2025	September Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$2,665.88
	Oct 31, 2025	October Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$2,663.93
	November 30, 2025	November Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$2,661.98
	December 31, 2025	December Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$2,660.03
	January 31, 2026	January Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$2,658.08
	Current Available Balance:				\$2,658.08
	2025/26 Budgeted Expenses Still To Come:				
		Monthly Plan Fee (\$1.95 x 7 mos:) Feb - Aug	\$13.65		
		Zoom Plan for DPAC Meetings	\$265.00		
		Website Hosting Fee	\$190.00		
		Foodsafe Course (2 request received, 8 more available)	\$690.00		
		PAC 101	\$1,000.00		
		Misc Supplies/Expenses for Advocacy projects	\$250.00		
		Total expected to be left over at end of fiscal year	\$249.43		

	Chequing Acct (5366)	Details	Debit	Revenue	Balance
GENERAL		July 2025 Opening Balance			\$3,455.57
	July 31, 2025	July Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$3,453.62
	August 31, 2025	August Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$3,451.67
	Sept 30, 2025	September Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$3,449.72
	Oct 31, 2025	October Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$3,447.77
	November 30, 2025	November Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$3,445.82
	December 31, 2025	December Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$3,443.87
	January 30, 2026	January Bank Fees	\$1.95		\$3,441.92
	Current Available Balance:				\$3,441.92
	25/26 Budgeted Expenses that are still to come:				
		Monthly Plan Fee (1.95 x 7 mos) Feb - Aug	\$13.65		
		DPAC Workshop Honorariums (Music/Babysitting)	\$400.00		
		PAC 101 catering/expenses/misc	\$1,000.00		
		Mileage for out of town participants at meetings (0.60/km)	\$300.00		
		Misc supplies/expenses for Advocacy projects	\$250.00		
		Total expected to be left over at end of fiscal year	\$1,478.27		

	Investor Acct (0446)	Details	Debit	Revenue	Balance
BURSARY		July Opening Balance			\$29.99
	August 31, 2025	August paper statement fee plus account interest (estimated)	\$3.00	\$0.08	\$27.07
	September 30, 2025	Sept Paper statement fee plus account interest (estimated)	\$3.00	\$0.08	\$24.15
	October 31, 2025	October Paper Statement Fee plus account interest	\$3.00	\$0.08	\$21.23
	November 30, 2025	November Paper Statement Fee plus account interest	\$3.00	\$0.08	\$18.31
	December 31, 2025	December Paper Statement Fee plus account interest	\$3.00	\$0.08	\$15.39
	Account closed and balance transferred to General Account				

Next Meeting: No meeting in March. Next meeting April 21st at 6:30pm in person and via Zoom Meeting ID: 849 6862 0676 Passcode: 456446



SD 73 District Parent Advisory Council

Web: <https://dpac.sd73.bc.ca>

Email: sd73dpac@gmail.com

Facebook: [Kamloops-Thompson](#)

[SD73 PAC Discussions](#)

Addendum C: Correspondence



**SD 73 District Parent Advisory
Council**

Web: <https://dpac.sd73.bc.ca>

Email: sd73dpac@gmail.com

Facebook: [Kamloops-Thompson](#)

[SD73 PAC Discussions](#)

February 16, 2026

Dawn Armstrong
President, CUPE 500

Dear Dawn,

On behalf of our SD 73 families, I want to extend deep gratitude to your CUPE membership for their courage, professionalism, and compassion in the wake of the tragic events that occurred in Tumbler Ridge. I would also like to acknowledge the loss of one of your colleagues, Shannda Aviugana-Durand, who lost her life while caring for her students at Tumbler Ridge Secondary.

As families in BC, we have been fortunate to have less exposure to the dangers that other school communities face around gun violence and mental health emergencies. Watching a school community close to us go through these events in real time was extremely heart-wrenching.

Many caregivers experienced a lot of fear, anxiety and uncertainty when heading to school in the following days. As did many children. We are deeply grateful that waiting there to meet their needs the very next day were the caring people that make up our dedicated school community.

We recognize that school staff faced their own unique and very real fears returning to their workplaces after a school shooting. As many of us focused on the needs of our children, school staff around BC exemplified leadership. With calm, warmth, and strength, you put aside what was happening outside of schools and focused on the children in front of you, in the moment. It took extraordinary dedication to your students. Your commitment to guiding our children, while experiencing your own unique fears and grief, speaks volumes about the character and commitment of your members.

Please know how deeply appreciated you are. Our parent community stands with you, supports you, and thanks you for choosing to lead children. They need good leaders right now.

With sincere gratitude,

Bonnie McBride
District Parent Advisory Council
School District 73



SD 73 District Parent Advisory Council

Web: <https://dpac.sd73.bc.ca>

Email: sd73dpac@gmail.com

Facebook: [Kamloops-Thompson](#)
[SD73 PAC Discussions](#)



**SD 73 District Parent Advisory
Council**

Web: <https://dpac.sd73.bc.ca>

Email: sd73dpac@gmail.com

Facebook: [Kamloops-Thompson](#)
[SD73 PAC Discussions](#)

February 16, 2026

Laurel Macpherson
Kamloops Thompson Teachers Association

Dear Laurel,

On behalf of our SD 73 families, I want to extend deep gratitude for the courage, professionalism, and compassion demonstrated by our district teaching staff in the wake of the tragic events that occurred in Tumbler Ridge.

As families in BC, we have been fortunate to have less exposure to the dangers that other school communities face around gun violence and mental health emergencies. Watching a school community close to us go through these events in real time was extremely heart-wrenching.

Many caregivers experienced a lot of fear, anxiety and uncertainty when heading to school in the following days. As did many children. We are deeply grateful that waiting there to meet their needs the very next day were our dedicated educators.

We recognize that walking into your schools that Wednesday was very hard. It took extraordinary strength and dedication to your students. Your commitment to guiding our children, while experiencing your own unique fears and grief, speaks volumes about the character and commitment of our teachers and their dedication to their calling as educators.

Please know how deeply appreciated you are. Our parent community stands with you, supports you, and thanks you for your strength and leadership.

With sincere gratitude,

Bonnie McBride
District Parent Advisory Council
School District 73



SD 73 District Parent Advisory Council

Web: <https://dpac.sd73.bc.ca>

Email: sd73dpac@gmail.com

Facebook: [Kamloops-Thompson](#)
[SD73 PAC Discussions](#)



**SD 73 District Parent Advisory
Council**

Web: <https://dpac.sd73.bc.ca>

Email: sd73dpac@gmail.com

Facebook: [Kamloops-Thompson](#)
[SD73 PAC Discussions](#)

February 16, 2026

Blair Lloyd, President
Kamloops Thompson Principals and Vice-principals' Association

Dear Blair,

On behalf of our SD 73 families, I want to extend deep gratitude to your KTPVPA membership for their courage, professionalism, and compassion in the wake of the tragic events that occurred in Tumbler Ridge.

As families in BC, we have been fortunate to have less exposure to the dangers that other school communities face around gun violence and mental health emergencies. Watching a school community close to us go through these events in real time was extremely heart-wrenching.

Many caregivers experienced a lot of fear, anxiety and uncertainty when heading to school in the following days. As did many children. We are deeply grateful that waiting there to meet their needs the very next day were the caring people that make up our dedicated school community. In particular, school administrators were proactive in their concern about their students and their families and reached out quickly to ensure parents had resources if they needed them.

We recognize that school staff faced their own unique and very real fears returning to their workplaces after a school shooting. As many of us focused on the needs of our children, school staff around BC exemplified leadership. With calm, warmth, and strength, you put aside what was happening outside of schools and focused on the children in front of you, in the moment. It took extraordinary dedication to your students. Your commitment to guiding our children, while experiencing your own unique fears and grief, speaks volumes about the character and commitment of your membership.

Please know how deeply appreciated you are. Our parent community stands with you, supports you, and thanks you for choosing to lead children. They need good leaders right now.

With sincere gratitude,

Bonnie McBride
District Parent Advisory Council
School District 73