

# Executive Board Report – for March 3, 2014

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## Meetings

Executive meeting held February 28, 2014. Discussion included PAC Café, fall conference committee, BCCPAC conference (attendees and scheduling), media and possible strike, individual parent concerns, scheduling of DPAC elections, BCCPAC resolutions workshop, reaching out to out of town PACs, policy 5119, expanded committee of the whole, ad hoc technology committee, trustee forum for fall, Adrian Dix visit.

## Media

- Few media outlets on possible strike

## External Committee Meetings – Education Programs and Planning

Agenda included aboriginal curriculum project, social emotional learning projects, yoga and personal development course.

## External Committee Meetings – Expanded Committee of the Whole

Committee has been presented with overview of revenue and expenses for current fiscal year, and process that goes into these numbers.

## External Committee Meetings – Policy and Governance

Revisions for LGBTQ policy, scheduling of 5119 and review of other policies for March.

## SD57 EdSC - DPAC minutes Feb 03 2014

### 1. Accept minutes

### 2. Review of Committee Mandate

As requested by trustees

### 3. Update on District Website RFP

2 RFP responses – Jan 17 presentations to admin/staff committee

### 4. Business Arising from the Minutes

#### *BCESIS*

Board and staff getting “Open Student” presentation before forming an opinion regarding “Aspen”. Cost of releasing staff for presentation is about ~\$12k

#### *Transfers*

New request to report on the number of transfer requests vs successful transfers. Starting with this year as a baseline admin agrees the report is not overly difficult.

### 5. 2013/2014 Five Year Capital Plan Echo Report

~\$64m for 5 projects that Min of Ed has approved but will not release funding for this year.

### 6. Request from Prince George Montessori Education Society

Request to extend transfer deadline until decision is made on possible school replacement. Superintendent response is transfers can happen at any time in the year.

### 7. South Fort George Family Resource Centre Update

Success story of a closed school. Community attendance of resources available is high.

- Clothesline Program
- Power Play
- Lending Library
- FRC Family Connections
- Baby's New Beginnings
- Northern Health Dental
- Northern Interior Children First Initiative
- Northern Health Child Health Clinic
- Ministry of Children & Family Development

## **Draft wording - Presentation to Board – February 25, 2014**

My name is Sarah Holland, representing the District Parent Advisory Council.

I always appreciate it when members of the public come and present here. Not in a misery loves company sense, but pleased in such a democratic process – that even sometimes works, as in our LGBTQ policy.

I'd like to especially point out the parents who presented from Mackenzie – all of whom have young children – who made this long drive, in the ice and snow, in the hopes that you will not only listen, but communicate out to help with the process they are going through.

Now then, I read with interest in the minutes that apparently, last meeting I requested that siblings of out of catchment children be given priority over children living in a catchment area.

And this makes me think that perhaps I wasn't as clear as I could have been - because that is not the DPAC position.

The official DPAC position is that any process that denies entry to a school to any student should be clear, consistent, and fair.

The choice of who gets into a school should be a decision made in a good process, using good governance, and not just done "because we've always done it this way", or "we don't think there's a problem", or "we don't care enough to check to see if there really is a problem", or "go away and stop talking about policy 5119 already, will you, because we're tired of it". (a view that I admittedly have some sympathy for).

We want you know that there are different choices out there than the ones that you are making, or that you are allowing to happen without actually having to make those choices.

As I said, whichever choice the board decides to make, we do want to know that you're making it from knowledge of the options that are available, and the hard choices that are inherent in this issue.

Please respect the choices that parents make, within the school system, and pay attention to the information that you are sharing with parents. Clear, consistent, correct, understandable – and not requiring a senior administrator at one's side, to interpret what the actual meaning was meant to be, or to point you to a different part that negates what you just read, in yet another different policy.

Thank you for considering these submissions in good faith, and with an open mind.