



District Parent Advisory Council
No. 57 Prince George
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Minutes - DPAC General Meeting

Monday February 3rd, 2020 @ 6:30p.m., Van Bien Training Centre

Attendance:

DPAC Executive: Andrea Beckett (Chair/ECHE), Kim Pryschlak (Vice-Chair/Quinson), Arlene McKibbin (Treasurer/ECHE), Trudy Klassen (Volunteer Director), Amie Thibodeau (Director/Buckhorn), Nicole Laferriere (Director/DPSS), Christa Porter (Director/Glenview)

PAC Representatives or Guests: Laura McKersie (PGSS), Amanda Peters (Blackburn), Lotte Andersen (KRSS), Courtney Whelan (Glenview), Gillian Burnett (BCCPAC Treasurer), Donnie Warren (Nukko Lake)

- 1) Call to order @ 1832hrs by Andrea Beckett (Chair); minutes being recorded by Andrea Beckett, Kim Pryschlak, and Amie Thibodeau; introduced ourselves around the table
- 2) Adoption of Agenda and Adoption of Minutes from last month:
 - i) Adoption of the January 2020 Minutes *Motion:* Kim Pryschlak *Second:* Christa Porter
 - ii) Adoption of the February 2020 Agenda *Motion:* Julie Anderson *Second:* Nicole Laferriere
 - Correction: Adjournment should be item #10 (not a second #9)
 - Add: BCCPAC AGM representatives to be sent and cost coverage to Treasurer's Report
- 3) PAC Networking and discussion
 - a) Question for partner groups: Are graduating high school students being recruited for education programs to help address local teacher shortages, especially in the French Immersion Program?
 - b) Question from the executive: How are PAC's doing with the new insurance booking forms?
Answer: Difficulty finding forms; school secretaries not aware of where they are or who is responsible
 - c) Book promotion: "The Madness of Crowds: Gender, Race and Identity" by Douglas Murray (available via [Amazon.ca](https://www.amazon.ca)) "Douglas Murray examines the 21st century's most divisive issues: sexuality, gender, technology and race. He reveals the astonishing new culture wars playing out in our workplaces, universities, schools and homes in the names of social justice, identity politics and 'intersectionality'"
 - i) it is easier to go from "straight" to gay, trans or cisgender, but much more difficult to reverse the changes after taking hormone therapy - students who decide this path as a result of trauma without counselling and support, may have regret into adulthood
 - ii) DPAC to set up a book and reading resource page/section on the DPAC webpage where relevant books and resources are listed and where to find them (locally)
 - iii) Child Development Centre has parent resources; 211.ca; District Learning Commons
 - d) Bussing: Pineview & Buckhorn have lost their full size wheelchair accessible buses, smaller busses have replaced them so it means children requiring accessibility can't attend field trips with their class
 - i) School district has a contract with Diversified. Accessibility and inclusion piece needs to be taken to the SD57 board, as this needs to be expressively added to the contract between the district and Diversified.
 - this is a piece that the Board needs to address and look into
 - ii) bussing is not a right, it is a privilege
 - iii) contracts between district and Diversified are 5 year contracts; possibly up for renewal next year
- 4) Executive, Officer, and Committee Reports
 - a) Executive Board Report (Chair) - attached to Agenda as a separate PDF

- b) Treasurer's Report - attached to Agenda as a separate PDF
 - i) funds to cover BCCPAC AGM attendance in May 2020 will be taken out of the gaming account
 - ii) Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. *Motion:* Kim Pryschlak *Second:* Amanda Peters
 - iii) Motion put forward for DPAC to fund up to 4 representatives to attend the BCCPAC AGM and conference in Richmond on May 1-3rd (accommodations, flights/transportation/per diem as per DPAC policy). *Motion:* Kim Pryschlak; *Second:* Amie Thibodeau
- c) Director's Reports - none

Partner Groups enter at 1930hrs - Anita Richards (Superintendent), Cindy Heitman (Deputy Superintendent), Sharel Warrington (School Board Trustee), Kelly Johansen (Prince George Principal and Vice Principals Association), Joanne Hapke (Prince George District Teachers Association), No CUPE or DSAC Reps

5) Partner Group Presentations

- a) Review questions
 - i. PAC insurance reimbursement: Funds were sent but Treasurer needs a record. It was combined with annual allotment.
 - ii. Bullying on buses: reviewing the contract with Diversified, exploring cameras. Discussion about full sized accessible buses. Christa will bring it up at Ed. Services Committee.
 - iii. SD57 emails for PAC: update on the process, instructions being sent by Morris (IT Manager) soon. Chair contact their Principal if consent has not been given yet.
 - iv. Remind App: platform for communication at the school level, Anita will look into.
 - v. Office of the Superintendent and subsequent Administration changes in schools: structure change within the Superintendent division, some positions eliminated, Deputy position added. Discussion on District staff changes/announcements not being released to parents, use website, media releases.
- b) District Student Advisory Council - Reported by Christa Porter who's son attends as a Gr. 7 Rep
 - i. In support of Youth Mental Health Day, the District Student Advisory Council (DSAC) is sponsoring Kindness events at several SD57 schools on Feb. 12. The theme is Lend a Hand. Glenview Elementary Leadership Students are making banners in the library and inviting the Primary Students to trace their hands in coloured markers around the border. Then Intermediate Students will add words or phrases of encouragement to self or others. Secondary Schools are proposing Post-it Notes Campaign with positive words, rallies, banners, and presentations. All efforts are completely student led initiatives.
- c) Senior Administration Report - Anita Richardson
 - i. Discussion on timing and reasoning for Senior Administration changes
- d) School Board - Sharel Warrington
 - i. policy review ongoing - board meeting tomorrow for 4 hours to review the first drafts of the revised policies and procedures. This will then drive the review of amended annual budget coming out at the end of February 2020
 - ii. a lot of money has needs to be spent on portables due to capacity issues; government is not financially supporting those issues; costs have to come out of capital funding
- e) Prince George Principal and Vice Principals Association Report - Kelly Johansen
 - ii. kindergarten registration started last week; in the middle of completing registration
 - iii. putting together projection of numbers across all schools
 - iv. student learning surveys are occurring (Grade 4, 7, 10, 11, 12); for both students and parents - very important for schools planning future initiatives
- a) Prince George District Teachers Association Report - Joanne Hapke
 - i. Stronger Schools Together: funded using surplus dollars, schools apply to this program and team to come to their school to support staff and students with challenges
 - ii. Bargaining - BCTF is at the bargaining table with a mediator with the province
- b) CUPE Report - no representative

Partner Groups left at 2039hrs

- 6) Additional Committee Reports and Advising School District
 - a) Education Services Committee Meeting (Feb 3) - attended by Christa Porter - summary below
 - b) Catchment and Capacity (Jan 14) - attended by Nicole Laferriere
 - i) looking at College Heights, DP Todd, Spruceland, Duchess Park
 - ii) catchment lines and boundaries are under review
 - iii) 3 additional portables being added to DP Todd
 - iv) 3 replacement portables at Heritage (aged and need to be replaced)
 - v) PGYSA building not financially feasible to be remodeled or updated for extra space for DPSS
 - c) Policy and Governance (TBA)
 - d) Management and Finance (Jan 20) - attended by Gillian Burnett
 - e) Education Programs and Planning Committee - attended by Gillian Burnett
 - i) what teachers are developing
 - Fly Fishing 12, Hope for Boys, Cultural Connections
 - two of the courses are being offered at PGSS - targeted towards at risk boys who lack mentorship or strong male role models, especially in light of the increase of boys coming from single parent households
 - cultural connections is coming out of the Aboriginal Education department; focused on a way of providing credits for Indigenous children who are engaging in local cultural activities over the summer months or other months/times of the year that they are not in school; a way to tie their cultural lives and learning into the education curriculum in a meaningful way
 - f) President's Table (Jan 27) - attended by Kim Pryschlak - summary below
 - g) School Board Meeting (Jan 28) - no attendance due to illness
 - h) Expanded Committee of the Whole (ECoW) Meeting (Mar 5) - Gillian and Nicole will attend
- 7) Old Business
 - a) Feedback on Parent Café - tabled to March meeting
 - b) First Aid Course - Motion to organize a First Aid Course and subsidize the fee. Need a quote and dates.
 - i) *Motion:* Amie Thibadeau *Second:* Tara Gauthier
- 8) New Business
 - a) Online FoodSafe - more information will be gathered re: DPAC finances and Online FoodSafe costs and discussion will continue at the next meeting.
 - b) Finance Workshop - Trudy will send an email to Gillian Burnett (BCCPAC Treasurer) re: her availability for a workshop.
- 9) Other Business
 - a) Review meeting calendar and confirm DPAC representatives to attend
 - b) Questions/comments to present at the School Board Meeting (Feb 25)
 - c) PAC and parent engagement initiatives; DPAC Conference
 - d) List of questions for Partner Groups for next month
 - e) Agenda items for next meeting - Online Foodsafe, feedback on Parent Cafe, Finance Workshop
- 10) Adjournment - Next meeting **Monday March 2, 2020 @ 6:30pm** at the Van Bien Training Centre

Education Services Committee (Feb 3) - Christa Porter

Welcome two DSAC executive members (Chair and Secretary) attending for the first time.
Congratulate newly appointed Assistant Superintendents in attendance: Kap Manhas, Lee Karpenko

Update from the Workplace Culture Working Group - Ad hoc Committee focusing on Health and Safety of School District 57 employees, students, and visitors. Some topics/initiatives include:

- 1) Photo ID Badges for Staff
- 2) Sign in/Sign out Procedures for Visitors
- 3) Drop off/Pick up Procedures for Parents of Students
- 4) Education on Parking Lot Safety
- 5) Staff Culture Training
- 6) New Employee Training/Onboarding Procedures

Kelly Road Secondary - 75% complete, relatively on budget, on track for Sept 2020 although it will be a transition year with dismantling the old building and putting in field, parking, bus lanes. Discussion on Indigenous art and relevant cultural displays in the school. Incorporating colours representing SOGI on the doorway mats. The Education Services Committee requested a tour in June before the furniture starts being moved in during the summer.

Purchase Orders over \$25,000 to Jan 31, 2020 - Several large POs are related to the ~1 million Wifi Refresh project throughout the District. Funds do not come from the Annual Facilities Grant. \$293K was from NGN funds and the rest was from Surplus money allocated by the Board.

President's Table Meeting (Jan 27) - Kim Pryschlak

Present (possibly incomplete): Darlene Patterson, Anita Richardson, Joanne Hapke, Kim Pryschlak

Please note that these comments are all Kim Pryschlak's interpretations and recordings of statements and discussions.

We looked over the January 28th, 2020 Board Meeting package.

Clarifying Motion since last public Board meeting:

Motion " That the transition process, beginning September 2020 for grade 7 students currently attending Edgewood Elementary School, entitles students, who at the time of transition have siblings enrolled in grades 8-12 in the regular program at Duchess Park Secondary School, to transition to the regular program offered at Duchess park Secondary School", adopted at the December 3, 2019 meeting to be amended to replace "beginning" with "for" and replace "currently" with "who at January 28, 2020 are" and to add "for the 2020/21 school year" after Duchess Park Secondary School.

Rationale: The amendment to the motion provides a clear statement regarding the time frame for the motion and recommends the time frame be limited to the 20/21 school year.

The same clarifying motion was made for students attending Spruceland Traditional Elementary School.

ECoW: Building Stronger Schools

Surplus dollars to fund "Building Stronger Schools". My interpretation is that it is a group that will include a Principal, Teacher and Community Schools Coordinator whose job it is to go into schools and help relieve staff who are dealing with students with behavioral issues so that they can focus on educating their students instead of managing behavioural issues.

Organizational Chart for District Staff

Joanne Hapke asked if an updated chart would be forthcoming. Darlene said it would be now that the many changes at the District office are largely complete.

Assistant Superintendent Positions

Two new Assistant Superintendents: Lee Karpenko (formerly Principal at DPSS) and Kap Manhas (formerly Principal at PGSS)

New Position of Deputy Superintendent given to Cindy Heitman. Job description to come.

Commitment that we should not see a teacher being pulled from a classroom to fill newly vacant Administrative positions.