



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

**Monday December 7, 2020 @ 6:30p.m.**

**ZOOM Meeting ID: 656 7488 7171 Password: Kd5t\*1cv**

**Attendance:**

*DPAC Executive:* Andrea Beckett (Chair), Gillian Burnett (Vice-Chair/STKRSS), Arlene McKibbin (Treasurer), Rickie Mitchell (Secretary/Blackburn), Amie Thibodeau (Director), Laura Weller (Director/CIDES), Christa Porter (Director)

*PAC Representatives and Parents:* Kim Prysclak (Quinson/DP Todd), Nicole Laferriere, Jill Joslin (Valemount Elementary), Tara Gauthier (Spruceland), Jill Irwin (Morfee), Crystal Martin (Glenview), Jodi Wilson (Heritage), Andi Dupperon (Edgewood), Julie Anderson (LDB/DPSS), Richard Parks (LDB), Kaitlyn Anderson (Buckhorn), Wendy Wedman (Pineview)

*Guests:* Debbie Kaban, Monica Berra, Corrine Larue-Madill

***Respecting the beautiful unceded ancestral lands, culture, and people of the Lheidli T'enneh, McLeod Lake Indian Band and Simpcw First Nation.***

- 1) Call to order @ 1832hrs by Andrea Beckett (Chair); Minutes being recorded by Rickie Mitchell
- 2) Adoption of Agenda and Adoption of Minutes from previous meeting(s):
  - a) Adoption of the December 2020 Agenda *Motion:* Laura Weller *Second:* Julie Anderson
  - b) Adoption of the November 2020 Minutes *Motion:* Amie Thibodeau *Second:* Christa Porter  
Correction: Julie Anderson DPAC Rep for Ecole Duchess Park Secondary; not Nicole Laferriere
- 3) PAC Networking and discussion
  - a) Constitution updated and on the DPAC website out for member consultation, review and feedback - it will be voted on at the January 2021 DPAC meeting

**ACTION:** Post revised Constitution and Bylaws on the DPAC website for review and feedback (Christa)

  - b) Resources, presentations and information from the DPAC Summit put on by BCCPAC last month are now available online for PAC's and parents:
    - i. <https://bccpac.bc.ca/index.php/resources/16-dpac-pac/930-2020-dpac-summit-resources>
  - c) New hot lunch resource as shared to DPAC by Blackburn PAC (contact info posted end of the agenda):
    - i. Healthy Hunger: <https://youtu.be/VIAIZihzCKg> is the explanatory video
    - ii. Restaurants preload their menus onto it and so all PAC's have to do is set up an account and confirm the date with the restaurant, then select which of their menu items the PAC's want for the kids
    - iii. It is free for the school and basically all your online ordering is done through that website; if there are local restaurants that are not on the program yet PAC's can approach them and see if they are interested in joining
  - d) For parents interested in detail or updates on lead mitigation in schools, please:

- i. Go to SD57 website - Documents - All Documents - School District No. 57 (Prince George)
- ii. <https://www.sd57.bc.ca/Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx#/=>
  - Search: “lead mitigation”
- e) January DPAC meeting date: Jan 4th or a week later? Decided to move to January 11, 2021
- f) Other information, updates, news or questions brought forward by PACs
  - Hot meal process question: why are we spending so much on it if the school covers it?
  - Took cursive writing out - Is it teacher discretion to still teach it or instruct using it? (to ask partner groups)
  - Using Google Office 365 for schools due to privacy, etc. (school using 365 but only for kids from grade 4 and up) but wanting to know why not all kids can have access / use 365 (to ask partner groups)

Agenda Items 4 and 5 – deferred until after the Guest Presentation and Partner Groups

### **7:00pm - Presentation by Debbie Kaban from SD57 on Student Evaluations in our schools**

Communicating Student Learning - Curriculum and innovation

A breakdown of progress reporting in the school system, what terms are used and what those terms mean

Follow link to watch presentation recording: <http://sd57dpac.ca/2020/12/sd57-curriculum-innovation-presentation/>

Questions:

- Literacy 10 and Numeracy 10 (are they) in French for French immersion students?

Literacy is in both English and French (2 sessions - one for English, one for French)

Numeracy they get a choice between English or French

- Meeting requirements for post secondary education...?

Right now universities are starting to look at their admission standards (not just letter grades but looking at more). More to come on that and there will be parent sessions to help with understanding.

- My Ed is doing a lot to increase function and accessibility

Launched Microsoft Office 365 and My Ed - SD57 is trying to get more proficient

- Asked why Microsoft Office 365 accounts are only offered to grade 4 and up?

Information protected but still had work to do (lots of work to do with district technology - also needs to meet privacy laws and parent understanding). The primary grades will eventually be included.

### **7:30pm – Partner Groups enter**

Anita Richardson (District Superintendent), Cindy Heitman (District Deputy Superintendent), Parrish Child (District Principal and Vice Principals Association), Karen Wong (CUPE Local 3742)

Partner Group Presentations & Reports (*no questions submitted by DPAC this month - requested updates*)

- a) Senior Administration Report: Anita Richardson

Nothing in particular prepared, but hearing questions/speculations if Christmas break is going to be extended. As of Friday nothing was said by the Ministry about changing the plan to have kids in schools. PHO says data says kids are safest in schools, cases connected to schools are relatively low. So Christmas Break will proceed as planned. Always subject to change with Covid.

Cindy Heitman - SD57 has been working on their website to make it more intuitive and easier to use. Also, to fix broken links. She asks us to go check out their web site and see if it's easier to use (check out tabs), links that

didn't work are being fixed so please check it out and what isn't yet done will be within the next couple of weeks.

Where to send feedback when reviewing SD57 website? Please send feedback to Gillian and Andrea at DPAC and they will pass it on.

We are receiving support from the community (donations for hampers) - typically receives enough for 13 families worth of hampers, this year it is enough for 26 families. Communities are really wrapping around the schools, which she is pleased to see.

b) School Board Trustee Report – not in attendance

c) Prince George Principal and Vice Principals Association Report: Parrish Child

Looking for ways to celebrate the season at his school and other schools - is impressed how teachers are really getting creative to show parents and celebrate the learning despite what is going on in the world. Although (he) recognizes it can be stressful. Keeping traditions alive is so important this time of year, particularly this year.

d) Prince George District Teachers Association Report – not in attendance

e) CUPE Report: Karen Wong

No questions. Statement: 2 weeks to go and each day feels like we've worked a week and each week feels like we've worked a month. We are struggling with the Covid and know we are working in one of the safest environments possible if everyone adheres to rules.

Requesting everyone that can, students particularly, to please wear a mask. Physical distance. Be respectful of staying in cohorts. Please have those conversations with your children. It never hurts to have more conversations about this at home.

f) DSAC Report – not in attendance

Questions:

- Cursive writing is out of the curriculum? Is that correct?

A: Yes, it is out of curriculum

Should teachers be instructing in cursive then?

A: Although explicitly out of the curriculum (we) feel communication in multiple ways is important to learn. Not measured for performance in cursive, but is a strategy to teach multiple ways of communication. Not all teachers will use/teach it which are different strategies as with other aspects of teaching.

If your child has trouble with understanding cursive then this is a conversation encouraged to have with your school and/or teacher to figure out something for that student.

- Water safety in schools? Lead in water? Water is tested frequently and is safe.
- Who is checking on distance learning students? It is up to the CIDES teachers to check in on students and ensure the curriculum is followed.

### **Partner Groups exit**

4) Review and Adoption of Executive Reports - *as circulated*

- a) Executive Board Report - Chair (Andrea Beckett) *Motion:* Gillian Burnett, *Second:* Nicole Laferriere
  - b) Treasurer's Report (Arlene McKibbin) – *Motion:* Laura Weller *Second:* Gillian Burnett
- Request for transparency - to supply the bank statement

**Motion** (Nicole): to have the bank details available with the treasurer's report at the DPAC meetings every month to anyone at the meeting; not to be posted on the DPAC web site. Motion Carried

- c) Director's Reports
  - Amie's BCCPAC action to share this report - recommend everyone take time to read it. Lots of pertinent information there. For example, the Truth and reconciliation is going to have a major impact on our schools in future.

**ACTION:** Post BCCPAC DPAC Summit Report on the DPAC website with the Agenda (Christa)

5) Review and Adoption of Advising School District Reports - *as circulated*

- a) Board Meeting – Nov 3rd and 24th (Chair and/or Vice-Chair) – posted with Chair Report
- b) *Education Services Committee - Nov 9th (cancelled)*
- c) *Policy and Governance – Nov 10th (cancelled)*
- d) Education Programs and Planning Committee – Nov 17th - Report posted with the Agenda

6) Unfinished Business

7) Upcoming Committee Meetings

- a) SD57 Public Board Meeting on January 26th, 2021 (Chair and/or Vice-Chair)
- b) Education Services Committee on January 11th, 2021 - Christa Porter
- c) *Policy and Governance – cancelled*
- d) Education Programs and Planning Committee on January 19th, 2021- Nicole Laferriere

8) Adjournment @ 2052 hrs - Next meeting is January 11th, 2021 (*as determined by the membership*)