

DPAC Chair Report for March 1st. 2020

Over the past month the chair and vice-chair have been extremely busy working with the district. Parents and families on a number of advocacy initiatives which has kept us quite busy. In addition, we have been involved in the Policy & Governance review work, the Administrative Policies review work, the Strategic Plan review, and are preparing for the upcoming financial work involved with the Extended Committee of the Whole.

The notice of the Ministry of Education Special Advisors was announced and we welcomed the news, though the role DPAC will play in assisting them during their time in Prince George is not clear yet - as soon as we have more information to provide we will do so.

There is also a lot of work happening on the COVID procedures given the changing directives and the updated version will be available next week. With regards to safety in Music Julie Fischer was very excited to report that we are one of only two districts who have fully implemented all the necessary changes to meet the new safety directives at district expense, which shows how much our district really does value the arts.

Additionally, we have received an update from the district about White Hatter sessions that are being put on by three schools in our district, which will be available for parents to log into:

- Glenview is holding 2 online sessions
- Mackenzie is holding 1 online session
- One other school is also doing a session

So there will be a total of 4 sessions available for parents to log into and join.

We have also been in discussions with the district with regards to what has been happening with the bussing in SD57 - while the district was unable to finalize a new deal with Diversified they have gotten cameras installed on all busses as well as bus drivers with significant additional training and education on how manage and de-escalate children with neuro-processing disorders and other behavioural challenges.

Presentation to the Board for February 23rd, 2021

Good evening trustees, and to all Rights & Stakeholders, and to the Ministry of Education Special Advisors.

Firstly I would like to start by thanking this board of trustee's for meeting with the DPAC executive at the beginning of February and being open to listening to our voices. We appreciate your time and willingness to connect with us in 1:1 manner.

This past month DPAC has been continuing to work on reaching out and connecting in person with each and every single PAC in our district to increase PAC and parent engagement and awareness, as well as improve our ability to support parents and PAC's in advocacy and education matters around inclusion, diversity and equity.

We are also excited about working together with senior admin and the board on reviewing the SD57 Policies, the administrative policies, the upcoming budget work with the expanded committee of the whole and the of course the development of a new strategic plan. As already mentioned, the values of inclusion, diversity and equity are critical to students being able to reach their full potential and be successful in the education system and by extension successful in their later life journey. And as such we are very much looking forward to working with the district to ensure that these foundational values of inclusion, diversity and equity are a core part of the new strategic plan.

DPAC is aware of how much work we and the district face in the upcoming months and year but truly believe that through open, transparent, honest engagement and collaboration it can be done. This work is important will lay the foundation for moving our district forward and for ensuring that students and families have the best possible outcomes and chances for success - as such we appreciate the DPAC and parent voice at the table to ensure students voices and needs are being heard.