



District Parent Advisory Council

DPAC Pulse

February 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Executive Updates	1
President's Corner	2
Volunteering for DPAC	3
Budget process	3
Reconciliation	4
DPAC Executive Emails	5

DPAC Executive Updates

Budget Meetings

- ◆ DPAC Executive attended on February 11, 2020 the budget stakeholders input meeting.
- ◆ PLEASE ATTEND the public **Presentation of the Preliminary Budget on Tuesday April 7, 2020, 7 p.m. @ Winslow Centre Gymnasium, 1100 Winslow Avenue, Coquitlam.**
The Preliminary Budget will be presented at this Regular Public Board Meeting with an opportunity to ask questions.

Your school events on Social Media and DPAC Website

If your school has a community event and you would like DPAC to share it on its social media channels or website, please send a .jpg and a short description to our Communication Coordinator and Newsletter/Website Editor:

Teri Towner, communication@dpac43.ca

Maria Ledezma, newsletter@dpac43.ca

Follow us on Facebook (dpac 43 - District Parent Advisory Council) and on Twitter (@dpac43)

Truth and Reconciliation

Nowadays let's all remember the true meaning of reconciliation, revisit the calls to action by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and think about what reconciliation means to each of us.

"Children must be taught
how to think, not what to
think."
—Margaret Mead

CONTACT US:

Do you have any questions, comments, or suggestions?

Please contact the DPAC at:

Ph: 604.939.3690 || Email: office@dpac43.ca || Web: www.dpac43.ca || 1100B Winslow Avenue, Coquitlam V3J 2G3



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President's Corner, a message from DPAC President

It was impressive to see our members engage with Chris Nichols, Secretary Treasurer for SD43, at our January meeting. The range of questions and depth of understanding was evident from your many inquiries. A school district's budget process is often the most controversial aspect of its annual calendar. We've seen this erupt in other districts with animosity between stakeholders, district administrators and trustees. Thankfully, this is not the situation at SD43. We can commend our trustees and the District Leadership Team for their transparency, teamwork and openness to suggestions. The February 11 board meeting is an example of one such district initiatives that I am very pleased to see. Parents, teachers, students and employees of the district, as well as any other interested parties, now have a public opportunity to speak to the Board respecting their budgetary concerns before the draft budget is prepared and released for discussion. This also gives the Board and the District Leadership Team an opportunity to hear what's at issue on the ground in our schools, where the real impact of budget allocations are felt. I expect this will bare good results for the continued positive relations between all SD43 stakeholders.

In other good news, we see that the concerns and efforts put into responding to the funding formula recommendations appear to have garnered some positive results. As of the announcement from the Minister of Education on February 7, we now know that the recommendations of most concern, including movement to a prevalence based model and change to per student funding from course by course funding, will not proceed at this time. These clarifications should bring relief to the uncertainties faced by Mr. Nichol's department over the past two years, and stability to the current level of support for our children. I would like to thank the district for its efforts in preparing a response to the funding formula recommendations and to our partners in the district, specifically Ken Christensen of the Coquitlam Teachers Association, for leading the charge to make this a collaborative effort on behalf of all district partners. Finally, thanks to all of you for bringing the discussion to the parents in your PAC's.

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Volunteering for DPAC

The DPAC is only as strong as the people who give their voluntary work, so we encourage all those who want to make a difference in our District to consider running for a position on the Executive in May 2020. Maybe you can start to volunteer as our president? Below is the experience of our dear Marvin Klassen!

“This is my second year as DPAC President and I’m still learning about the role. There are the visible tasks like leading the monthly DPAC meetings, DPAC executive meetings and school board meetings. There is the constant need to recruit new DPAC Executive members each year to help fill our positions. But to really keep on top of the role, there are emails from parents and PAC’s with concerns, meetings with members of the District Leadership Team for feedback on policy and procedure items, District committee meetings, SD43 Partner President meetings and the occasional media inquiry. In addition, the President needs to maintain PAC outreach by attending PAC meetings when requested and keeping abreast of Provincial issues through the BCCPAC summits and conference each year. So there are a lot of meetings, but we learn so much from each other when we come together. The sharing of knowledge and the brainstorming of ideas with other parents and members of the education community is simply inspiring. DPAC is focused on education so I don’t think one should be surprised that you keep learning every day in this role. What about yourself, is DPAC President in your future one day? Maybe it should be!”

Important Information and Dates, BUDGET SCHOOL DISTRICT 43

The budget process is a collaborative process involving many stakeholders including the Board of Education, the District Leadership Team, teachers, administrators, staff, parents, and community members. The budget process occurs annually in April and ends with the adoption by the Board of Education of a budget for the coming year.

Multiple opportunities are provided for stakeholders to contribute input throughout the process at public meetings and online.

Regular Public Meeting - Presentation of Preliminary Budget Tuesday, April 7, 2020, 7 p.m. Winslow Centre Gymnasium, 1100 Winslow Avenue, Coquitlam. The Preliminary Budget will be presented at this Regular Public Board Meeting with an opportunity to ask questions.

Special Public Meeting - Stakeholder Feedback Tuesday, April 14, 2020, 6:30 p.m. Winslow Centre Gymnasium, 1100 Winslow Avenue, Coquitlam. This will be an opportunity for stakeholders to provide feedback to the Board of Education on the presented budget.

Regular Public Board Meeting - Final Budget Presentation and Board Approval. Tuesday, April 21, 2020, 7 p.m. Winslow Centre Gymnasium, 1100 Winslow Avenue, Coquitlam. The annual budget will be presented to the Board of Education for approval. This final budget would incorporate changes requested by the Board.



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What is “Truth and Reconciliation”?

As an immigrant to this country, I think I hold a double responsibility to understand what “Truth and Reconciliation” means. My first responsibility is to educate myself, and second, standing next to indigenous and non indigenous people to make sure reconciliation happens. This is the only way to avoid what happened and is currently happening in so many countries, including the one I came from. Please review some of the resources below.

Canada’s First Peoples- <http://firstpeoplesofcanada.com/>

Historica Canada- <https://www.historicacanada.ca/>

Ministry of Education B.C.- <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/aboriginal-education>

Government of Canada Website, Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs
<https://www.canada.ca/en/crown-indigenous-relations-northern-affairs.html>

Residential Schools

100 years of loss- 100yearsofloss.ca

Project of Heart e-book- <https://bctf.ca/HiddenHistory/>

Maria Ledezma, Editor

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Executive Email Addresses

Here is a list of the 2019/2020 SD43 DPAC Executive emails. Please send us any questions, concerns or new ideas to present at DPAC meetings.

Marvin Klassen	President	president@dpac43.ca
Judi Zaklan	Vice President	vicepresident@dpac43.ca
Edward Ram	Treasurer	treasurer@dpac43.ca
Charlie Loo	Secretary	secretary@dpac43.ca
Maria Ledezma	Newsletter/Website Editor	newsletter@dpac43.ca
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Hui Wang	Health and Safety Coordinator	healthandsafety@dpac43.ca
Teri Towner	Parent Communication Coordinator	communication@dpac43.ca
Ally Wang	Member at Large 1	member1@dpac43.ca
Corrie Noble	Member at Large 2	member2@dpac43.ca
Will Davis	Member at Large 3	member3@dpac43.ca
Rayne Johnson	Member at Large 4	member4@dpac43.ca

Next DPAC General Meeting is

April 1st, 2020

“Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence.”

-Robert Frost