



District Parent Advisory Council

**DPAC General Meeting
Wednesday, October 27, 2021
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

Marvin called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
80 participants
55 schools represented – quorum met

Schools with a representative in attendance:

Elementary: Alderson, Anmore, Baker Drive, Birchland, Blakeburn, Bramblewood, Cape Horn, Castle Park, Cedar Drive, Central, Coquitlam River, Glen, Hampton Park, Harbour View, Heritage Mountain, Irvine, Kilmer, Leigh, Lord Baden-Powell, Mary Hill, Miller Park, Moody, Mountain Meadows, Mountain View, Mundy, Nestor, Parkland, Porter Street, R.C. MacDonald, Ranch Park, Riverview Park, Rochester, Roy Stubbs, Smiling Creek, Walton

Middle: Citadel, Como Lake, Eagle Mountain, Hillcrest, Kwayhquitlum, Maillard, Maple Creek, Minnekhada, Moody, Pitt River, Scott Creek, Summit

Secondary: Centennial, Dr. Charles Best, Gleneagle, Heritage Woods, Pinetree, Port Moody, Riverside, Terry Fox

DPAC Executive in attendance: Marvin Klassen – President, Rosey Manhas – Vice President, Jamie Manchester – Treasurer, Judith Obatusa – Newsletter Editor, Zainab Alkassab - Parent Education Coordinator, Ernest Wu – Health & Safety Coordinator, Andrea Howorth – PAC Communications Liaison, Nipa Bhalla – Member at Large, Corrie Noble – Member at Large, Joanne Chng – Member at Large, Rayne Johnson - Member at Large, Laura Code – DPAC Administrative Assistant

Regrets: Ashley Sorensen – Secretary

Special Guests: Trustee Craig Woods, Assistant Superintendent Reno Ciolfi, Craig Mah, District Principal of School Services and Special Projects (Programs of Choice), Josh Keller, Communications and Education Consultant from Post-Secondary BC

Minutes taken by: Laura Code

- **Please send in contact info from your school** to Laura office@dpac43.ca

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION moved by *Terry Fox Secondary*, seconded by *Mountain View Elementary*, to accept the Agenda as amended. **CARRIED**

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

MOTION moved by *Citadel Middle*, seconded by *Dr. Charles Best Secondary*, to accept the minutes from the May 26, 2021 Annual General Meeting. **CARRIED**

3. Treasurer's Report

- Jamie Manchester

- Jamie discussed the financial statement with the group and she said the monthly TELUS bill and all Payroll costs have been paid. She also highlighted the fact that this year's Gaming

Grant of \$2,500 and the School Board Funding of \$10,000 has been deposited into the bank.

4. Superintendent's Report

- Reno Cioffi & Craig Mah

- After introducing themselves and thanking the parents for volunteering their time with PAC, Assistant Superintendent Reno Cioffi and Craig Mah began the SD43 Superintendent's Report for DPAC. This PowerPoint presentation can be found on the DPAC website www.dpac43.ca under Presentations.
- Framework For Enhancing Student Learning
 - o The initial data was presented to DPAC in April 2021.
 - o Among the five student groups, two had strong performances, one had a good performance and two were a focus for improvement.
 - o The successes are attributed to good governance and the strong relationships that are built across the community and within the district.
 - o There was consultation with the Student Achievement Advisory Committee and Reno Cioffi acknowledged Rosey Manhas and Nipa Bhalla and thanked them for their input on the committee.
- Directions 2025: Action Plan for Learning (APL)
 - o APL takes into account Directions 2025, the Framework For Enhancing Student Learning and the Equity Scan. APLs are created at the school level and the current template was launched this year.
 - o How many of you have read the APL at your school? Yes/No, if you haven't seen it, it's on your school's website under the heading About and then click APL.
 - o There are four pages that are included in the APL; Intellectual Development, Human and Social Development, Indigenous Learners and Indigenous Ways of Learning and finally Reflection. Within this document there are goal setting sections, evidence-based plans for action, indicators for success, and school community engagement.
 - o The Reflection page summarizes what the cross-cutting themes of the past year were and helps everyone move forward into the next successful school year.
- K-12 Student Reporting Policy Update
 - o Discussed several items that will be staying the same under the redesigned policy, e.g., 5 mandatory reporting events per year, and then highlighted some of the improvements to the redesigned policy, e.g., student self-assessment and goal setting will be for all Grades K-12, not just Grades K-9. This year working on the implementation of the new policy and getting feedback from the public. Once finalized the new policy will start in September 2022.
- COVID-19 Update
 - o A mask mandate is in place for K-12 and it's going well and the transition went smoothly. There is a news release on the SD43 website www.sd43.ca under SD43 Announcements regarding the potential COVID-19 vaccine mandate for all K-12 staff.
 - o There is limited extracurricular activities to keep the students safe as we go forward in the school year.
 - o Both of them answered several questions that were sent in by parents, as well as, raised by the group. For example, questions about sports in schools and if spectators are allowed to watch the games? There are no spectators and things are moving slowly and cautiously, being very careful and keeping everyone's safety in mind.

5. Planning for Post-Secondary Education

- Josh Keller

- Josh Keller introduced himself and began his DPAC43 Presentation Post-Secondary BC. This PowerPoint presentation can be found on the DPAC website www.dpac43.ca under Presentations.
- British Columbia has the most advanced 'transferability' credit system in North America. The BC Council on Admissions and Transfers (BCCAT) is a government ministry agency, that has an online transfer guide and it can be found on their website www.bccat.ca
- Today, there are 30 members of Post-Secondary British Columbia (PSBC), and there are so many options for students graduating from Grade 12.

- There are three program entry processes;
 - o Competitive Admission – 500 applications for 80 seats e.g., Nursing program
 - o Limited Admission – first qualified gets accepted and it's a competitive process
 - o Open Admission – minimal requirements and it's a non-competitive process
- Admission to Post-Secondary Institutions – Students must keep in mind all of the pre-requisite “minimums” that are required to be accepted in to the college or university programs of their choice. Always check the college and university websites for the most up to date admission requirements.
- High School Counsellors are generalists and not specialists, because they have so many roles and responsibilities, but they are a good resource to get started on the path to post-secondary education. Students and parents must do the application process work.
- Graduation Requirements – Students must complete the new Grade 12 Graduation Literacy Assessment, as well as, the new courses Career Life Education and Career Life Connections (depends on which grade your school decides to offer it for the students).
- It's never too late to apply for post-secondary education, but the earlier the better!
- Ask Your Student the following questions: What do you like to do? What are you good at? What kinds of careers allow you to do that? What kind of environment do you see yourself working in? Indoors or outdoors, city or rural? How do you think you learn best? What is the difference between university and colleges?
- Please know that very few students actually know what they want to do once they graduate from Grade 12. Post-secondary education is part of the process of 'exploring' and many students change their mind. Student experiences are very valuable for the admission process, and parents are advised to start a 'resume' of all of their high school experiences.
- One third of the Post-Secondary BC website www.postsecondarybc.ca is for the parents. You can find a Glossary of Terms, the latest information on all of the virtual parent sessions, as well as, you are able to download credited resources to help you understand the process. Parents can email any questions they might have to info@postsecondarybc.ca
- Parents are to keep in mind, once your student engages in the application process, the student and the post-secondary are in an adult relationship, you as a parent do not have access to the information and the student is the only one who can act on their own behalf.
- Josh answered numerous questions from the group.
- If you have any questions, please contact Josh Keller at joshkeller@gmail.com

6. Executive Member Reports

- DPAC Executive

- Marvin spoke about the French Advisory Committee and he highlight the fact that Canadian Parents for French (CPF) is looking for fresh faces to join their organization. If you would like more information about this organization, please go to the CPF website www.cpf.ca
- If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering for the French Advisory Committee, please contact Marvin at president@dpac43.ca
- Rosey spoke about the upcoming guest speakers DPAC has organized for this year. She said if you have any suggestions regarding guest speakers or hot topics you would like to hear at a DPAC meeting, please feel free to email your ideas to our Parent Education Coordinator Zainab Alkassab at parented@dpac43.ca
- DPAC is working on a succession plan, as this is Marvin's last year as the President, so there may be different Executive members chairing the upcoming meetings.

7. Looking Ahead

- Marvin Klassen

- DPAC's Theme for 2021-2022 is Reconnecting with the Community
- Next DPAC General Meeting is on Wednesday, November 24, 2021 starting at 7:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

MOTION moved by *Pitt River Middle*, seconded by *Walton Elementary* to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. **CARRIED**