



District Parent Advisory Council

**DPAC General Meeting
Wednesday, April 28, 2021
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

Marvin called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
56 participants
40 schools represented – quorum met

Schools with a representative in attendance:

Elementary: Alderson, Anmore, Aspenwood, Birchland, Castle Park, Cedar Drive, Central, Coquitlam River, Eagle Ridge, Glenayre, Hampton Park, Heritage Mountain, Irvine, James Park, Kilmer, Lord Baden-Powell, Miller Park, Nestor, Parkland, Pinetree Way, Porter Street, Roy Stubbs, Smiling Creek, Walton

Middle: Eagle Mountain, Hillcrest, Kwayhquitlum, Maple Creek, Minnekhada, Montgomery, Pitt River, Scott Creek, Summit

Secondary: Dr. Charles Best, Gleneagle, Inquiry Hub, Pinetree, Port Moody, Riverside, Terry Fox

DPAC Executive in attendance: Marvin Klassen – President, Charlie Loo – Vice President, Judi Zaklan – Secretary, Jamie Manchester – Treasurer, Rosey Manhas – Health & Safety, Zainab Alkassab - Parent Education, Andrea Howorth & Nipa Bhalla – PAC Communications Liaison, Corrie Noble – Member at Large, Joy Schiffner – Member at Large, Rayne Johnson - Member at Large, Tara Lyons – Member at Large, Laura Code – DPAC Administrative Assistant

Regrets: None received

Special Guests: Trustee Craig Woods, Trustee Carol Cahoon, Superintendent Patricia Gartland, Assistant Superintendent Carey Chute, Doug MacLean, Career Programs Coordinator SD43, Maureen Phung, Programs Lead, Youth Team, Industry Training Authority (ITA), Tamara Pongracz, Department Head, Trades Access and Instructor at BCIT

Minutes taken by: Judi Zaklan

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

1. Approval of Agenda

- Marvin Klassen explained that there was a change to who would be speaking at the meeting and then he introduced the new guest speakers that were not listed on the original agenda.

MOTION moved by *Gleneagle Secondary*, seconded by *Port Moody Secondary*, to accept the Agenda as amended. **CARRIED**

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

MOTION moved by *Eagle Mountain Middle*, seconded by *Scott Creek Middle*, to accept the minutes from the April 7, 2021 General Meeting. **CARRIED**

3. Treasurer's Report

- Jamie Manchester

- Income Statement 01Jul2020 – 31Mar2021

4. Superintendent's Report

- Patricia Gartland

- Patricia Garland thanked the parents for their work this year, especially during the pandemic.
- BC has had in class instructions all year unlike other provinces.
- Vaccination appointments for all SD43 employees based in K-12 school worksites were available from April 16 – April 19, and as well, some staff/board members were able to attend the pop-up clinic at the Coquitlam Poirier Forum this past Tuesday and today.
- NO outbreaks in schools; exposures have occurred but even classrooms requiring self-isolation have been able to continue remotely.
- Board of Education passed the 2021/22 Budget of \$415,000,000.

5. Future Jobs in Trade

A. TRAIN in Trades

- Doug MacLean

Work Experience 12

- School District 43 offers several programs for students to Train, Work and Explore Trades.
- Doug MacLean says the resumes of high school students are often pretty blank on experience and Work Experience 12 can help.
- Students in Grades 11 or 12 can enroll in the course which combines roughly 25 hours classroom preparation (resumes, cover letters, career investigation, employment standards, etc.) with approximately 80 hours on the job (or related job) that you're interested in.
- Some examples of jobs in the program: veterinarian, cook, firefighter, marketer, plumber. Position might be paid or volunteer.

Work in Trades

- Receive up to 16 high school credits (120 hours = 4 credits).
- Get paid and gain certification.
- If a student works 900+ hours in trade, potential to earn a \$1000 award.

Train in Trades

- Over 20 programs; 1-2 semesters of specialized courses.
- Can earn "Level 1" certification.
- Tuition is free for courses that would normally cost up to \$3,500 (there might be a small fee for books and equipment).
- These are actual reserved seats in highly sought-after programs.
- There are a variety of trades for students whether they are builders, creators, or fixers.
- Please visit the following www.43careers.com for more information on these programs.
- For more information parents are encouraged to email either Doug MacLean dmaclean@sd43.bc.ca or Assistant Superintendent Carey Chute cchute@sd43.bc.ca

B. YOUTH PROGRAMS

- Maureen Phung

- ITA is a crown agency for BC that oversees trades training for over 100 different trades.
- Forecast is for 73,000 job opening over the next decade.
- Technology is in everything we do and in trades as well.
- Students with a combination of STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Arts Math) and trades training are ideally situated. They can create better and more feasible designs.
- Ms. Phung says parents are sometimes worried that if their student enters trades, they will be in trades the rest of their life. However, many students find that trades certification opens other career options: corporate sales, government, business owners, contractors, etc. Ms. Phung herself came from a trades background and now works in government. About ½ of the ITA staff have a trades background.
- To see the full PowerPoint presentation, please go to the DPAC website www.dpac43.ca and it is located on the Documents Page > under Presentations > 2021-04-28 PRS Industry Training Authority (ITA) Future Jobs in Trades DPAC43

C. TRADES ACCESS

- Tamara Pongracz

Skills Shortage

- Shortage of skilled workers due to expanding, replacing, refurbishing, and maintaining infrastructure.
- Canada's infrastructure includes: roads, highways, bridges, water/electrical systems, and even things like public parks, hospitals, and libraries.
- Canada has announced more than \$53 billion in infrastructure spending between 2014-2024.
- In addition, transitioning to a low-carbon economy is expected to create 7-8 million new jobs by 2030.
- Skills shortage made worse by retiring "baby boomers".
- Ms. Pongracz said 3 big things that will influence the future of trades education are digital skills, low-carbon emissions, and automation.

Misconceptions

- She says the push towards pure math might make students reluctant to go into technology trades. She emphasized that many trades use math but it's not the abstract math which some students mean when they say they don't like math. Instead, it is applied math where students use math to solve real-world problems.

State of the Art Training

- Tradespeople will need a combination of technical and non-technical skills to thrive in a digitally connected workplaces of the future: technical, info management, digital communication, virtual collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving.
- BCIT High Performance Building Lab is the first of its kind in Canada and provides hands-on training in zero energy buildings.
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- BCIT Emission Reduction and Research Test Hub (ERRTH) supports new low-emission product development. ERRTH also provides training in Fleet electrification (retrofitting of existing automotive vehicles, railway, marine, and aviation) and first responder training for when there is an accident involving an electrical vehicle.
- BCIT offered the first mass timber building courses. New BCIT Student Housing will be constructed using mass timber (sustainable product that is cost effective, faster to build, and lower carbon footprint than traditional concrete construction).

The Future is Female

- Trades are not just for guys. Several initiatives to help women join the trades: Fall 2021 Tuition Free "Women in Trades" Exploration (15 weeks); Spring 2022 Inclusive Apprenticeship Project-Women's Electrical Foundation.
- BC Construction Association (BCCA) says women are showing gains in the traditionally male industry as a result of better access to trades training and improved work culture. 65% of women responding to BCCA's survey said joining the trades resulted in an increase in wages.

6. Alternative Technology Career Paths

- Charlie Loo

- Charlie Loo has worked in "high tech" careers in several alternative technology industries.
- He says some people believe that "high tech" careers are all about circuit boards or computer programming but that's not the whole story.
- Even in engineering, only a minority (30%) are enrolled in electrical or civil engineering, the majority are in metals and materials or other areas of engineering.
- Jobs in alternative technologies can be "green jobs", such as: working in automotive (alternative fuels), metal processing (extracting value-added materials from mines' waste stream), or construction (automatically lighten/darken windows to reduce air conditioner loads).
- People often mistakenly think that careers in high-tech require university, but there are other paths to technology jobs; technology institutes (like BCIT), trade schools, and non-STEAM faculties (such as finance and marketing) which have important roles to play in getting technology to the marketplace.
- Charlie Loo suggested that many students get turned off by pure (abstract) math and need

to see the very real and interesting problems to which math can be applied. The math curriculum should incorporate real world applications.

7. Executive Member Reports

- DPAC Executive

- Talked about the upcoming BCCPAC AGM that is happening on Saturday, May 1st, as well as, the upcoming Parent Education Conference that is scheduled for May 28 – May 29, 2021. All the information can be found on the BCCPAC website www.bccpac.bc.ca

- DPAC43 Parent Education Presentation online via ZOOM

BC TRANSIT & TECHNOLOGY – DPAC43 PARENT EDUCATION PRESENTATION

- **Date: Thursday, May 13, 2021**
- **Time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm**

Online registration is required for this FREE event.

Please register at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/bc-transit-technology-dpac43-parent-education-presentation-tickets-152031296701>

The guest speakers for the evening are Kurt Pregler, Chief Information Officer from TransLink and Calvin Le Duc, Animator from the Vancouver Animation School.

8. Looking Ahead

- Marvin Klassen

- DPAC Annual General Meeting and Elections – May 26, 2021.
- Parents were encouraged to run for an executive position because there are several important positions that are going to be available and these positions need to be filled for next year.
- If you would like to put your name forward for a position and you do not have a form, please email the DPAC Office and the forms will be emailed to you.
- Please email your completed Nomination & Disclosure Forms for the upcoming election to the DPAC Office office@dpac43.ca by **May 12, 2021**.

9. Adjournment

MOTION moved by *Gleneagle*, seconded by *Kilmer* to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

CARRIED