



District Parent Advisory Council

DPAC General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 – 7:00 PM

In Person at the Education Learning Centre

(1080 Winslow Ave, Coquitlam)

ATTENDEES: Superintendent Nicole Tambellini, Assistant Superintendent Clarke, Trustee Chuck Denison, Jamie dpac, Chris dpac, Jimmy dpac, Madiha dpac, Todd dpac, Sherie dpac, Andrea dpac Admin, Alaina dpac, Nick dpac, Darin dpac. **Elementary Schools:** Alderson, Baker Drive, Blakeburn, Cape Horn, Castle Park, Central, Coast Salish, Glen, Glenayre, Hazel Trembath, Heritage Mountain, Irvine, Lord Baden-Powell, Meadowbrook, Moody, Mountain View, Mundy Road, Nestor, Panorama Heights. Porter Street, Roy Stibbs, Seaview, Smiling Creek, Westwood. **Middle Schools:** Banting, Citadel, Como Lake, Eagle Mountain, Hillcrest, Maillard, Maple Creek, Minnekhada, Montgomery, Pitt River. **Secondary Schools:** Centennial, Dr. Charles Best, Gleneagle, Heritage Woods, Pinetree, Port Moody, Riverside, Terry Fox.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY - Nick Horning

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approved by Smiling Creek, 2nded by Cape Horn.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: From General Meeting October 1st, 2025. Approved by Montgomery Middle, 2nded by Citadel.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Jimmy Fung

Income Statement October 2025

- **General account:** \$46,968.54
 - **Deposits** - \$20,000 from district
 - **Withdrawals:** Phone and zoom license, & executive meeting mileage
- **Gaming Account:** \$5,666.05

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Nadine Tambellini

General News - *'Thank you for being a partner with us in our district'*

- *Forbes Canada's Best Employers for Company Culture 2025* - sd43 listed!
- Trying to visit 2 schools per week to receive feedback.
- District 43 is getting a new website!

District Leadership Team changes - some people retiring, so some new faces.

- *Carey Shute* - Assist. Super. retiring Oct 2025. Responsibilities shared among other Assistant Superintendents, many transferred to Stephen Whiffin.
- *Nita Mikl* - new - took over for Randy Mandhas.
- *Patricia Bigonzi* - new Assistant Secretary Treasurer.

Directions 2030 - feedback survey - went out Oct 6th, collected Oct 14th

- *Thank you! For a great response.* Responses are consistent with the Directions plan.
- Want to keep it simplistic and collaborative. We must be - "Capable (in their abilities), Connected (to each other), and Contributing (to their community)". *"We can do anything, but not everything"*.
- **What's Next**
 - **Oct 14 - Nov 14** - framework developed and informed by feedback by planning committee.
 - **Nov 25** - Board of Education public board meeting - draft framework presented.
 - **Nov 26 - Dec 12** - last opportunity for feedback.
 - **Jan 13** - Board of Educ. Public Meeting - Final framework Presentation.
 - **Feb 1** - Direction 2025 Strategic Framework on website.
 - **March** TBD - Meeting with all City and Municipal Partners.

Child Care

- With a small decline in enrolments across sd43, are looking at opportunities to bring in more daycares.
- Support transition of pilot programs to sustainable child care programs.

Site Updates

- **Hazel Trembath** - got the \$\$\$\$. Cost = ~\$39Million. Will build a 240 seat capacity building. Meeting to discuss timeline in November.
 - **Q - Hazel Trembath - would like more communication with parents about the process.** Parents concerned that 240 seat capacity is too small. **A** - SD43 will start conversations with parents within the next month. During construction communication with school community is planned to be similar to that for Moody Elementary School.
- **Moody Elementary School** - building almost done - will be moving to new site early January.
- **Monty Middle School** - early stages of rebuild.
 - **Q - Moody Elementary original site - what is the future plan?** **A.** Plan is to keep that site as a school zoning to be available for future population growth.
- **Secondary Site on Burke Mountain** - construction moving faster than anticipated.
 - Feedback survey went out to community last week, early. Survey out for 2 weeks.
 - **No final decisions have been made.** - Considering catchment boundaries to reflect the needs and priorities of our school district.
 - **Q - Survey out is just for catchment area?** **A.** Yes.
 - **Q - How was survey sent out?** **A.** Was sent out through schools surrounding it to the families in that community.
 - **Q - Survey stats?** - **A.** Superintendent Tambellini will present at the next meeting.
- **Q - Have budget cuts applied to EAs?** **A** - There were some cuts on provincial level. But sd43 budget is pretty healthy right now. SD43 actually increased EA positions. Put out 10 more in September, and another new 34 positions since.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Achievement Committee (*Jamie and Jimmy*)

French Advisory Committee (*frim = French Immersion*) - Sherie Bohorquez and Todd Gelinas

Language and Culture Coordinator Report: Shauna Beaton-Rae

- 20% Elementary schools in sd43 have a Frim program, 57% Middle Schools have a Frim program.
- Universities no longer require a second lang courses to apply - has affected all language programs.
- **Gov devoted 30Million to supporting early literacy** - k-3 focus, but support k-12
 - Early literacy screening component criteria - teachers now asked to submit data about literacy rates of their students - tools piloted last year. All language programs will benefit from this funding.
- **Official Languages in Education Programming (OLEP) Funding**
 - New - Need to submit a plan to show how the funding will be spent, not just end of year report.
 - There's still a formula based per student - but will be adjusted based on what was spent. Left over \$ may be re-allocated to schools that have a plan that needs more resources.
 - Want to encourage teachers to be ask for what they need.
- **Teacher Shortage** - is a national teacher shortage
 - # Frim practicum students is down in the province - eg. SFU offered 40 places, only filled 23;
 - sd43 is trying to connect with student teachers at both UBC & SFU.
- **Diplome d'études en langue française (DELF) exam**
 - sd43 has highest # students that do it. 276 in 2024-25 students. (<https://delf-dalf.ambafrance-ca.org/presentation>)
 - DELF and DALF evaluate language skills in four areas: oral comprehension, oral expression, written comprehension, written expression.
- **Learning progressions: proficiency descriptor** for K-4 (*new and in progress, hopefully out by spring*)
 - UFLI foundations - 100 lessons - in collaboration with Angeline Humber.

- **Activités Culturels** - Focus this year on French cultural activities that include the following:
 - Missy D coming 3 wks in Jan - musical artist the kids may recognize from Manie Musicale
 - Concours d'art oratoire - May 2026.
 - Festival du film
- **CPF - Canadian Parents for French** (<https://cpf.ca/about/>) (new website still under construction)
 - Needs a representative at every sd43 school!
 - New president and young lobbyist - potential!
 - **Reminder that you don't have to be on PAC to be the school CPF representative**
 - Contact Robyn Doig, president of CPF Tricities Chapter to join. Email: c.d@telus.net

Parent Report : Sherie Bohorquez & Todd Gelinis from DPAC

- **Q. Class size capping for kindergarten. Is funding is being pulled from language programs?**
 - **A. No.** Class sizes and number of new Frim classes created are influenced by both teacher and space resources available over the longterm. *"If we bring in 1 more K Frim class, we need to guarantee now 12 more Frim teachers and classrooms to fully support those students up through grade 12".*

Anti-Racism Committee - Darin Wong & Madiha Kaleem - **Next meeting Jan 29th.**

- 3 Different **surveys** will be going out to a few school communities. 1st to educators, 2nd to school community, and 3rd to students to receive feedback about their school experience. Survey will come out in January. (Only middle and high school students will receive survey)

PRESENTATION - CONCUSSIONS - Shazya Karmali (PhD) from Concussion Alliance.

(<https://www.concussionalliance.org/about-us>) Dr. Shazya Karmali the Research Manager at the BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU), at British Columbia Children's Hospital. Researches injuries across our full lifespan, children through adults. Concussion Alliance is a non-profit organization.

What is a Concussion? - brain contracts when there is an impact to the head. The axons can stretch and break and need time to heal.

- Brain = your information highway. A concussion = a 'traumatic brain injury'.
- Concussion numbers often under reported.
- Rates of concussions in high school is higher than in older athletes.
- \$400 Billion global cost to society.
- 'Precarious Traumatic Brain Injury' - with or w/o loss of consciousness. There is a time window of vulnerability for re-injury.
 - Subtle symptom onset, immediate or delayed. Symptoms can last day, weeks, or months.
 - Can't be seen on imaging.

Active Recovery - Current research supports an 'Active Recovery' which includes relative rest, and light exercise. Multidisciplinary approach to recovery is best.

- Important to recognize that after a 1st concussion - (if player continues to play), they are 3 times more likely to sustain symptoms and take longer to recover.

CATT - Concussion Awareness Training Tool. (Found at: cattonline.com)

- Courses recently updated. E-learning course for 8 different communities - a learner centered model.
- **Courses available 24/7 for FREE.** Receive a certificate upon completion of each course. Can take as many as you wish.
- **CATT for Youth** - high school aged. - interactive course with videos and personal stories. Looks at 'What is a concussion?' 'How can I manage symptoms?' 'How and who to ask for help'.
- **CATT for Parents and Caregivers** - video based - helps parents and caregivers support their child.
- **CATT for School Professionals** - aimed for teachers, learning assistants and administrators. 'How to identify a concussion.' 'How to support a student coming back from a concussion.'
- **Resources** - many different charts showing 'Return to School' steps after a concussion. Info sheets, Posters, medical clearance letter template. Available in English and French.
- **CATT is mandated** by BC school for sports. Also mandated for All school coaches and university athletes.

Q. - Do you do anything with BC soccer or other organizations? **A.** BC soccer does offer the course. Some organizations mandate the course, others recommended it.

Q - Does research look at appropriate time for contact in sports? Compare with other countries?.

A. Research does exist. It's organization specific in terms of how much they relay to their coaches.

Q. - B/c teachers run gym time in lower grades. Is there intro of the course to teachers degree program? . A. Not at this time, but will bring it forward to them.

Dr. Karmali is happy to do presentations, host webinars, host professional development programs, or in-class presentations. No cost to presentations.

LOOKING AHEAD - Jamie Manchester - Next meeting November 26, 2025 on Zoom

ADJOURNMENT - 8:19pm motion - approved by Smiling Creek. 2nded Castle Park.

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