



# SIBLING GROUP

Kinsight's Sibling Group is based on the Sibshop model, which promotes opportunities for siblings of children with special health and developmental needs to obtain peer support and education within a low-pressure, recreational context.

We welcome the siblings ages 9-14 of children with extra support needs to register for this in-person event.

**Registration is required.**

**MAY 4TH**

**6:30 pm – 8:00 pm**

Tri-Cities Children's Centre  
#101 - 2312 St. Johns Street, Port Moody

**REGISTER  
NOW**

Questions? Contact Emily Jamieson at  
[ejamieson@kinsight.org](mailto:ejamieson@kinsight.org)

**Kinsight**



604-525-9494



[www.kinsight.org](http://www.kinsight.org)



# NOW & NEXT BY PARENTS, FOR PARENTS

Now and Next is an evidence-based, internationally recognised program designed to help you create a vision and plan for yourself, your child, and your family. It's a chance to turn I wish into I'm going to. To find out more about the program, scan the video QR code below. We know your time and energy are precious. In just a few sessions, you'll walk away with:

- Clarity and confidence in setting goals for yourself, your child and your family
- A practical toolkit to help you make the most of services, even when funding is limited
- Strategies for partnering with professionals and other supports
- Renewed energy and hope for what's ahead

You're not alone on this journey – Now & Next alumni stay connected through a growing parent network. We invite parents and caregivers of children with extra support needs up to 8 years old to join us.

**FREE | 5 SESSIONS**  
**REGISTER NOW**



**MAY 6<sup>TH</sup>, 13<sup>TH</sup>, 20<sup>TH</sup>, 27<sup>TH</sup> & JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup>**  
**12:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

**The Welcome Centre**  
**820 6<sup>th</sup> St, New Westminster**

Questions? Contact Rebecca at [rfisher@kinsight.org](mailto:rfisher@kinsight.org)



# DPAC General Meeting Minutes

Wed., April 29th, 2026 – 7 PM In Person

DPAC Social: 6:30pm-7pm

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY – *Madiha Kaleem*

**ATTENDEES:** Superintendent Nadine Tambellini, Assistant Superintendent Jeremy Clarke, Assistant Director of Communications Ken Hoff, Jamie Manchester dpac, Chris Hilliker dpac, Jimmy Fung dpac, Nick Horning dpac, Darin Wong dpac, Todd Gelinac dpac, Madiha Kaleem dpac, Andrea B dpac admin.

**Schools: Elementary** - Alderson, Castle Park, Central, Coast Salish, Eagle Ridge, Glen, Glenayre, Hampton Park, Harbour View, Hazel Trembath, Heritage Mountain, Irvine, Mountain View, Nestor, Panorama Heights, Parkland, Porter Street, Smiling Creek, Roy Stibbs, Walton, Westwood. **Middle:** Como Lake, Kwayhquitlum, Maillard, Maple Creek, Montgomery, Summit. **Secondary:** Charles Best, Gleneagle, Heritage Woods, Inquiry Hub, Pinetree, Port Moody, Terry Fox. *Thank you!*

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Approved by Smiling Creek, 2nded Harbour View

**2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** From General Meeting February 25th, 2026 - Approved by Parkland, 2nded by Glen.

**3. TREASURER'S REPORT:** Income Statement May 2026 - *Jimmy Fung*

- **General Account** - \$36,450.40
- **Gaming Account** -\$7,166.05
- **Costs** - payroll, bccpac conference, Telus.
- **Reminder** - Gaming Grant Application process has opened - have until June 30.

**4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT– *Nadine Tambellini***

- **Budget Passed for 2026-27**
  - No layoffs & recalls for 2026-27.
- **May 5th - Admin reassignment** coming up - where administrators retire/go on leave/move to different sites/join admin in new roles.
- **May 15th - Emergency Release** - Please make sure have a backup pick up person.
- **Direction 2030** - Setting 3 clear goal areas and multiple Objectives
  - **Working on Action Plans** (3 person goal) that the district will do to move forward towards goals set. - Finished the action plans as of Today April 29th, and will bring them to the next board meeting. Will go live in June.
  - **Action plans** - they change yearly - district will report back about success and/or challenges encounter when put in place.
- **June 2026 - New Websites** - both school and district websites.

**5. FEATURE PRESENTATION - COMMUNICATION WITH SD43 PARENTS & CAREGIVERS**  
**Assistant Director of Communications – Ken Hoff**

- Looking forward to the **new website**. Aaand, looking into **creating an App** that can use with the website.
- Hoping to reflect back feedback have received from families within our district.

**Survey Snapshot - Focused on communication experiences**

- Sent surveys to - Parents and caregivers, and Elementary, middle and secondary schools.
- Survey showed some strong themes. Note not every family has had the same experience.

## Overall Comm Experience

- Communication is regular but can feel overwhelming
- Clarity and Relevance matter more than volume.
- Timely info is especially important.

## How parents access info

- Smart phones, Tablet, Desktop or laptop computer.

## How are people getting info?

- Bulletin, paper handout, pac or dpac, word of mouth, direct email, school newsletter, school website, district website, ads on local news, social media, school - based app, other.
- **Preferred** - direct email from district, direct email from principal, school newsletter, school website, district website, social media (some like, some parents strongly do not want to rely on it).

## Accessibility and ease of use

- To many platforms and logins create barriers. Parents want fewer systems - not more.
- More platforms are needed now to reach parents 'where they are'. (Ken excited about the 'App' they are looking to make smartphone and tablet friendly.)
- Also looking to make website more accessible - zoom in/out, translation abilities, etc.

## Emergency & Urgent communication

- Speed and clarity critical.
- Challenges to make sure info is accurate and confirm accuracy. Challenge to move through/ access all needed points of communication.

## What Changes you'll see

- Clearer, more concise email.
- Fewer platforms where possible.
- More consistent emergency communication.
- Practical improvements.

**Thank you** - "feedback should lead to action"; and "sharing back builds trust".

## Q&A Session

- **Q - PAC - gr 11 & 12 levels - trying to keep up with everything challenging. Look to calendar on the website. Asking about the App and how it can help? A.** The calendar on the app, may be able to filter/sort info wish to find out. Can apply to certain info channels to receive and follow a specific source of info.
- **Q. Will the App come out with the website? A.** Soft launch of website in June. App will come out after the Website.. over the summer? Also noted that nothing has been deleted, all past info in still there and comes up in searches, will streamline outdated info from the site.
- **Q. Will the website be translatable to other languages? A.** Planning that website itself is translatable, and the App as well. Maybe not all detailed info, but planning that the main info and messages should be translatable.
- **Q. Will the student absence reports stay the same and available on the website? Will there be a standardized student absence report on the new website? A.** It is not standardized yet on the new website. Looking at attendance patterns and how can help. Hopefully there will be a standardized system next year. Some admins have a preferred method to confirm absences.
- **Q. How can confirm the right child is calling in absent. A.** Some have a call out method to confirm. Some schools have unusual blocks in the schedule timeline. Every school has their own call out time to confirm, for some schools it is in the afternoon.
- **Q. Sharepoint? A.** Believe it's a solution by a company called Social bundle?
- **MyEd? A.** Is a provincial program, and the district cannot change it. However, there is supposed to be an update coming out that is more smart phone friendly.
- **Q. Suggest include a chatbot or AI on the website for common questions? A.** There is work around including AI chat as well as a search function.
- **Q. Emergencies - what if technology gets shut down. - Can we build in alerts? A.** Cellular service should be more reliable than other - an app may still be usable.
  - **Q.** Suggest live vs an AI bot - concerns about source of info. **A.** Would actually be an AI agent - means it would be restricted to only pulling info from the website itself.

- **Q. Can you capture best practices and share that? (Like Mr. Craig Mah used to). A.** All VPs partner with principals before move into new position. Have also focused info sessions for anyone moving up into vp or principal positions at all levels of school. Mr. Mah developed the course for sd43 new administrators.

**ACTIVITY RESPONSES - *If you have more questions or feedback? Email [information@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:information@sd43.bc.ca)***

- Discussion about pros and cons about communication.
  - Bullet point main info.
  - Formatting is key in emails. Colour coding can make an email easier to scan. Categorization.
  - Select click titles to access more info and/or pdfs for further info.
  - App could be a way to post and build interest for community/PAC events?
  - App is an opportunity to meet parents outside of the email 'overload'.
  - Recommend to monitor the amount of info coming out in September.

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### ANTI RACISM - *Madiha Kaleem*

- **Survey** was sent out to schools about racism and inclusion from the district.
- Only staff received open ended survey questions.
- Number of respondents satisfactory, but questions raised about how representative the survey was of the districts diverse population. An email was sent out from a group with concerns.
- Talked about creating focus groups.
- Assistant Superintendent Jeremy Clarke and Wendy Yu - in talks with UBC about a **Masters course for teachers for equity training.**

### TECH ED COMMITTEE - *Todd Gelinis*

- Todd has seen the **new website** - and **is better** than what we have.
- Both the district and school websites will be upgraded.
- Staff at each school will be putting relevant information on the website for each school.
- **Translations** - can translate menus and follow visitor around the site. Pictures/pdfs can't be translated, but other info will be.
- Challenge for district is to combine all 'groups' together to simplify.
- **AI is increasing hardware costs** - costs for computer has increased significantly. Affects the subsidized computer program for kids.

### FRENCH COMMITTEE - *Todd Gelinis*

- *French Immersion is not just a language program, is also a "cultural program".*
  - (Missy D, French chef, etc.)
- **Coquitlam River Elementary** is getting another French class.
- District working to maximize French availability.
- **Funding** in French program to get resources that are language appropriate for the program.
  - District is working on delegating funds fairly and correctly to make sure schools that need funds can receive them.
- District has postings up for **French teachers.** - seeing our own students coming back as teachers.
- **CPF - Canadian Parents for French - callout for parents to get involved - Need 1 parent per school! CPF rep does not have to be on PAC.**
- **Mallairville French Summer Camps** - a lot of the counsellors are sd43 students.

## 7. OPEN FORUM

**Q. Charles Best has 2 semesters. Do all high schools us the 2 semester system? Or do some have the 3 semester systems. Is the 2 term system vs linear system a disadvantage to access to post secondary programs? A.** All sd43 high schools are semester system. Grade 12. There is no disadvantage to when they take a course. Vancouver district has linear system - take all classes all year - to note they don't get final mark any earlier than we do. Semester system does not make a difference in their application. A lot of universities consider more than just marks - a broad based application. Universities rank

students in their application process. Also to note some students try for early admission? District and principals do talk to students about the importance of grade 11 course grades.

**Q. Concern about grade 10 grades under the proficient vs extending grading system? Difficult for students determine where they stand on the grading system to prepare for university. Also concerned about self evaluations at that level are difficult to use as feedback.**

**A.** The grading system starts at grade 10. Reporting method set by province. District working about how to clarify the reporting. Teachers are also required to complete a student evaluation report.

**A.** Specific resolution passed by new BCCPAC to advocate about concerns about the current provincial grading system.

**Q. A comment/feedback from parent - Last PAC meeting - Unveiling of Burke Mountain Secondary. Appreciated the information shared about the process of establishing and hiring for the school.**

**Q. Does the district have a criteria at district level for determining if an external subject matter expert should be brought in to teach a subject? (Eg. Sexual health). What is the criteria that you need to satisfy to bring an external person in? A.** With sexual health - it is part of the curriculum. PACs may bring in experts to supplement what happens in the classroom. It is determined by the individual school if the expert is brought in. Are protocols before people can come in.

**Q. Is sexual health taught in middle school? A.** Yes, there is curriculum component about sexual health.

## **8. LOOKING AHEAD - Jamie Manchester**

**BCCPAC AGM Updates - Darin Wong, Chris Hilliker, Jamie Manchester & Sherie Bohorquez.**

- **Congratulations to Darin Wong** - elected in on the bccpac executive as a Member At Large!
- Are about 1600 pacs and dpacs across the province. Membership is now ~500. Being a member is an opportunity for bccpac to bring the voice of parents directly to the province.
- BCCPAC has had its ups and downs, and believes it is now on its way back up!
- Looking to increase engagement back into the bccpac again.
- Are a number of committees coming up in the new year - and want to encourage everyone to get involved.
- Were also a number of resolutions moved forward this year.
- ***This is our democratic voice. We hope we can empower this opportunity.***

**Next Meeting, DPAC AGM – May 27<sup>th</sup> (In Person)**

**ADJOURNMENT - 9:00 - Moved by Smiling Creek. 2nded by Heritage Mountain. *Thank you!***

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