



District Parent Advisory Council

DPAC General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 25th, 2026 Via

ZOOM - 7:03 PM

ATTENDEES: Superintendent Nadine Tabellini, Assistant Superintendent Jeremy Clarke, Trustee Chuck Denison, Ben King SD43 Principal of Career Programs, Jamie Manchester (President), Chris Hilliker (VP), Sherie Bohorquez (Secretary), Jimmy Fung (Treasurer), Darin Wong (dpac), Madiha Kaleem (dpac), Todd Gelinias (dpac).
Schools - Elementary: Alderson, Birchland, Cape Horn, Castle Park, Central, Coquitlam River, Eagle Ridge, Glen, Glenayre, Hampton Park, Hazel Trembath, Irvine, Lord Baden Powell, Moody, Mountain Meadows, Mountain View, Mundy Road, Nestor, Panorama, Panorama Heights, Rochester, Roy Stibbs, Westwood.
Middle: Banting, Eagle Mountain, Maillard, Minnehada, Montgomery, Moody, Maple Creek.
Secondary: Charles Best, Gleneagle, Heritage Woods, Inquiry Hub, Pinetree, Port Moody, Terry Fox.
Other: Kornfeld LLP, Maddie.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY – Jamie Manchester

APPROVAL OF AGENDA : Approved by Chris, 2nded Glen Elementary

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES : From General Meeting January 28, 2026 - approved by Lord Baden Powell, 2nded Coq River

TREASURER’S REPORT - (Income Statement February 2026) - Jimmy Fung

General fund: \$40,661.92

Gaming Fund: \$7,166.05

Costs: \$1,456.58 (Director’s Insurance, Parent Education, Admin, Office supplies, Phone)

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – Nadine Tambellini

- New secondary school name confirmed to be : *Burke Mountain Secondary*. Next Burke Mountain Reps’ meeting is April 7th.
- **Communication Networks:**
 - **Family survey** going to be sent out beginning of April
 - Dpac review of results April 29th
 - **New website to launch in June** - hoping to increase opportunities to communicate with sd43 community and parents
- **Sd43 safety protocols**
 - **Tumbler Ridge** - will be rebuilding a new school building.
 - *Acknowledge uncertainty with events over the past month, 2 ‘hold and secures ‘ incidents and Tumbler Ridge. Confident our schools are safe.*
 - Polices have pro-actively increased their presence in our school community
 - Will review communication and safety protocols - school board debriefed with partners and police every day after the events.
- **Directions 2030 update - New format!**
 - “Thriving, Inspired, and Empowered Learners”, “Interconnected Communities”, “Safe and Caring Environments”.
 - Key Motto: ‘Capable, Connected and Contributing’
 - 3 Action plans/areas of objectives - strong foundations skills in literacy and numeracy; innovative instructional and assessment practices; future-ready technical, career and life skills.
 - *Will be up on website in April - sneak peak next page :D*



DIRECTIONS 2030

Thriving, Inspired, and Empowered Learners

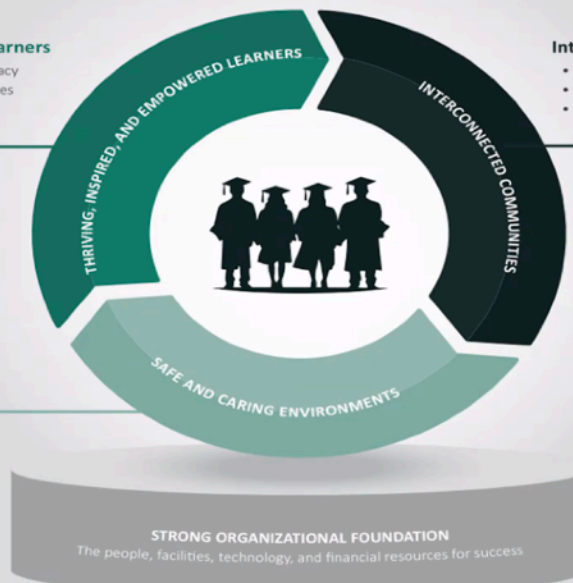
- Strong foundational skills in literacy and numeracy
- Innovative instructional and assessment practices
- Future-ready technical, career, and life skills

Safe and Caring Environments

- Equity, inclusion, and diversity
- Resilient, courageous, and caring students
- Wellbeing and belonging

Interconnected Communities

- Family, caregiver, and community voice
- School, local, and global perspectives and engagement
- Indigenous ways of learning, knowing, and being



**CAPABLE.
CONNECTED.
CONTRIBUTING.**

• Student Voice and Initiative

- **Riverside Secondary** - visiting with a few teachers and 'social justice class' - involved in recommendations to City of Pogo for new Gates Park Playground re: inclusive design.
- **Mountain Meadows Elementary** - with Jeremy Clarke and Wendy Yu - brought red cross leadership students from Pine Tree Secondary who did a facilitated activity for grade 4-5 students on anti-bullying and anti-racism.
- Inequality vs Equality vs Equity vs Justice. (See slide). "Fairness is not Sameness"
- **Q: Prov Gov - to reduce funding - to take away support for 2 of 3 categories of autistic youth. Has there/have there been discussion about impacts of this? A.** Conversation already with Andrea Hunter. Can invite her to April meeting. Can't take on supports missing outside the school system, but will see if can better connect families to outside services.
- **Q: NDP did promise more councillors into schools. Did not see that happen. Discussion about that in sd43? A.** Still looking into what the provincial budget means. Sd43 higher in terms of ratio for providing counselling. Will bring more info.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Learning Services Advisory Committee Notes - Sherie Bohorquez

- **2026-27 Enrolment** - Expect fewer kindergarten learners next year. But *have more Kindergarten students coming in with designations than we have grade 12s with designations leaving.*
- **Needs Assessments** - Jill Della Vedova or Andrea Hunter (with zone coordinator) visited each school to meet with their learning services team to review student needs. This info used to inform the allocation of EA funding. Also try to keep track of students without an official designation.

- **Focus Day Conference:** offered at 2 sites for teachers and learning assistants. Very well attended! Session topics included - self regulation, literacy, how to handle complexities in the classroom, executive functioning etc.
- **\$30M Literacy Grant** announced last year for K-12 used to develop mandated literacy assessment process, starting with lower grades. Next year all K-3 assessed.
 - English students screened last November. French learners screened January-February. All re-screened in May.
 - Sd43 has used their portion of \$ to create a team of instructional teachers to use in the classroom.
- **Kindergarten Project:** Early Learning Coordinator & Inclusion Support Team working on programs & supports for schools with larger numbers of kindergarten learners with complex needs.
- **Kinsight:** Lots of *workshops* for families of students with special needs. See *dpac newsletter*.

GUEST PRESENTATION: Ben King – SD43 Principal of Career Programs

'TRAIN in Trades' (43Careers.com)

- Since 2023 has been serving as Principal of trade programs. Is very approachable.
- **Career Programs Team:** Joanna Horvath - WORK in Trades program; Ashley Impellezzere - Women in Trades & Indigenous peoples in trades programs. (~10% of trades staff are female)
- **What do we offer? - An opportunity to start career before graduation.**
 - There is a shift in understanding of what a 'trades' skill is.
 - Free tuition, grade 12 credits, & Post Sec experience,.
 - Support before/during/after your trades program.
- **Who is eligible"? - Any student on track to graduate.**
 - Must be a sd43 enrolled student before the intake date.
 - Employment reality right now - almost certain that if you complete a program you are hired. Graduation allows you to move up in the future.
- **Commitment**
 - Expectation that you have to be mature enough to handle post secondary education & training.
 - 60-80% Learning is Theory & Textbook learning, 20-40% hands-on learning.
 - 1-2 hrs homework per night.
- **Rewards**
 - **Goal** to get a **Red Seal** — allows to work anywhere in country, some can work internationally.
 - Even if don't finish the program, can still **help to find employment**. (Trades options examples - heavy duty equip tech, hairstyling, welding)
 - To **Get Level 1 "technical training" certification** - need 70% and above in grade 12 grades.
 - **Can earn credits** : Ministry of Education credits at gr 12 level if >= 50%; Skilled Trades of BC certification if >=70%; some Post Secondary credits as well.
 - If start the Trades program before graduate - **can skip some of the wait lists** to get into the program in Post Secondary institution.
- **What happens after training**
 - Goal is to get a Red Seal Endorsement.
 - When finish training with program - then look for an apprenticeship.
 - (Have had 40+ employer groups come to meet students in the program)
 - You then do 2-5 years of paid apprenticeship training. Each employer has a different payment/training system.
 - After Graduate - can reconnect with Career Programs Team about first year of employment.
- **Goal of Trades Programs - To make sure most students in this district are aware of all the possible paths available to them. Even to find out what they 'don't like'.**
- Help to make connections & meet people in the fields from base to management positions.
- To Contact Ben King - can email him directly at bking@sd43.bc.ca
 - Can book with him to meet with him and the student interested.

- **Q. How many students are in these programs? A.** - 140 students at post secondary and ~ 400 students involved overall.
- **Q. Are you seeing increase in # students over the years? A.** Started out with 75-80 students, over last 2-3 years are now doubled. Have now a few hundred students over the 25 trades introduced.
 - **A.** Are trying to expand to introduce trades over the K-12 and not just in post secondary.
- **Q. How competitive are the spots? if the student is at a Dif school from training how can apply? A.** Apply online. Competitiveness varies year to year. Most competitive is electrical, but has most spots. *Try to apply before Spring Break.* Student will go to the school with the training. Includes and interview and the student needs references, then if accepted will work with family to bring the to the program.
- **Q. If younger student - gr 8-9 who already knows they want to do a certain trade, what oppportunities available to them? A.** Ask about the 'careers exploration' program in middle school. As soon as they have a drivers licences, can apply to join a trades program.
- **Q. Are there also programs geared towards non-trades where a grade 11 & 12 students can get pre - post secondary experience opportunities? A.** Are looking at increasing credit options for those as well. Exs - Credit program to Emily Carr; ACE program (spend a year working). Is a 3rd program as well. Is being looked into.
- **Q. Do you partner with any private post secondary institutions, or just public? A.** Do partner with UAPEC? The credits must be a part of a ministry list of accepted institutions.

LOOKING AHEAD - *Jamie Manchester*

- **April 8th Stand Alone Event - with MLA Honourable Jodie Wickens, Minister of Children and Family Development – (Submit Qs through form until March 11th)**
 - Her job description - Jodie was a strong advocate for early intervention therapy, quality accessible public education and social justice, using her wealth of experience as a Director of Programs and Services at SHARE Society, a prominent non-profit organization in the Tri-Cities.
 - (Responsibilities different from The Minister of Education and Childcare, Honourable Lisa Beare.)
- **No General Meeting in March**
- **Next general meeting, April 29th (IN PERSON :D) 6:30pm – DPAC social and Open Forum**
 - Reminder - all positions (except president) are open to apply to/or nominate someone to.

ADJOURNMENT - 8:10pm - Glen Elementary motioned, 2nded Eagle Mountain.

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