



DPAC General Meeting Minutes



September 28, 2015

a. Opened—7pm

Attended By:

- ASIA North Poplar Elementary, Mouat Secondary, Rick Hansen Secondary, Abbotsford Traditional Secondary, Abbotsford Middle, Sandy Hill Elementary, Auguston Elementary, Godson Elementary, Dr. Roberta Bondar Elementary, ASIA Sumas Mtn Middle/Secondary, Chief Dan George Middle, Centennial Park Elementary, Margaret Stenersen Elementary.

b. Welcome and introductions:

Superintendent- Kevin Godden

Trustee in attendance: Shirley Wilson- Vice Chair, Board of Education

Special Guests: Evelyn Budzinsky -Habitat for Humanity

c. DPAC Executive Introduction

Chair Person- Heidi Smit Vinois

Vice Chair- Sherri Anderson

Secretary- Rani Gandha

Treasurer- Keri Thompson

Directors- Tracey McClelland

d. Evelyn Budzinski- Habitat for Humanity

- Habitat for Humanity is sponsoring a fundraising event on Saturday October 3rd at Abbotsford Center from 3:30 – 4:30.
- This presentation will be open to students from Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Mission for an experience of outer space adventure with Canadian Astronaut Col. Chris Hadfield.
- The matinee session has been organized with the help of school districts and it is aimed at Middle and Senior Secondary School students.



DPAC General Meeting Minutes



- iv. Students can participate in fundraising or a donation of \$10 will be required at the door. All proceeds will go to Habitat.

- e. Shared Learning Conference- Start with Strengths October 15th
 - i. By popular demand, due to the success of the parent portion of last years Shared Learning Conference, DPAC is excited to be presenting the upcoming FREE event 'Start with Strengths: Change the lens, Change the Story'
 - ii. This event will take place on Thursday October 15th at 7 PM Abbotsford Arts Center. Presented by Chris Wejr, Principal, James Hill Elementary School (Langley) and Karen Copeland, Parent, Champions for Community mental Wellness.
 - iii. It is open to parents, teachers, guardians, school staff, community members and youth.

- f. DPAC Admin Business:
 - i. BCED Information- Kevin Godden
Notification from the school district will be sent out soon regarding the new curriculum. It will impact all students in the district. The new curriculum will meet the expectation from schools to have flexibility, more options for secondary students, reduce the number outcomes for teachers so they attend to the students' needs individually. Competency expectations will be to focus on critical thinking, problem solving, entrepreneurship, career planning, healthy living and social responsibility across the curriculum
This year the new curriculum is being introduced from grades k to 9 and next year it will be grades 10-12. The program for these grades will be mandated the following year.
Report card reporting criteria will be formed with parents input to ensure information presented will be meaningful and meet the ministry requirements.
District will also be working out the details to the Grad program this year and expect feedback from parents for suggestions.

 - ii. School Planning Council (SPC)
The SPC has been removed as a requirement from school as of July, 2015. Instead of the SPC, another advisory committee will be formed by principals to build a program for engaging parents in the school and create a process. There will be no set criteria as it was with SPC for



DPAC General Meeting Minutes

number of participants in the group. However the new committee will still be required to focus on school goals such as literacy, budget, resources, etc. District will consult with parents to get feedback for the new advisory committee and by spring break schools will have the complete details to implement for next year.

iii. Open Floor Discussion/ Other Information Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA)

The FSA program has also been removed as the new curriculum is introduced.

Missing Data Discussion

Student data (across BC) from 1986 to 2009 is missing. Information was saved as a back-up during the software switch during summer and has not been located. More details will follow from the Ministry as it becomes available.

School Survey

About 2,000 parents completed the survey last year which was very helpful for the district. There was lot of positive feedback with many suggestions for improving the system. Participation level was reasonable, but more is always better.

Student Count

As of September there are 80 more students than expected in the district. This is a good sign as many other districts have seen decline.

District meetings

District school board meetings are open to public for anyone who is interested in learning more about the programs and school budget. DPAC meetings are also open to all parents interested to learn more about the current information in the district.

g. Minutes approval:

Minutes for May 28th, 2015 meeting will be approved during the next month's meeting.



DPAC General Meeting Minutes



h. Other Business:

- i. It was suggested the DPAC meeting minutes should be posted on the website as a draft so school PAC members have the opportunity to discuss the topics in their school meetings.

- i. Adjourned—8:55pm (NEXT MEETING Oct. 22nd, 2015)

“Do we care enough for our kids, to parent them?”