

SD40 New Westminster DPAC

March 10, 2014

Minutes of Meeting

Attendees: Beth Ott (Chair), Maya Russell (Vice Chair), Heather Burke (Treasurer, Spencer Rep), Cheryl Greenhalgh (Secretary), John Gaiptman (Superintendent), Eman Elmasri (NWSS), Deborah Garrity, Doug Brown (John Robson), Sandra Coll (EGMS), Al Balanuik (SD40) Katrine Ireland (Tweedsmuir), Grant Osborne (NWTU President), Colette Mondin (EGMS)

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Agenda:

- Add update of action items to Old Business
- Add New Booking Procedure for PAC Use of Schools to New Business
- Adopt agenda as circulated and amended. m/s/c

3. Minutes, General Meeting:

- Approve DPAC minutes for February 17, 2014 as circulated. m/s/c

4. Minutes, DPAC Executive:

- Receive DPAC Executive Minutes for Dec. 9, 2014 as circulated. m/s/c

5. Report from NWTU President Grant Osborne

- Grant reported on the current situation around contract negotiations and potential NWTU job action.
- Discussed levels of job action, if it were to happen
 - Stage 1 would not impact students, report cards or communication with parents
 - Not sure yet what stage 2 would look like
 - Stage 3 would be a full scale walk out. The current strike vote does not empower executive to call a full walk out
- Answered questions

6. Old Business:

- BCCPAC Resolutions on Provincial Public School Funding and Playground Funding have not been revised yet
- Intent to specify playground funding for Elementary and Middle Schools not Secondary level
- Discussion about Secondary Schools need for fitness equipment

MOTION: To distribute the two aforementioned resolutions to PACs in the revised format for discussion prior to the next DPAC meeting. m/s/c

7. Report from Superintendent/Board: John Gaiptman

- No prepared report, willing to answer questions
 - Explained budget timelines
 - Per pupil allotment will be announced by the Ministry on March 14. Gives SD the month of April to work on the budget. Budget to be balanced before April 30.
 - Fiscal advantage to growth of student enrollment. Declining enrollment leads to cuts.
 - Will be opportunities for parents to give feedback in April.
 - Cost effective measures being implemented for Mayday
 - Recommendations for 2 week spring break 2014-15 school year, on-going committee accepting of parent feedback

8. Report from District Secretary: Al Balanyk

- 4-6 parents attended each budget information meeting
- Will be other opportunities to speak with parents after April 1

- Every month SD is trending positively, hope to end school year with small surplus
- Have pretty good estimate of cost increases
- Still negotiating terms of repayment of debt to Ministry
- Anticipating student enrollment at highest level in 10 years
- Budget report will be in dollar amounts
- Any surplus from this year would go back to the Ministry to pay down our debt.

9. Chair/Vice Chair Report: Beth Ott & Maya Russell

a) Lower Mainland DPAC Meeting:

Attended by Maya and Beth. Focus was on English Language Learners and lack of social supports for parents. Recommend that DPAC parents reach out to new parents.

b) PAC Priorities:

- Budget and Funding
- Playground Funding
- Special Needs
 - 2 of 3 meetings have been held so far, attendance has been low, good feedback to date
 - Intent to have guidebook that can be updated yearly
 - Comments about methods of school/PAC communication – prefer to see improved electronic communication **ACTION – BF next meeting**
- Traffic – Neighbourhood Traffic Advisory Committee
 - DPAC received an invitation to send a parent rep, Cheryl willing to represent DPAC

MOTION: That Cheryl Greenhalgh represent our DPAC on the Neighbourhood Traffic Advisory Committee. m/s/c

- Antibullying/Safe & Inclusive Schools

10. Treasurer Report: Heather Burke

- Heather spoke to her provided report
 - Need some direction for parent education funds
 - Suggestion to contact Constable Keenan to do a presentation on social media safety.
ACTION – send parent questions for Const. Keenan to Beth for DPAC mtg
ACTION – reps to ask PACs what education ideas they may like and report back to DPAC

Question if we would be interested in hosting a parent education day or partner with another district?

ACTION – BF to next meeting

MOTION: That DPAC allocates \$500 from the parent education budget toward printing of the special needs booklet when it is prepared. m/s/c

- Bank Balances – Gaming \$2689.13 and General \$4663.71

MOTION: To receive the treasurer's report. m/s/c

11. New Business:

- Beth reported that there will be a change in procedure for new bookings for school PAC events. The district will honor current bookings but PACs need to get new dates in by May 1. There could be cost associated with bookings if custodian costs are incurred.

12. Updates from School Reps: BF to next meeting

13. Prioritization of DPAC Inquiries to Board:

- Clarify if there are any costs to PACS for use of schools

- Parents interested in seismic status of schools – **ACTION - John Gaipman will bring report to next meeting**

14. Upcoming Events

- Board Meeting March 11 at 7:30

15. Adjourn

- Adjourn at 9:40 m/s/c