

DPAC Meeting - Monday, October 16, 2017

Held at the SD40 School Board Office

Present: Hilla Avidan-Shavit (Home Learners, Hume Park), Tracie Berg (Queensborough Middle School), Christina Black (Ecole Glenbrook Middle School), Kathleen Carlsen (Richard McBride Elementary, DPAC Vice Chair), Sandra Coll (New West Senior Secondary, DPAC Treasurer), Renice Edmison (Herbert Spencer), Donella Prasad (Connaught Heights Elementary), Roya Sarwary (Queen Elizabeth Elementary), Karon Trenamon, (Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary, DPAC Chair)

Regrets: Jude Talbot (FW Howay), Alexandra Kostadinov

Guests: Karim Hachlaf, (Associate Superintendent); Holly Nathan (Communications Coordinator).

Call to order	Chair acknowledge Territory of QQ Nation and Coast Salish Peoples. Meeting called to order at 7:04. Chair welcomed everyone, round table introductions.
Adoption of Oct 16 Agenda	Motion: to accept the agenda as circulated with 2 additions to new business. Moved (M): Kathleen / Seconded (S): Sandra CARRIED
Accept Minutes of Sept 18, 2017	Minutes of the Sept 18, 2017 mtg were reviewed. Motion: to approve minutes of the September 18, 2017 DPAC meeting. Moved: Sandra / Seconded: Tracie CARRIED
Report From Associate Superintendent	Karim Hachlaf, the new Assistant Superintendent of SD40 who officially started August 1st, 2017 introduced himself, spoke about his background, let us know he's been to each school in the district. He is directly involved with the leadership of Principals and VP's, the capital project at NWSS, alternate programs and career education. He also spoke about IT development: Myed -a student data base for K-12 which is used for scheduling, staffing, class size and final composition. The final implementation of this software will be to the alternate programs.
Report from District Communications Co-ordinator	Holly Nathan, the District Communications Coordinator who has been in this new position for one year introduced herself, gave her background then spoke about the school websites she is updating. She has done 14; has 3 more to go, and is impressed with many of the secretaries and principals who have been fantastic at taking on the website updates. The question she now has is about content - she would like to see resources on the websites, give access for databases for homework, improve & build communication with DPAC. A Facebook page just started which is another good place for communications. Holly has two main questions/ area of focus. They are: 1. information - how do I get basic fundraising info out / she would like to do "round-up" stories & share what is going on in the city / she asked PACs to look at your roles to see what your schools want to accomplish this year - she would like to chat with PAC chairs to hear what is going on in each school. 2. What's happening on the technology side of it / we might need parent support / she may want to talk to someone about an angle - if you have info, please let Holly know. Questions to Holly included: once the sites are up & running, who is responsible for maintaining them and putting content on. Answer: schools are responsible (ie: hot lunches, carnivals, school events). Each school has it's own website - to include school calendars & any info they like. The district website is open: newwestschools - this is to bring all schools together / will work on including relevant links / it's a work in progress & we're moving in the right direction. In addition to each individual site, twitter feed is also shared. Overall, Holly would like to learn how PAC's are supporting their schools this year and how she can help with that.

<p>Updates from individual PACS</p>	<p>EGMS - Christina reported Glenbrook has PAC mtg same day as DPAC - would like support in trying to change this for upcoming years / welcome back bbq was well attended / Family photo night - this week Tues & Wed \$20 sitting fee goes to PAC from Mountain West Photography / school wide multicultural lunch Oct 19th / On day 2 of the school year parents receive a stack of papers with information about the school and PAC pages - lists events, volunteer sign up, classroom volunteer - basically all events for the year are listed, PAC gives info to school admin who then sends it out in paper form.</p> <p>Glenbrook is supporting an Internet Safety Program - will host on Nov 21st from 7-9pm. Darren Lowry will present to parents in conjunction with student learning. Formal request to DPAC for financial support - this speaker costs \$800. Not a lot of room in school for others to attend, reported a few seats would be available to DPAC in return for their helping to fund this.</p> <p>CHE - Donella is the new DPAC rep for Connaught Heights. She will have updates next month.</p> <p>HSES: Renice reported: Oct 26 Spook & Scare Halloween Affair - \$2 per person and open to the public - will have pizza, dancing, lots of fun for the kids / Nov 6th Parent Session with Marnie Goldenberg - a sexspecialist - check her out at sexplainer.com / Craft Fair Nov 25th / Would love these items to go on the DPAC website.</p> <p>HL: Hilla reported after the last mtg, they wrote a letter to the School Board and happily report they have now received \$8,800 as their portion of the Grant (this is split between 2 home learner schools and is based on \$ per student - just as it was for all other schools in the district) / Secretary Roberta retired - she was more like a manager and will be thoroughly missed. All students - past & present will make part of the "going away" gift / new secretary will start soon / PAC now has a new field trip co-ordinator: a dad who organized weekly events now has the newly created position / working on book so new PAC members can what is usually done / swap meet is coming up</p> <p>LTES: Karon reported no DPAC rep yet / fundraising events for this year are: Purdy's chocolates, bulbs, hot lunches & annual Christmas Fair - donations received by community are sold for \$2 each with each child of the school allowed to purchase one item for someone in their family / PAC vastly improving communications this year - email sent out from PAC via school admin contained fairly detailed synopsis of last DPAC mtg with links included & any events from the last 2 weeks. Very comprehensive, all in one place, much easier for parents.</p> <p>RME - Kathleen reported next PAC mtg this upcoming Wed / Upcoming events: Oct 26- pumpkin Run / Oct 27th - Halloween Howl / Oct 31-Halloween Assembly / Dec 14 - Christmas Concert / PAC sent letter to MLA Judy Darcy re: H1 School, when will this get approved by treasury board, transparency with info & increased size needed because of bldg going on in Sapperton - waiting for response.</p> <p>NWSS: Sandra reported band will hold a 12 hr band-a-thon along with choir members to raise funds for band trips / football team is awesome this year</p>
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<p>Updates from individual PACS - continued</p>	<p>QEE: Roya reported mtgs are the last Wed of the month, so nothing new to report / discussion at QEE re: continuing to use Munch-a-Lunch as fees are quite high / Roya will look into following up with the Sikh Temple partnership conversation</p> <p>QMS: Tracie reported they have a few fundraisers this year: Christmas baskets, spirit wear - sweaters & sweatpants, baked goods - pies, cookies, meat / look into emergency kits for next year / Admin sent out 10 page newsletter this month - has lots of info about school & community events. PAC will ask to get a whole page for next month / movie night - looking into partnering with Community Center / Winter Production - Dec 14th: Beauty & The Beast</p>
<p>Chair Report & Business Arising</p>	<p>Karon & Kathleen reported the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The BCCPAC fees are due - only 3 schools have registered. All schools are to register but NOT pay the fee - DPAC will pay the fee. 2. BCCPAC fall summit - will be held Nov 24 & 25th in Richmond. Beth Ott will be attending; we would like to send one more delegate. If interested, please contact Karon or Beth ASAP. 3. Committees - our NTAC (National Traffic Advisory Council) rep - Cheryl Greenhalgh is stepping down, Tracie Berg has agreed to take this on. Thank you Tracie - Karon will email paperwork which needs to be filled out and sent in by the 1st week of November . Thank you to Cheryl for all of your support and work on behalf of DPAC. Discussion about YAK (Youth Advisory Committee) - rep, Heather Lynch is stepping down. We are looking for a new rep. Donella Prasad has agreed to take this on - THANK YOU, Donella. Karon will send paperwork to fill out. 4. School Board Education Policy & Planning (EP&P) meetings will be out in public schools this year, as will some PAC meetings. Dates & venues for EP&P are: Sept 12- Tweedsmuir / Oct 3- QayQayt / Nov 7 - Spencer / Jan 9 - McBride / Feb 6 - Glenbrook / April 10 - Home Learners / May 1 - Howay / June 5 - NWSS 5. Placement of AED's - these are coming to schools; some already have them. They should be placed near a gym and should be accessible at anytime to anyone in the school. having them locked in an office is not efficient. 6. DPAC letter to the School Board requesting funds for the Home Learners will not be sent as HL has already been successful in their quest to receive some of Grant money. Congratulations to the HL PAC for taking the initiative to send a letter and following through! 7. Question about number of International Students at the NWSS and grade break down. Karim told us there were 300 International Students for a total of 1900 students at NWSS & suggested we contace Karen Klein for more information. Sandra will follow up re: grade breakdown. 8. School movie licenses - each school will to apply separately as we do not have the numbers to warrant a SD discount. 9. Funding for speakers - PAC's are to send a request to DPAC executive. An invoice must be received before DPAC cheque will be sent. 10. Thank you to Alexandra for taking over the website. If you would like info on the website, please forward this to Karon and the DPAC exec will approve then send to Alexandra for input.

Chair Report & Business Arising -continued	<p>11. Social for PAC Chairs, Co-Chairs & DPAC reps - we are working on securing a venue for this event where everyone can get together in an informal setting to share ideas, thoughts, questions and suggestions. Once venue is secured, information will be sent to all Chairs & DPAC reps. Tentative Date: Thursday, January 16th.</p>
Treasurer Report	<p>We are looking good at the moment. We were approved for the gaming grant, so we will have a healthy balance of just over \$12,000. We are lean, which is why DPAC is doing so well.</p> <p>DPAC will fund the refreshments at the Parents Night Out.</p> <p>Discussion re: the website should include our budget as this is public information. We may also wish to include key tips for the treasurer's roll.</p>
Reports from Committees	<p>1. Parents Night Out - The PNO is hosting an event sponsored by the New West Police Department & New West Youth Services called "Social Media Awareness & Parenting the Digital World". This event will be held on Tuesday, November 7th from 6:30 - 8:00pm at the Justice Institute Auditorium (715 McBride Blvd). Tickets are free, but you must register through eventbrite. Childminding is available, but you must pre-register.</p> <p>2. NTAC - this was discussed in the Chair report</p> <p>3. BCCPAC - discussed in Chair report. Beth may report more at a later date.</p>
New Business:	<p>1. Discussion - how can PAC's get email addresses from the whole school population without the support of administration. Karim stated if a school has a problem with their administration, they can contact him directly.</p> <p>2. Discussion about the May Day Task Force, the May Day Celebration and what DPAC feels about it. Board Chair Slade- Kerr had mentioned to Karon that they are considering changes and would like to know what DPAC's thoughts are on this issue.</p> <p>After much discussion including: the new rules from last year, financial pressure to get students there, a big drain on resources, how it use to be fun with track and field events, lots of school spirit, games - it's sad to see it change so much, it's a bit long, they need a better sound system so those in the stands can hear, it was much better last year with all the students involved - each member of the May Day Suite having a small speech, the high school band playing was a huge success, maybe it's too grown up for the kids, people are excited about it, tradition can be modified - there were so many ideas / thoughts. Those in attendance at this DPAC meeting would like to know what board meeting the May Day ideas will be spoken about and voted on. Karon will follow up with the Board Chair and let us all know the answer when she receives it.</p>
Adjournment	meeting adjourned 9:57