

Date: Jan 21, 2020

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Time: 7-9 pm

**Co-Chair:** Kathleen Carlsen**Minute Taker:** Cyrus Sy (Secretary)**Executive:** Ronda Field (Acting Past Chair, NWSS), Akbar Merchant (Lord Kelvin, MAL)**Guests:** Karim Hachlaf (Superintendent), Maureen Mc-Rae Stranger (Director of Instruction, Learning and Innovation)**Parents/Guardians:** (participant list from Zoom)

Larisa Ciprian (Richard McBride Elementary), Martinique Longstaff (Herbert Spencer), Carrie Carlsen (Lord Tweedsmuir), Natalie Suffron (Echola Herbert Spencer), Susan Kenny (Queensborough), Sloane Drennan (EGMS, NWSS),

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

1.

**1. Welcome****2. Call to Order & Acknowledgement****3. Attendance & Introductions** - Executive members were introduced - see above**4. Adoption of Agenda** - Moved by Martinique, Second by Natalie, CARRIED**5. Approval of Nov 23/20 Minutes** - Moved by Ronda, Second by Martinique, CARRIED**6. Chair Report** -Kathleen thanked everyone for attending, introduced the DPAC executive and the School District Staff who were there.

- Appreciation to the District and School Board Trustees for inviting DPAC to be a part of the multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee working with District Principal Ravinder Johal on equity, diversity, inclusion and anti-racism. The first meeting will be held at the end of January . We will hear updates from our representative, Natalie Suffron. We are looking for one more rep, please contact Kathleen if interested in being a part of this team.

-As our world is still facing many challenges, I have much appreciation for living in this community that supports each other at the same time as respecting differing opinions.

- Parents were thanked for sharing their thoughts, fears, questions, concerns and opinions directly with the DPAC executive. It is with communicating these that we can all learn and move forward, find answers and common ground together.

- Because of the communication of parents in this district, we have added the New High School and the FSA's as agenda items, and have invited District staff to speak on them and answer your questions. 17 questions were sent to our Superintendent this week. We are honoured that he will address these in his update and is so open to your questions.

**7. Treasurer's Report** - SD40 has received the gaming grant for \$2500. We now have the funds required to fulfill our responsibilities for this year.**8. PNO Report** - Next event is on February 4, 2021. Nurturing Emotional Resilience and Well-Being for Ourselves. This event information and link to register is on our website as well as the New West Schools website.

■ <https://newwestschools.ca/resources/parent-public-resources/parents-night-out>

**9. District Update**

- District asked for changes to Early Notification letters, and Fraser Health is making some changes to improve the process. The changes will be piloted in Surrey and Delta first, with wide roll-out in early to mid-February.
- Have only sent 3 early notification letters since the new year.
- Howay and McBride consultation meetings have begun and the report will be presented to the Board. Boundary changes intended to increase enrolment at Howay and alleviate capacity concerns at McBride
- New High School Update
  - Acknowledge concerns about lockdown procedures - district is working with NWPD and Safer-Schools to look at possible changes
  - NWPD came in in December to do a review of the layout and will present recommendations. Safer-Schools is a provincial contract to provide emergency preparedness.
  - New features: Principals and admin can lock all exterior doors immediately. Can section off learning neighbourhoods.

- There are some concerns about confidentiality - since some offices are very visible from the outside. Window coverings are coming.
- Deficiency List
  - School Principal and Director of Capital projects can provide visibility at PAC level
  - Learning neighbourhood furniture is still to be selected.
- Phase II Update
  - Deconstruction of current school is underway - May/Early June deconstruction.
  - Have opened up IT/Maintenance building which is next door
- Current population is 1,700. School can accommodate just over 2,000 students.
  - We are still hosting some international students
  - enrolment decreased significantly in 2020-21 due to COVID
- Teacher prep areas, with individual desks and lockers
- School is under warranty - staff should not make any changes that void warranty. Any changes need to be coordinated and approved.
- There is a welcome/goodbye committee to put together a sendoff.
  - Action: Kathleen will send out details of the organizing committee to the group.
- District is planning to send out a promo video about the new high school.

## 2.

### 10. Parents as Education & Career Coaches

- Educationplanner.bc.ca has lots of great resources in different options and careers

### 11. Unlock Your Future Presentation

- Britny Palmer - parent education sessions. 130+ attended
- Great event to have every couple years

## 3.

### 12. New High School

### 13. FSAs (Foundation Skills Assessment)

- Presentation by Maureen McRae Stanger: [January 21, 2021 Presentation to DPAC on FSAs](#)
- Set of learning activities.
- We are always teaching to the test
- FSA Components: Writing, Numeracy, Self-Reflection. FSAs are NOT marked on grammar or spelling.
- Online component: 5 short texts, 30 questions
- Start Feb12-March 15 - 4-5 hours to complete.
- Online learners will have support to take them from home
- All Gr 4 & 7 students are required by School Act to write the FSA
- FSA in english, FI students write in english

**Adjournment:** 8:44 pm, Moved by Ronda

**Next Virtual Meeting -** February 18,, 2021, 7pm