

Date: May 19, 2022

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Time: 7-9 pm

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Chair: Kathleen Carlsen (Ecole Glenbrook Middle School)

Minute Takers: Laura Kwong (MAL, Ecole Qayqayt Elementary) & Kathleen Carlsen

Executive: Renee Mosi (Treasurer, New Westminster Secondary School),

Guests: Karim Hachlaf (Superintendent), Maya Russell (School Board Trustee)

Parents/Guardians (via Zoom): Marti Longstaff (Herbert Spencer Elementary), Carrie Carlsen (Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary), Jen Knight (Skwo:wech Elementary) Charmaine Urbano (Fraser River Middle School), Sue Kenny (Queen Elizabeth Elementary), Tabitha Guichon JC Valeros (Ecole Qayqayt Elementary)

Regrets: Chelle Ostlund (Hume Park Home Learners), Cyrus Sy (Secretary, EGMS), Doug Herasymuik (F.W. Howay Elementary), Mary Lalji (School Board Trustee)

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm

Standing Items

- 1.1. **Welcome**
- 1.2. **Call to Order & Territory Acknowledgement**
- 1.3. **Attendees**
- 1.4. **Approval of April 21, 2022 General Meeting Minutes**
Moved by Laura, Second by Renee, **CARRIED**
- 1.5. **Approval of June 17, 2021 Annual General Meeting Minutes**
Moved by Laura, Second by Charmaine, **CARRIED**
- 1.6. **Adoption of Agenda with change of Trustee and Communications Section added**
Moved by Renee, Second by Charmaine, **CARRIED**
- 1.7. **Chair Report: Kathleen Carlsen**
 - Thank you to all parents who have reached out to me to share their thoughts, concerns and truths. Having these conversations is the only way positive change can take place. I acknowledge and thank you for trusting me with some sensitive subjects and some very personal stories. I have heard you and have communicated with the District who I believe has heard us as well. DPAC looks forward to working together to make positive changes so that all students can be safe in our schools.
 - Busy month for DPAC executives - attended BCCPAC agm, Open Public Board Meeting, Operations Policy and Planning meeting, Education Policy and Planning meeting, PNO event on SOGI, Student led walk - out, Wellness Center Grand Opening and PAC meetings of our own children's schools.

- We've also been fielding questions about transportation, how the needs based model will affect our students, budget requests for enhanced learning, mental health supports, schools supports such as EA's and TTOC
- We're also actively trying to learn how we can successfully advocate for a K-12 sexual education curriculum at the provincial level and increase per student funding in BC.
- We are a small executive who are committed to working for you and your children.
- So many requests, it may take time to respond to your questions or emails. We endeavor to reply to all & thank you for your support and patience.
- We may not like what we hear at the District level, but we are fortunate to have a District who takes our questions and a Superintendent who attends our meetings and is willing to work with us and communicate with us.
- At times many parents may feel overwhelmed and frustrated, but I believe we are all here for the same reason - for our children.

1.8. Treasurer's Report - Renee Mosi

- 3 schools who have sent in requests for funding for parent education (NWSS, Howay & Qayqayt) - if any other school has receipts, please send them to newwestdpacchair@gmail.com as soon as possible - we have funds to help out at this time.

At this time our balances are:

- Operating account balance: \$5369
- Gaming account balance: \$3446

- DPAC 2022-23 budget will be put forward at the September meeting for discussion & approval.
- REMINDER: all PACs to send in Gaming Grant applications now. If you have new executive members, please let them know this needs to be done now.
- REMINDER: all PACs must pay for their own membership to BCCPAC, PACs can use Gaming Grant. Be sure to add this in your budget, membership runs September to June. Only members who have paid by the end of 2022 will be eligible to vote at the 2023 AGM.

1.9. Superintendent Report - District Update - Karim Hachlaf

- the first two readings of the budget have been approved, final reading at June mtg
- winding down another school year
- attended the Wellness Center Opening Celebration this past weekend
- May 31 - Qayqayt honouring and rite of passage ceremony, for Indigenous grade 12 students and their families, event will be hosted at NWSS
- June 23 - NWSS school leaving ceremony at Queens Park Arena - in person
- TRANSPORTATION: the update we just recently received from the Ministry through Translink was not exactly what we were hoping for / the initiative is at the Ministry level with the District being informed of the decision. Changes are in stages. Stage one will roll out in September 2022. This means increased peak service to route 128 (west on 8th Avenue) - every 15 minutes on school days now instead of every 20 minutes from 6:00am - 9:00am and 3:00pm - 6:00pm, Mon to Fri. Stage 2 (no timeline for this stage)- may add another route (the 410 or the 104) with a transfer at the 22nd street

station to either 128 or 101. needed with 15 minute service extended to all hours of the day, everyday. Again this may not align with what we were hoping for or told, but this is the decision that was made.

Questions:

1. Has the school bell schedule been sent to Translink for the 2022-23 school year?

Answer: Yes

2. Do school children ride the bus for free?

Answer: those under 12 / NDP just brought this up

3. What happened to the survey on these transit changes that was mentioned in the May board meeting?

Answer: TransLink had a 14 day time for the survey to be available, the district missed this window to get it sent out before it closed.

1.10. School Board Trustee Update - Maya Russell

- discussed budget decisions made this year - main areas the Board has ability to reflect your feedback
- no increase in per student funding from the government, as stated by your Chair - BC is still behind in comparison to how education is funded / catching up from a couple decades of underfunding
- feedback from stakeholders was quite consistent / one piece we'd like to fund but can't is full time day custodians. The cost for every school to have this and still have full cleaning after hours is between \$200,00 - \$400,000. When looking at trade offs' we can't rationalize this.
- have approved 0.6 behaviour team specialist - for those with complex needs and behaviours, out of the discipline stream and working with those with underlying challenges
- adding 1 Full time District Counselor - which is well above the provincial funding for mental health
- small increase in admin time / 1 FTE for Indigenous Education Support worker, retain current support worker currently on leave plus add this role with additional hours
- \$72,000 for noon hour supervision - some time was being filled by EA's - pulling them away from classroom children
- overworked communications department, climate action, curriculum in climate action (what can they be learning, understanding the science, implementing the Anti-Racism - \$30,000 a year for more training, maintenance equipment for Skwo:wech - electric snow blower equipment
- 4 additional TTOCs and 5 additional EAs - to counter staff shortage / approved over \$750,000 to make sure we do not have vacant classrooms - we're proud of this massive investment

Questions

1. Is there are funding provided for teachers in highschool to implement the new indigenous curriculum

Answer: yes, we have had a lot of discussion, we want teachers to feel supported, PRO-d days are planned, in budget presentation we did distinguish new budget asks that have been approved, outlined restructure to include instructional budget: implementation new grad requirement staff will receive training and money to implement the new curriculum

2. Are there increases to funding for psych-ed assessments done by district child psychologists?

How is the school going to pivot after we move to a needs based model and there is a huge influx of kids that don't have and don't "need" a designation?

Answer: Some in-house at the district will happen as well, hard to do everybody / not really a waitlist, appointments are given based on needs, district and around province relying heavily on Sunnyhill. There will be a bigger update at the next board meeting.

- across the province schools are relying heavily for referrals to Sunnyhill, we now have a diagnosis-based model, a lot of is done without formal designation
- director of inclusive education next month / existing staff do not have any
- full roster of school psychologists allowed us to stay on track with our assessments / we prioritize - based on need, who is going to get a psych-ed assessment / it's not an all or nothing / not all students need a phys-ed assessment, there are staff level assessment / acknowledge that designation does yield provincial funding, however if student requires additional support and is not funded, district tries to find ways to support the student (this was affirmed by inclusive ed review).
- reach out to Bruce Cummings - with individual requests / questions
- we are focusing on a group of children never getting through these assessment waitlists: foster children - as they often are moving every 6 months - never get to the top of list anywhere, these students are prioritized for any type of waitlist service

3. Follow up question - Who determines these needs?

Answer: School Based Teams as you know are resource teachers, counselors, child & youth care workers and principals who meet regularly to talk about students who need support. Parents are also part of those meetings when an individual student's IEP is being developed or updated.

1.11. PNO Report- Kathleen

- Parents Night Out is now made up of representatives from Fraser Health, the NW School District and DPAC. Idea is to offer free, educational nights for parents or caregivers in New West by gathering information about issues affecting children and youth then recruiting experts in that field to share insights, tips and offer support to families with questions or who may want to learn more.
- Prior to Covid, the New West Police Department was also part of this group and was able to offer the Justice Institute as the venue for the in-person events.
- All events this past year have been online and have been very well attended.
- The last event focused on SOGI and featured Bryan Gidinski – Burnaby's District Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Support Teacher for Elementary Schools. We've received great feedback and hope to bring him back next year
- One more PNO events planned this year - May 26th with registration online through Eventbrite. Focus on nutrition and our bodies. This is as a result of a survey done at the high-school which showed over 1/3 of respondents requested more information and support surrounding eating disorders and body image. We have secured a Registered Dietitian with many years of experience as a clinical dietician at Children's Hospital - working with Eating Disorders and also as a Sports Dietitian with high performance athletes locally. All of this information can be found on the link shown here

- Also one last session put on through the Wellness Center Series on June 8th called You and Your Youth - Are they Doing Too Much - Strategies to support your Ambitious Teenager.
- The PNO committee hopes to send out a survey to all parents within the next 2 weeks asking what you would like to see for next year's PNO events.
- The Wellness Center which was spoken about earlier in some updates has a calendar of events including Mindfulness mornings, relationship discussions, and parent education workshop. Many great services using this space such as:
- [Cameray Child and Family Services](#) offering counseling programs to children, youth, and families based on needs & booked by appointment only.
- [Child and Youth Mental Health](#) support current clients in this space.
- [The Lumara Society](#) assists children, youth, and families impacted by life-threatening illness, grief and loss.
- **Prevention & Health Promotion:** organizes and support groups and workshops that address issues like nutrition, physical wellbeing, sexual health, gender identity, mental health, substance use, and much more.

1.12. School Reports

i. Skwo:Wech Elementary - Jen

everyone is getting settled in / ready for AGM in June / continue meeting virtually as a PAC, last meeting we didn't have quorum, / AGM will be held in the new school hope to bring in parents, maybe offer tour of school / many key exec members aging out, PAC is getting smaller / succession - how other PACs are bringing in kindy parents, welcome to school event -

*Questions: have other schools been holding in-person meetings and How have other PACs brought in new parents and kindergarten parents?

*Answers: some have had in-person, most have kept to online / discussion about hybrid - every person needs a screen, everyone in the room uses one speaker source - so it's not ideal but it can work. Re: engagement - in person at pick up or drop off, at PAC lunches, Genius Sign up

ii. Queen Elizabeth Elementary - Sue

- had PAC tables at events to bring people in, used teams such as pizza team, team leaders & shared time commitment - received huge response with Genius sign/ since Covid very low attendance at PAC meetings even online / pre-covid - we did facebook live for meetings, worked well, sometimes audio wasn't the best, parents could still log on to see what was going on / just has successful plant fundraiser

iii. Qayqayt Elementary - JC

- Michelle has now moved to vice chair role, had AGM in May and have 12 executive volunteers / preparing a lot for upcoming events such as Grade 5 leaving event & sports day / looking ahead for September and

figuring out how things work / Preparing for Welcome bbq for September

- Laura: At the BCCPAC AGM Qayqayt proposed and ammendment to a resolution regarding the advocacy of comprehensive K-12 sexual health curriculum to the MoE. The ammended resolution passed and Laura has volunteered to join a BCCPAC committee to work on this resolution.
Reminder: all district members may join BCPAC committees.

iv. Herbert Spencer Elementary - Marti

- Just had great success with Mothers day flower fundraiser / continuing our fun lunches / main thing is the Carnival on June 4th, will have PAC Table at carnival - hope to get new people in / using a different platform to recruit volunteers - online sign up which makes people more accountable as it sends you a calendar, shows what spots are needed and who it is / Grade 5 fun stuff being organized now / We are a big pac, fundraise well and like to share, we are buying lunch for Grade 5's at Kelvin

v. Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary- Carrie

- AGM on Wed had good attendance, new members / PAC is helping with grade 5 grad & planning for next year / Looking at doing Carnival next year and will ask other PACs for help, advise, suggestions / looking forward to next year

vi. Fraser River Middle School - Charmaine

- Finished Walk 30 challenge Apr 11- May 15 / 30 mins walking per day for 5 weeks
- HUB Cycling Program for grade 6 and 7 students. Practiced during the week and cycled around the neighbourhood on Fridays. Apr - Jun
- Events: June: 7th - year end band concert, 24th - gr 8 leaving ceremony, Peter Julian to attend, 27th - sports day, 28th - gr 8 celebration, 29th - year end assembly
- Overwhelming amount of delivery orders causing stress to clerical staff, Asking PAC to share info to parents: no deliveries, will also put it in upcoming newsletter.
- Transition event: March 30th hosted a virtual welcome to middle school event, well attended by 60 families. Talked about what made middle schools unique and different from elementary / Looking forward to tours in May and June. Will offer Individual tours for students with diverse learning needs or require one on one view of the school in early June
- Grade 7 immunizations - May 30 / Grade 6 - June 9 (HPV)
- Next meeting in person / Hybrid did not go smoothly, so moved to virtual, trying in person next month
- Did not get any emails or invites prior to going into FRMS / the AGM in Sept / most join because already in elementary PAC / no parents at drop off, pick up to discuss joining PAC - must all be done via email

vii. EGMS - Kathleen

- Grade 8 grad event is happening next month - it's an outdoor event with different stations: bocce, badminton, lawn bowling, DJ - music area, arcade on wheels, photo booth, eating area, quiet area - should be lots of fun
- Grade 8 leaving ceremony will be held on June 28th (may need 2 days - admin is still working on that) will be in-person and also live-streamed so relatives and friends can watch as well
- Fun lunch - hard to get volunteers mid week. Admin has asked for no lunch days prior to a long weekend to ensure any extra food does not go to waste
- AGM last week, great group with some new and some returning members
- Lots of field trips taking place in June, PAC is able to help support these
- Grade 5 Open House last week - lots of grade 8's volunteered to help
- Entrepreneurial Fair June 7th - open to students from 1:00 - 3:00pm then open to the public from 3:00 - 5:30pm - all are welcome (in the gym)

viii. New Westminster Secondary School - Renee

- having pac AGM next week
- graduation dinner dance / dry grad / Queens Park Arena event / awards night in a couple of weeks / music program next friday - Jazz event in Great common of NWSS, tickets are \$25 / full music concert June 17th Thursday
- SEAS led walk out on Friday, attended by approx 200 students, to protest against sexual assault and harassment, and give voice to those who have been impacted, received email from admin but no communication from school admin since walk out. PAC has committed to following up from admin and will engage with admin at upcoming PAC meeting, and into next school year.
- Question: can incoming gr 9 student families at the middle schools get an invite to the upcoming PAC meeting.

Old Business

1.13. BCCPAC Resolutions

- All but one resolution was passed. Main reason one was defeated was some felt if someone is facing charges they are innocent until proven guilty. May change wording next year to: if someone is charged - not facing charges.
- SD40 DPAC and Qayqayt PAC resolutions did not get accepted to be voted on. May be advantageous to have at least one member of our District join the BCCPAC resolution committee to ensure our resolutions do get approved. Laura Kwong has volunteered to be on the BCCPAC Resolution Committee - Thank you Laura!
- We would like to continue to put pressure on the Province especially for Universal Sexual Education for K-12 that the QQ PAC put forward, as well as the

Safe Water for all students resolution, the Changes to Ministry Area Standards that many school Districts are in favour of and the Change to the Provincial School Bus Funding Criteria resolution

- May be good for PACs to put resolutions on their agendas starting in September. Start these early so they have time to be reworded / reworked in necessary
- We only have one chance in the year to get these voted on, so start early, get all parents involved and advocate for your children at the provincial level

1.14. 2022-23 DPAC Budget Requests

- The DPAC executive was not fully prepared at the stakeholders meeting because of other volunteer, parenting and “real job” commitments. We agreed with the District’s priorities and highlighted Enhanced Learning, Transportation, Mental Health Supports, EA’s and TTOC’s, as well as support for the New Indigenous Curriculum.

- After going through all emails from September through to now, the fall survey results and the messages we received after the stakeholders meeting, we went to the April 26th board meeting with the following requests:

1. **Student Safety** - gender-based violence needs to be addressed now as what is happening at the High School is unacceptable; we need more counselors
2. **Academic Support Programs and Accessibility for Diverse Learners** - includes support for grade 12 students transitioning into post secondary, EAs who lack sufficient time and training to assist in implementing IEPs, the need for supporting students who have fallen behind over the last two years due to the pandemic and support for english language learners
3. **Enriched School Experiences** - support for teachers for more outdoor learning; additional bus transportation to support field trips; continued support for arts and music programs
4. **Increased Cleaning by Janitorial Staff during school operating hours** - the current full-time 3-11:00pm custodial schedule does not provide enough cleaning during the daytime operating school hours - when it is most needed.
5. **Before and After School Care** - we appreciate the additional spaces added, but total number of spaces is still not adequate for the current student population, and growth that will continue to happen in this district
6. **Transportation** - funding for safe transportation for Queensborough students to the high school, for Fraser River middle school students to get to school safely, and a review and optimization of crossing guards is needed

We also asked the Board to extend its leadership role and join us in advocating to the provincial government to not only provide the necessary funding to help offset pandemic related costs, but also advocate for funding to implement the new indigenous education curriculum, and for mental health. We need to continue advocating for an increase in the overall operating funding grant per student as BC Schools still remain among the lowest funded per student in Canada.

New Business

1.15. DPAC Parent Education - Kathleen

1. You have the right to attend Board meetings and use your voices to share your thoughts and concerns; nothing happens if you don't show up. If you are having challenges DPAC is happy to support you at these meetings. Many voices are more powerful than one and can bring positive change. We've done this for transportation, the pedestrian pathway at Qayqayt, Covid safety. We've engaged Translink, the City, BCCPAC and have pushed hard on all fronts. It is DPAC's position not to solve the issues, but to help amplify parent voices and bring the issues forward. If you feel you are not being heard, go further, visit our MLA and share your thoughts, concerns and questions.
2. To help with Parent Education moving forward, DPAC endeavors to send out a fall questionnaire requesting names of your favorite past speakers, who you would like to see and maybe any speaker you feel may not work well for our district. We would like to keep a listing (available upon request) for all PACs to help them run individual events and to also plan for bigger events DPAC may be able to host or support PACs in hosting more open events.

Correspondence

1.16. MoE response to Feb 14 2022 DPAC letter re. CYSN Service Framework - Laura

- please see letter and response attached to these minutes
- MoE survey open for parents and caregivers: Child & Youth Support Needs Survey <https://feedback.engage.gov.bc.ca/143984?lang=en>

1.17. May 6 2022 Board of Education letter to DPAC re. working relationship - Laura

- DPAC spoke at the April 26th Board meeting referencing violence at NWSS. We received a letter from the board asking us to let them know of upcoming topics that may be hard to discuss and very personal in nature prior to any meeting.
- While the topic was disturbing to hear and we regret it did not come with a quick heads-up email or note to the Board prior to the meeting, we still stand behind our decision to bring up a topic which needed to be addressed.

Nominations & Election of 2022-23 Executive

- Kathleen Carlsen ran the 2022-2023 DPAC executive elections
- Chair - Laura Kwong
- Vice Chair - vacant
- Treasurer - Renee Mosi
- Secretary - Cyrus Sy
- Member at Large 1 - Sue Kenny
- Member at Large 2 - vacant

A reminder to attend our last DPAC meeting of the year on June 18th at 7:00pm - virtually with hopes of in-person and/or hybrid meetings in the fall.

Also remember you are always able to attend Board meetings - the next Board meeting is May 24th at 7:00 pm - check out the New West Schools website for a link to join the meeting.

The Education Policy and Planning meeting and the Operations Policy and Planning meetings will take place on June 7th. Trustee Russell will confirm with us the location and time, but believes it may be at 3:30 in person at one of the schools.

Thank you all for attending SD40 DPAC AGM

Adjournment: 8:57pm by Marti

Next Meeting - June 18, 2022, 7pm

At: Virtual Zoom