

Statement from DPAC

18 June 2023

The District Parent's Advisory Council is calling for the immediate resignation of Dee Beattie from the Board of Education.

Ms. Beattie's behaviour, where she spent years bullying and harassing parents, educators, media, and former trustees, is unacceptable. This behaviour was not a one-off decision, this is a pattern of calculated, intentionally hurtful, and targeted behaviour by someone that sits on the District's Anti-Racism Advisory Committee, that has been exhibited for a number of years. The harassment and bullying also included the appalling doxxing of a minor by posting a private photo of the minor and revealing their location.

Not only has Ms. Beattie egregiously contravened the Trustee Code of Conduct, she is now asking for taxpayer dollars to be spent for her to take time off. In a growing district that is experiencing financial pressures, public tax payer dollars should not be going to support someone who has behaved in such a despicable manner.

DPAC has spoken time and again about the need for trust and collaboration to be the foundation of the relationship between all parents and caregivers, including DPAC, and the board of education. The behaviour of this trustee has destroyed our confidence in the judgment of the board, calling into question the decisions made by the board in which Ms. Beattie took part.

Our question to the board now is how will you rebuild the trust that has been broken? What actions will you take to rebuild trust in this community? We need immediate actions. What detailed commitments will you make, and in what timeframe? This needs to be done for the betterment of all students and families in SD40.

Our schools are facing critical issues that require the board's attention, energy and focus. Bullying, sexual assaults, violence, a severe shortage of counselors and youth care workers, racism, anti-SOGI actions, overcrowded and overheated schools, and so much more. If this board truly wants to rebuild trust and confidence, they must do what they were elected to do and work on behalf of the public to address these issues now.

DPAC continues to advocate for families and students in our district. We will always advocate for children's safety in schools and support parents and caregivers in speaking up for their children, as this is what we were voted in to do.

New West District Parents Advisory Council
Laura, Kathleen, Cyrus, Krista, and Renee