

Date: April 20, 2023**Location:** Ecole Lord Tweedsmuir, zoom**Time:** 7-9 pm**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES****Chair:** Laura Kwong (Chair, Ecole Qayqayt Elementary)**Minute Taker:** Cyrus Sy (Secretary, New Westminster Secondary School DPAC Rep)**Executive:** Cyrus Sy (Secretary, NWSS DPAC Rep)**Regrets:** Kathleen Carlsen (Vice-Chair, NWSS), Renee Mosi (Treasurer, NWSS), Sue Kenny (MAL, Queensborough Middle School & Queen Elizabeth Elementary DPAC Rep)**Guests:** Maya Russell (Board Trustee), Karim Hachlaf (Superintendent), Nicole Sto. Tomas (PACT)**Parents/Guardians (via Zoom):** Courtney Daws (Herbert Spencer Elementary, DPAC Rep), Laura Le (EQQE), Doug Herasymiuk (FW Howay, DPAC Rep), Michelle Kennedy (Qayqayt), Chamaine Urbano (Fraser River Middle School, DPAC Rep), Krista Macaulay (Lord Tweedsmuir), Kelly Mooker (Lord Tweedsmuir)

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm

Time	Item	Owner
7:02	Welcome, Call to Order & Territory Acknowledgement, Attendance	
	Approval of Agenda Move MOTION TO APPROVE: Laura SECOND by Krista CARRIED	
	Approval of February 16 Meeting Minutes with corrections as per Doug H MOTION TO APPROVE: Krista SECOND: Doug CARRIED	

	<p style="text-align: center;">End</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi. Superintendent presentation will outline areas that will be reprioritized vii. Additional funding is coming for food & nutrition program (targeted dollars) viii. \$85M operating budget - working on a structural deficit model. School district is using a surplus to help balance the budget. ix. Board policy is to keep \$2M surplus (2% reserve to cover any emergency need for funding). x. We are already to approaching the \$2M threshold. xi. Q. Who are all the stakeholders? - Teachers Union, Student Voice, CUPE, DPAC, Indigenous Advisory xii. Q. If we are already approaching surplus threshold does that mean, we could face cuts to programs next year? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The approach presented to the board will focus on smart budget planning and moving away from just efficiencies. 2. Funding from the ministry may sway things one way or another, but no updates are available at this time. 3. The focus is on supporting students and playing the long game to avoid deep cuts or layoffs, which has been managed well during the pandemic. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Anti-Racism & ERASE Reporting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Acknowledgment of items raised in the student symposium, particularly anti-racism and reporting. ii. Working towards local reporting beyond the ERASE reporting tool. iii. District Vice Principal Ken Hedley will be the guest speaker at next month's meeting. iv. Ken is excited to provide more depth and tie in questions related to the student symposium. v. Ken has been working on exciting work with students and staff, which will be shared in the presentation next month. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Board Trustee Update - Maya Russell <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Thank you to DPAC for putting time into preparing feedback for budget stakeholder meetings ○ Ministry approved application for funding to acquire land for a West End middle school site (NOT a purchase or school, but a good first step) ○ Lots of feedback received on policy for board meetings ○ Acknowledge that parents want opportunity to speak 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Needs to be balanced with need to prevent ○ Q: How do advocate for School Site Acquisition Site Charges? - A. SACC is generally small compared to provincial funding. 	Maya
	<p>Guest Presentation - Nicole Sto. Tomas - PACT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Peer Assisted Care Team ● Mobile Team to help respond to support for mental health ● Helps replace Police ● 1 of 3 PACT programs (one in North Shore, and Victoria), provincially funded ● Pair of crisis responders, peer support worker (someone who has lived experience). ● Running 7 days a week, noon until 8pm; program will be expanded in future ● How does it work? Call a number for PACT→ Can provide phone support, or team can be dispatched to provide 1:1 support ● Sometimes travel on foot and can go to person ● Calls can come directly from person; can come from a friend or neighbor, calls from fire or police. If call comes from 3rd party, they will ask for consent if they need support. ● Team is quite small, so calls need to be triaged. ● Types of calls: Depressed, suicidal, those who are experiencing extreme social isolation, calls from parents with at risk youth, calls for well-being checks ● Does not do any long-term case management; but can help advocate and provide mental health support in a low barrier fashion ● Not meant to be a replacement for emergency services; another tool to provide support ● Any callers aged 13 and up are able to call ● Lots of referrals are coming from police and fire especially in cases where there is no urgent safety need, but mental health support is needed. ● Will also take calls if people don't know who to call. 	Nicole Sto. Tomas
	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Received response from Aman Singh to DPAC letter re QB busing ● Received response from secretary treasurer Betina Ketcham to our request for an operating stipend. Letter notes that the District will not continue to provide an operating stipend to DPAC in future years. 	
	<p>Old Business</p> <p>SD40 Budget Consultation update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DPAC participated in the stakeholder feedback sessions with the Board of Education and District staff. Based upon our survey results, as well as conversations with parents and caregivers, and discussions at PAC/DPAC meetings, we advocated for the following budget items: 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increases in EA hours and caretaker hours (increase of ratio between total students and FTE hours for both EAs and caretakers) • Music programming in all schools • Increased access and availability to mental health & wellness support • Increased safety measures at NWSS • Funding for safe & reliable transportation including resources to make the busing happen, walking school bus routes, and active transportation programs <p>And that overall, student safety, increased EA hours, and mental health supports & student wellness are a higher priority than access to technology</p> <p>DPAC will be sharing these same budget requests at the upcoming Board meeting on April 25th</p> <p>Walking School Bus update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This TransLink project has a new delivery partner, the Society for Children and Youth of BC. PAC exec reps from FRMS and Qayqayt are meeting with the project manager from SYC in early May to discuss getting routes at each of these schools. We are hoping to get something in place for September 2023. The district has also been in touch with both the City of New West and SYC regarding this initiative. https://scyofbc.org/kid-commute/ 	
	<p>BCCPAC AGM and Candidates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All PACs are encouraged to submit any preferences/choices along with their proxies to DPAC by April 28th due date. <p>BCCPAC Resolutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All PACs are encouraged to submit any preferences/choices along with their proxies to DPAC by April 28th due date. 	
	<p>School Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qayqayt (Michelle Kennedy) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Struggling for volunteers ○ Sent out a letter to parents with a poignant reminder of what might happen without a PAC ○ Had an influx of interested parents ○ gearing up for spring carnival • The campaign has been more successful than expected, and positions such as treasurer, social media, and treat Tuesdays/parent night have been filled. • The PAC exec is preparing for their Spring Carnival, which is the first time they have done something like this since pre-COVID. • A letter will be sent home to make parents aware of the things the PAC does behind the scenes and the potential loss to the school if they don't have enough volunteers. • The letter is not meant to be mean but to encourage more 	

	<p>people to volunteer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● F.W. Howay Elementary (Doug Herasymiuk) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Facing similar struggles to Qayqyat, with chair & DPAC rep stepping down after a long tenure. ● They have written a letter to parents, which they plan to send out in two stages: an appeal for interest and community involvement, and a discussion of what the loss of the PAC would mean if they do not receive enough support. ● Other parents on social media are also discussing challenges with their own PACs. ● Recently completed Growing Smiles fundraiser and is considering another community event before the end of the school year. ● Fraser River (Charmaine Urbano) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transit police came to the school to do a presentation for students who take the bus to school from the West End. ○ Two students from the school won national titles in their weight class during wrestling nationals. ○ Current fundraisers include global coffees for February and March, True Earth (a continuous fundraiser), Growing Smiles, and spirit wear in June. ○ Charmaine's son is doing Jelly Bean jar fundraiser for autism acceptance month, with proceeds going to the Connects Autism Network. The child who guesses the closest number of jelly beans will win a jar and all proceeds will go to charity. ● Herbert Spencer (Courtney Daws) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Completed successful games and trivia night with about 80-100 people in attendance. ○ There will be a sexual health parent ed event on May 10th and other schools may be able to attend if interested. ○ The PAC is recruiting for next year and is trying to identify priorities and who they want to be post-COVID. ○ They are not doing a Growing Smiles fundraiser this time and are supporting others who are doing it. ○ Courtney is has a special focus on Governance and hopes to present suggested changes for their upcoming AGM. ● Lord Tweedsmuir (Kelly Mooker) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Michelle Tremblay spoke at a parent education night in February about mindfulness and boundaries. ● A movie night was held, where the movie Encanto was shown. ● A carnival is coming up on June 9th, and a Grade 5 farewell is coming up at the end of June. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timing of PAC meetings conflicting with DPAC meetings (currently on Wed before the DPAC, so info is usually quite out of date), and is looking for suggestions on how to resolve it for next year. • NWSS (Cyrus) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking for new volunteers to join the PAC, AGM in May • Longtime chair is stepping down, looking to fill that position • Treasurer will also be leaving in the future • High school can be challenging to recruit volunteers from as parents may not be as engaged • AGM/BCCPAC resolution review was recently completed and will be reviewed via e-mail with rest of PAC • Charmaine from FRMS suggested that 3 outgoing execs are going to the high-school so may be interested! 	
	<p>Old Business</p> <p>Budget Consultation Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Consultation update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DPAC participated in stakeholder feedback sessions with the Board of Education and District staff ○ DPAC advocated for the following budget items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Increases in EA and caretaker hours ■ Music programming in all schools ■ Improved mental health support ■ Increased safety measures at NWSS ■ Safe and reliable transportation ■ Student safety, mental health, and increased EA hours are more important than access to technology • DPAC will present these budget requests at the upcoming Board meeting on April 25th • Walking School Bus update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The project has a new delivery partner, the Society for Children and Youth of BC ○ PAC representatives from FRMS and Qayqayt are meeting with the project manager from SYC to discuss implementing routes for each of these schools in September 2023 ○ The district has been in contact with the City of New West and SYC about this initiative. 	
	<p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCCPAC AGM Candidates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Voting will occur in order based on the table on page 13. Starting with the First column on the left for the 1st vice president. There are two candidates for this position. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The losing candidate will then go on to be included in the list of candidates for the next position that they have checked. ○ E.g. If Vik wins the 1st vice president role, then Laura will go on to the Indigenous director role. If Laura wins the 1st vice president role, then Vik will show up later for the 2 yr director role vote. ○ Read through the bios and let your proxy holder know how you would like them to vote. ○ <u>All PACs are encouraged to submit any preferences/choices along with their proxies to DPAC by April 28th due date.</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● BCCPAC AGM Resolutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Spirit of the DPAC co-signed resolutions is to address issues with how BCCPAC communicates with members and lack of transparency around advocacy for submitted and passed resolutions. ○ The goal is to start discussions among members and signal to BCCPAC board members that more communication and better transparency on board activities, advocacy, and policies are needed. ○ The ED role is provincially funded and supposed to guide the board in navigating advocacy at the provincial level and represent BCCPAC in advocacy. ○ The current ED has resigned, but the BCCPAC "HR Committee" has not accepted the resignation, and the job has not been posted as available for over 6 months. ○ The ED spends most of their time traveling around BC to support families dealing with Section 11 challenges, and there is very little advocacy occurring on behalf of BCCPAC members. ○ <u>All PACs are encouraged to submit any preferences/choices along with their proxies to DPAC by April 28th due date.</u> 	
	<p>Adjournment: 8:56 by Laura and Doug</p> <p>Next Meeting: May 18, 2023 @ 7pm (AGM)</p> <p>At: Zoom, Hume Park</p>	