

New Westminster DPAC

School District 40

Date: May 18, 2023**Location:** Hume Park Home Learners / Zoom Virtual Meeting**Time:** 7-9 pm**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES****Chair:** Laura Kwong (Chair, Qayqayt)**Minute Taker:** Kathleen Carlsen (Vice Chair, NWSS)**Executive:** Renee Mosi (Treasurer, NWSS), Cyrus Sy (Secretary, NWSS DPAC Rep), Sue Kenny (MAL, QMS & QEE DPAC Rep)**Regrets:** Cyrus Sy, Karim Hachlaf, Maya Russell, Larisa Ciprian**Guests:** Cheryl Sluis (Board Trustee), Kenneth Headly, (District VP Diversity, Equity and Inclusion)**Parents/Guardians (via Zoom):** Melody Gibson (Qayqayt), Krista Macaulay (Tweedsmuir) Charmaine Urbano (FRMS), Sue Kenny (QEE, QB), Laurel Brewster (Hume Park, NWSS), Doug Herasymuik (FW Howay)

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm

Time	Item	Owner
7:04	Welcome, Call to Order & Territory Acknowledgement, Attendance	Laura
	Approval of April 20th, 2023 Meeting Minutes MOTION TO APPROVE: Laura, SECOND by Sue Kenny , CARRIED	
	Adoption of May 18, 2023 Agenda MOTION TO APPROVE: Kathleen, SECOND Laura, CARRIED	
7:10	Standing Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Chair Report - Laura<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Proud & grateful for all advocacy: to MLA Singh, collaboration with city, pedestrian safety. Recognize we are all volunteers, so grateful for all time and energy learning from each other. Significant time commitment and sometimes thankless.○ Activities: attended Board meeting, presented budget requests at April board meeting, BCCPAC conference and agm, recently last collab meeting, DPAC brought forth a number of topics - safety, student conduct and discipline, school code of conducts requested update from board on OCP amendment request, no update from Board. Also discussed overheating and hot classrooms.	Laura

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lastly - international day against Transphobia, Homophobia, and Biphobia. Schools in our district are facing some backlash around having these events celebrated. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Treasurer's Report - Renee Mosi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proposed budget for September 2023 - June 2024 ○ two sources of revenue: gaming branch \$2,500 yearly / stipend from SD40 ○ still some outstanding cheques ○ Gaming grant - fund parent education events / quite a few schools have taken advantage of this help / small amount of funds left to help support events - send in receipts even if the event has already passed. Also used for BCCPAC conference. ○ Operating - Bursaries, BCCPAC, allotted extra \$500 for district wide parent education event, smaller amounts for communication, zoom fees, bluetooth speaker/mic. ○ Budget designed to leave a small surplus with the idea that the money that comes in goes out to the current students. ○ Gaming grant applications MUST be in BY June 30th. Late applications are not guaranteed to receive funding / Big money up to \$50,000 for schools as big as NWSS 	Renee
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District / Trustee Update - Cheryl Sluis <p>Acknowledge yesterday being International day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia. We are seeing backlash which does not exclude our schools. I stand for equality against hate and indifference.</p> <p>Budget 2023-2024 update: Budget close to being finalized, waiting for confirmation of some fairly substantial amount of provincial funding for exempt staff. We are not operating in a cutback scenario and growing enrollment means more budget room. Provincial funding lift of 9.4% in SD40 most of which will go to cover additional wage increases and some inflation. We connected with a number of stakeholders in advance of receiving the Superintendent recommendations. This included DPAC and unions. All feedback was considered, including survey data from parents and student voice. We still have a few more details to look at. We're well aware of the discussions about funds for frosting at the high-school given how consistently this comes up. Final decisions need to be made on that. We're still not at a place where we can provide very specific direction to staff around childcare, we want to commit to enhancing child care, not clear on what that's going to look like.</p> <p>Incident Reporting & Behaviour Concerns: Hope people know about the ERASE reporting mechanism that exists. Staff are also working on inhouse reporting system. Want to reiterate that if anyone hears from a parent about a problem at school or they are not satisfied with the outcome please direct them to the principal first, then district staff : Director of Instruction, Mariam Nasser, or</p>	Cheryl

	<p>Superintendent Hachlaf,. Or you can connect with your school trustee liaison; we're here to help and can aid in connecting you to the right resource. Families should not fear retaliation, staff want to have good relationships with families. We have 1000's of kids in school with very few complaints. But we need to understand what these are and assist in resolving them.</p> <p>Extreme Heat: All parents should have an email that came out today explaining how we are trying to mitigate the heat, some schools are better equipped today than others. We are not seeing the same problems across all schools. It's a problem that air conditioning is not funded in new school construction (Skwo:wech and NWSS) and the glass design presents challenges. Two things to focus on: short term mitigation efforts happening: making sure systems are working at optimal levels, purging air in evening, closing blinds, short term immediate things are happening. Also identified the need for an admin procedure - looking at new procedures that will help guide and answer questions that parents and students may have. Also toured Ministry staff through the high school and Sko:wech to show them the situation we're dealing with. We are bringing a motion to the next board meeting - to put forth a motion to advocate for more cooling systems in our schools.</p> <p>BCSTA - BC School Trustees Association Some motions passed there::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lose school District numbers and replace these with place names - in an effort towards reconciliation. - Single mothers alliance for transit for teens - Climate Change: supporting and funding school boards to develop action plans - advocating for funding related to technology, truth and reconciliation, increased operational costs, inflationary costs, portable classrooms, child care, capital cost sharing, lots around funding. - Question about funding for Portables. Answer: this garnered a lot of discussion, portables are funded through operational funds, each portable costs between \$300,000-\$500,000 that comes out of the operational funds. The Motion was for the ministry to pay for portables, but also want the Ministry to support new schools. We are in a period where we're growing but not enough population for new schools, therefore portables should be funded. - guidelines to address how to respond to peer to peer assaults, sexual harassment and sexual exploitation - more teachers, standards for EA's - including success rates of ELL students in the framework for Enhanced Student Learning - a few others around inclusive education, screening in kindergarten for dyslexia, reducing assessment wait times 	
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	<p>We recently met with both MLA's in our district, talked a lot about capital projects and funding overall. We seem to have strong support. It's important to have a good relationship with them.</p> <p>Questions for Trustee:</p> <p>1. ERASE - seems to be a parachute response to everything with very few reports of violence, but events are experienced daily and are massively underreported. Is there a thought about not being an institutional thing, with thorough investigation and meaningful action taken afterwards?</p> <p>When the District is thinking of this, we hope they don't think "there's so few reports, it's not much of a problem". Relatives will talk to others they trust, we've heard about sexual assaults and damage in the bathrooms. There are marginalized people from other places who do not know where to go or what to do. There seems to be no root to getting initial reports, policy exists but they don't have the capacity to deal with racism or sexual assault.</p> <p>Answer: this is a Universal problem, we need to try to build a culture where reporting is not a bad thing, Ken is involved with investigations and safety in our schools. He may be able to discuss a bit during his report.</p>	
	<p>Guest Presentation - Kenneth Headly (SD40 District VP of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comes from Surrey, shared a bit of self history: grew up in Whalley, went to KB Woodward, QE High School / scholarship for music in Florida Memorial University / came back after 1 year, studied at SFU / has four boys, one graduating this year / wife is elementary counselor • Was teacher in Surrey, taught social justice, VP in Maple Ridge, during Pandemic / then created District anti-racism committee • kept up with other districts, NW pushed hard to get rid of police in schools, so I wanted to be here • Great law that focuses on the 7th generation principal - decisions we make today should result in changes 7 generations from now / will take time to make meaningful change / Main recommendations from recent report: hire more diverse teachers & staff / leaning on members of 2slgbtqia+ / working with neuro-diverse learners / students not feeling safe to report incidents at the start of the year / so started started the year with me meeting people, visiting schools, build community & trust / In Jan 2023 MoE shared K-12 Anti-racism action plan - curriculum focused on anti-racism. Vision is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC students should be able to reach potential / free of barriers where all families feel safe, recognized and valued. 6 main pillars Ministry talks about: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stop harm to racialized students in our schools / indigenous families are not in the past, they are here, we have to create holistic learning for everyone 2. Intersectionality - people come with multiple identities that we can benefit from to create change 	Ken

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Adult well being - many adults face racism 4. Inclusion calendar / monthly newsletter to staff, parent website - opportunity for parents to learn alongside their kids, personal identity work, conversations with kids. Lots of youth engagement, BC Lions, all grade 8's had presentation from Ken, shared steel drum during black history month in all elementary schools, in March - Get Real Movement - sexual identity, Black Excellence Day in October and January for grade 6-12,, UBC Black futures - 6 visits to UBC for black students to see options, use of the N word - started process to guide conversation about that word, 80 students shared their experience with how this affected their education and lived experience / educators taking thought exchange survey now 5. Student from high school - no programs for black students until now, I'm now in grade 10, Black Panther night, N word conversation,, after seeing the community we were able to create we could form a group called Roots/Racism - some teachers do not take it seriously, teachers should listen to kids, should be taught from a young age / opportunities for all ages and levels, restorative response - very powerful, learned how to respond to racism events, HR department - retain and hire more rationalized staff members, facing micro-aggressions on a daily basis, working with Aquatask - anti racism training model for staff, providing feedback, developing framework and admin procedures on responses 6. Invited to lead the planning process for a provincial anti-racism network. Working with District learning team / with SOGI - Nov 14 pro-D focus on anti-racism and SOGI / Incident response: how do we as a team respond in a collaborative way - The form for kids will have a QR code in their hallways that kids can quickly scan and say what's happened, may go to counselor, admin, school district, if not responded in an appropriate manner, have support with mental health and other professional. Focus on helping victim; in past it's been on perpetrator / we're working alongside student groups / student voice / want to see multi-cultural practises / engage in these conversations with them / SEAS group update: protested about gender violence last year, brought Nick Brown in to do restorative work with both groups. Worked with the football team and SEAS group, different thoughts about how they felt with this event. Kids came up with the idea of the coalition, continue to work with district learning team / resource audit - different ways to use some books, may pull some books. <p>Questions:</p> <p>1 Scholarship review committee members are recognizing one emerging area that is troubling: many students are asked or feel compelled to share traumatic events/ situations in their past which can be very difficult. It's a bizarre competition and an area that is under researched and under-recognized. -something to think about in future, possibly help educate grade 12 students, teaching them how to describe their authentic self without it being traumatic for them</p>	
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	<p>Answer: I will use my contacts at universities to bring this up. Never thought about it before. It should be the students' opportunity to share what they choose. Will take this into consideration as I move forward.</p> <p>2 Question is related to a struggle in trade union. Along with recognizing racism, introduction of language with Diversity, Inclusion, Equity. There is now a University course where you can certify yourself with being anti-racist without having to do any work. How do you ensure this isn't a self-reward thing, it's a real process that comes from the community?</p> <p>Answer: Let others lead. Have families and communities tell us what we need, what are we doing differently to help this. The recent District report was a great starting spot, we have to invite families to the table and show them how we're using that information to form policies. Listening to stories and experiences and finding the right tools to support that and encourage those in the Board office to slow down and really listen. So many groups are learning, trying to bring these voices together and get to a place where restorative practice is a common conversation.</p> <p>3 DEI work has been focused on middle and high school. Are there plans to introduce consent education from Kindergarten, is there a plan to introduce anti-racism work in elementary school?</p> <p>A: Action plan has no curriculum guide, hoping this lands with teachers / we can do stuff in K-5 level to celebrate diversity, learn about privilege, bring awareness in lessons, focus on respecting each other's differences. Grades 6-8 -work on the language piece, Grades 9-12 - historical structure, advocacy & activism and how to make a difference in your community.</p> <p>4 Will the parent portal with anti-racism conversation starters be out soon and will this be just anti-racism or will it include SOGI as well?</p> <p>A: Hoping this will be out within a couple days, focused on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, yes, there will be some focus on SOGI as well.</p> <p>5 A Principal in our district has received large numbers of negative feedback re: a rainbow day. Many new families from all over the world - how do we start the conversation with them and respect where they're at?</p> <p>A: Bring staff together, discuss how to raise awareness to students and families. Remembering that countries all over the world are different; it was illegal in Trinidad up until 2019 to be in a same sex relationship. There to support families, have all kids be safe in school. There will always be pushback - it's the system trying to protect itself. The Ministry put out a response recently - on their website; it is grounded in Human Rights legislation.</p>	
	<p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elections of 2023-24 SD40 DPAC Executive Council - Laurel Brewster <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Congratulations to the following 2023-24 DPAC executive: ○ CHAIR: Laura Kwong 	Laurel

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ VICE CHAIR: <i>vacant</i> ○ TREASURER: Krista Macaulay ○ SECRETARY: Kathleen Carlsen ○ MEMBERS-at-LARGE (2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Cyrus Sy ■ Sue Kenny 	
	<p>School Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● QAYQAYT ELEMENTARY (Melody Gibson) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Elections took place last month, full exec ○ planning Spring family event (use to be carnival) - too many people to do such a big event, now broken up to 2 blocks - still need lots of volunteers - May 31st ○ Stream of Dreams - organized by a teacher, put up 700 fish on the fence ○ Rainbow (Pride) Day - beginning of June 2 ● F.W. HOWAY ELEMENTARY (Doug Herasymuik) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Congrats to exec / deeply appreciate / true activists ○ Elections earlier this month / 2 new parents stepped forward for projects, another taking on social media role, / full & functioning PAC / thinking about how to organize / discreet work ○ How to recognize the long term commitment of volunteers ○ Planing science world trip, run-a-thon, principal spoke about enrolment numbers going up ● QUEEN ELIZABETH ELEMENTARY (Sue Kenny) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PAC mtg next week / trying to get more volunteers ○ Suggestion to get volunteer via Welcome to Kindergarten event ○ QEE School goes K-4 ○ Have Bees back. Avioli brought in bee hive, made honey, kids learn about bees, problems with location, neighbor housed it for a year, now back at the school, lots of learning opportunities ○ Run-a-thon idea: online donation system showing thermometer gage - an elementary school on the North Shore raised more than \$25,000 like this, will get more info and may try for QEE ○ Started blocking things off for 2 more portables, one of the largest amount of portables in the district, now 11, for an estimated growth of 55 for K-4. QB is growing with lots of families and young kids. ○ Upcoming sports day, PAC doing lemonade booth, pizza for each classroom sponsored by PAC. ● QUEENSBOROUGH MIDDLE (Sue Kenny) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AGM was held at last meeting ○ Middle school starts in Grade 5, always challenging transition for young kids 	<i>various</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NWSS (Renee Mosi) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PAC meeting next week, elections then, encourage all parents to keep involved in the high school, really important to be engaged with administration ○ a lot of disruptions in the school this year - admin has taken some steps to rectify some of the problems: including vape detectors & more cameras ○ search on for additional Co-Principal (2 in school), active search, find someone suitable, one of our VP is moving on, new VP from Richmond, hopefully compliment each other ○ Year end band concert June 8th - school cash online ○ Zone and provincial track meet next week / Provincials week after that - lots of athletes competing in those events ● TWEEDSMUIR ELEMENTARY (Krista Macauly) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ field trip to release salmon Byrne creek ○ Saleema Noon - PAC, both student and parent education ○ events coming up - Grade 5 leaving, welcome to K, sports day, parent appreciation, sponsoring licorice tradition, run a lap - get a licorice, ○ Carnival June 9th ○ Trustee Sluis was at meeting last night / elections - did not have quorum, had to call people, exploring how to increase engagement, opening up conversation with principal, make it more accessible, maybe reduce number of PAC meetings or events ● HUME PARK HOME LEARNERS - (Laurel Brewster) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Had AGM / Trustee Sluis was there / 3 parents staying on for 2nd year, trying to get more people involved ○ Camp Sasamat 9-9pm in Belcarra, whole school goes: kayaking, rock-climbing, high ropes, s'more making, swimming ○ O.W.L. came to school - falcons and owls ○ Sierra Club environmental group at school next week ○ pool party for one day in June / year end picnic, sports day at end of May, Mason Bee, Butterfly kits going home with families, have unique classes - come to end at end of May - learner portfolio one to one last 3 weeks of June come together with teacher showing work they've done, what they focused on, all your work comes into a portfolio, 3 times a year, ○ Full for next year with a waitlist, some staffing changes for next year ● FRASER RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL - (Charmaine Urbano) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AGM will be held in September ○ 3 parents leaving (Chair, Secretary, Treasurer), having grade 5 	
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	<p>welcome on May 31st / student leadership will help</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Volleyball U14 boys won silver at Provincials ○ Had a successful Jellybean fundraiser for Autism 	
	<p>Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2023 Budget Consultation/Asks - DPAC asks were pulled out from conversations and survey for our requests / In budget now increase in 1 counselor focused on curricular support / music programming equity -it's not a funding issue, it's a staffing issue / district is trying to fill these vacant positions / commitments to safety measures such as vape detectors at NWSS / increase to noon hour supervisors in NWSS, but didn't see increase in specific mental health hours / also continue to ask for blinds or frosting at NWSS ● Walking School Bus Update - Charmaine & Laura met with project delivery coordinator to share needs, now called Kid Commute / city of NW is in full support, District has confirmed their approval of this / next year 2 pilots in NW (FRMS & QQ) - there will be a paid leader per route and required volunteers may be needed / ● Can this information be shared with grade 5's new to FRMS, is this information ready to be shared? Waiting for the go-ahead, check with the Principal. ● BCCPAC AGM update - elections took place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cautiously optimistic about new board driving some change - we were co-authors of a number of resolutions regarding transparency, - small win in getting conversations started / connect with other PACs and DPACs / meeting people in person / new connections / coming out of this we've kept in contact with some of these members thinking about how we can collaborate on common issues / hoping to build this ourselves - missing the connection with other DPACs at the BCCPAC level <p>Open Discussion Period</p> <p>Sko:wech - hosting a presentation called: Girls on the Spectrum on May 31/ open to all parents and caregivers / info will go out May</p> <p>Concerns about heated classrooms in Sko:wech - question for Superintendent</p> <p>Motion: We write a letter to the Board of Education and local MLA's to ask for some action on classrooms that get too hot and do not have cooling systems. Asking for funding for these classrooms, guidance and regulations on minimum and maximum temperatures in schools & air filtration systems in place.</p> <p>MOTION MOVED: Laura, SECOND by Doug Herasymuik, CARRIED</p>	Laura
	<p>Adjournment: 9:32 by Laura and Doug</p> <p>Next Meeting: June 15, 2023 At: Qayqayt, in the Outdoor Learning Space</p>	