Date: June 15, 2023 Location: Qayqayt Elementary School Outdoor Learning Space Time: 7-9 pm

#### GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

 Chair: Laura Kwong (Chair, Qayqayt)
 Minute Taker: Kathleen Carlsen (Secretary, NWSS)
 Executive:, Krista Macauly (Treasurer, Lord Tweedsmuir), Cyrus Sy (Member-at-large, NWSS DPAC Rep), Sue Kenny (MAL, QMS & QEE DPAC Rep)
 Regrets: Cyrus Sy, Renee Mosi, Doug Herasymuik, Sue Kenny
 Guests: Maya Russell (School Board Trustee), Karim Hachlaf (Superintendent)
 Parents/Guardians: Melody Gibson (Qayqayt), Charmaine Urbano (FRMS), Allison Clavelle (Qayqayt), Trish Robinson (Ecole Glenbrook Middle School)

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm

Time	ltem	Owner
7:02	Welcome, Call to Order & Territory Acknowledgement, Attendance	Laura
	Approval of May 18th, 2023 Meeting MinutesMOTION TO APPROVE: Laura SECOND by Charmaine, CARRIEDAdoption of June 15, 2023 AgendaMOTION TO APPROVE: Krista SECOND Kathleen, CARRIED	
7:06	<ul> <li>Standing Reports</li> <li>Chair Report - Laura <ul> <li>Thank you all for coming in person</li> <li>We hoped to have a talking style meeting with an Elder to facilitate, was not possible today, plans will be made to accomplish this in the future.</li> <li>Update on the advocating DPAC has done the last month:</li> <li>1. Window covering at NWSS - there is a line time in the budget for the upcoming year. This is to be completed before school resumes in September. Parents have been asking for this for quite some time. Parents and staff have shared their appreciation for this.</li> <li>2a. Overheated classrooms, particularly in new schools and portables. Attempts to calibrate heat pumps at Skwo:wech resulted in rooms still being very warm (above 28C in some classrooms)</li> <li>2b. Portables - we've asked about plans for addressing the temperature and air quality in portables. We heard at the last board meeting from Matt Brio that there are no concrete plans at this time. District has responded: they are trying to figure it out.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Laura

Lastly we need to address something that happened today: a serious allegation was made against a current trustee. Allegations by parents that the trustee was harassing parents, members of the community including a former trustee as well as the head of the BCTF online. As parents and caregivers, we take these allegations very seriously and we hope that the District and Board also take these very seriously. This means a transparent investigation conducted by an unbiased third party from the Board of Education and District.

DPAC will always support parents and caregivers to ensure they feel safe in their communication with the Board and District. Whether that communication is in a public board meeting or online. We are speaking out now because we feel that level of safety has been compromised by this publicly elected official.

We hope the Board will take the necessary and possibly uncomfortable actions needed to reassure parents that it is safe for them to speak up and that their voices do matter, without fear of retaliation or harassment. We are also hopeful that the immediate next steps and following results of the third party investigation will be shared and communicated in a transparent, open way and communicated in good faith to ensure accountability. This is a necessary first step in rebuilding parent and caregiver confidence in the leadership in this school district. This will allow the board the opportunity to work respectfully and honestly with parents and caregivers, to support our students.

This was about safety, parent/caregiver safety has been compromised. I will remind the Board and District that we started our series of collaboration meetings this year talking about trust. We spoke about how much work it takes to build trust and how easily it is broken. It is broken.

- TREASURER'S Report Krista
  - DPAC has two accounts: Gaming and Operation
  - Gaming \$1,569.09
  - Next year anticipating \$2,500 for total of \$4069.09
  - Operating \$1026.29
  - Support from SD40 \$2500 now \$3626.29
  - Some outstanding cheques and payments to come out of accounts - including Zoom license, scholarships, parent ed
  - Last reminder: All PACs get your gaming grants in before June 30
  - Discussion re: lots of DPAC paperwork in boxes, will check with BCCPAC and maybe save the last 7 years info / archive it, put on our drive
- **DISTRICT** Report Karim Hachlaf

Acknowledge the Board just passed a budget that is not using surplus reserves that's huge and will keep us in the black for the next few years. This is due to good fiscal management in the last few years, and will be powerful for various initiatives in the future; this was a collective effort.

Updates: Summer programs are through the roof / good participation level for summer.

Year in review - board finished massive review of inclusive education - 3 year review. Board noted the work doesn't end, the board will task staff to report back, plans to involve parent consultation, there'll be more to come on that.

Heat has been an ongoing conversation. Next Tuesday the Secretary/Treasurer will share an updated administrative procedure, one that was focused just on winter weather. Heat events are part of our new reality, we need to be clear on the steps we take and share that with our community. This is in the board package and will be unveiled next Tuesday.

Additionally we continue to work with the plan, we have an external consultant to look at some of the options. Cost is going to be a factor that needs to be considered, but it will not stop us from presenting back to the board & showcasing the options we have. It's not simple, as each site is different. We need to look at a multi-layer plan, level of complexity - especially around power grids when it comes to portables

Summary - more work is being done. We have a number of opportunities to look at targeting particular schools. EGMS and QMS just recently rec'd heat pumps, and we're looking to apply for additional funding for retrofitting. We're optimistic in that process. This does not address portables, but we're moving forward. Skwo:wech is still an active project with staff-to-staff, ministry conversations, and putting proposals to the ministry for additional funds for this. It's a different process but also an active project in the high school; requires broader approval beyond District, is far more complex and costly - to provide better cooling in our classrooms - especially 2nd and 3rd level. Work will continue, we will plot away with some of those initiatives, and we will supply continual updates. Portables are going to be tricky - we're working on it but don't have a final solution yet.

Question: In the planning are you considering future proofing? Answer: Yes, this will include new builds too / mentioned QE expansion

Q: What is the future proofing plan for portables?

A: We know heat pumps in portables can add cooling and reduce heat. These pumps are expensive; if it was realistic it would be something we could consider. We haven't landed on a solution. The key factor is that portables are operational - they come out of the operations budget, they are not funded by the province. Q: for the new elementary school being planned, will the cooling option be planned for? A: We want to include that for approval /the QE expansion project has been planned for cooling.

Q: Why was it not added in the brand new school?

A: - The full extent for cooling wasn't fully costed out. This is still an active project. The process takes years. We were approved for a funding process, went through a pandemic, and dealt with the increasing costs of construction. But a new school has to be built & cooling can run millions of dollars. Now we go back to the ministry to try and get funds for cooling - through the ministry funding, but for FRMS and Qayqayt we were able to get approval for cooling systems.

Q: What is the process to go through in line with the Ministry to explore an Urban school in the new Columbia Square development or how does the district and council work with developers to create these types of schools?

A: It's tricky. Columbia Square just got in front of the council. We collaborate with the City and want to see if we can work with the developer for opportunities for considerable proposals.

Discussion re: Vancouver building 2 urban schools: Coal Harbour and Cross-town elementary.

KH: We are completely in tune with that and are working in the background. On a special task force that recognizes a number of districts (Surrey, NW, Burnaby) are experiencing a huge growth rate - over 5% in New West last year. Working with the Ministry creatively around space, working closely with the city asking what we can do to help us out, creativity around Crosstown Elementary in Vancouver is about airspace - that's what is being negotiated.

Discussion re: parking at these urban schools / staff has underground spots / parking podium shared with school in the Vancouver urban schools / only heavy traffic during drop off and pick up, most walk or ride bikes to school / big gym / huge issue over cooling

Q: With all these new towers going up at what point do lines or catchments get redrawn again / Qayqayt is so full

A: Catchment changes are very disruptive to families / commitment to be thoughtful and find when the best time for this is. Regarding the Simco (Fraser River) Elementary: catchment lines will be drawn once we have commitment of the timeline / we've been approved for funding, but technically have not received funding / the amount has not been delegated / but this will obviously help offset Lord Kelvin and Qayqayt

### • TRUSTEE Update - Maya Russell

Thank you for mentioning the allegation in the public - these are unproven and troubling. Whoever they are attributed to they are not appropriate by a trustee or anyone. These are the behaviours we are trying to teach the opposite of to students and are completely unacceptable.

-Very early in an investigation, idea of a third party external investigator is interesting, we'll think about it.

Re: transparency - we'll share as much as we can, it is an individual and a trustee is elected, they are not an employee so there are different legal situations - it's very disappointing, not anything we want to be discussing at any meeting regarding the BoE:

Any questions:

1. As DPAC executives, we have received a number of questions regarding the twitter you send suggesting the Board will investigate it. The main question being: How is the Board going to investigate the Board? To regain trust it has to be an external third party who does the investigation.

A: Fair point, we can always come back to that

Back to the capital -

In June we'll be looking at the 5 year capital plan, the immediate/short term plan for major capital

In fall we'll look at the minor projects, will share the Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) in September. This has a much longer view, take population and OCP from the city projections to look at school populations and where they will be.

Important month to look to engage parents / may need to talk about what that would look like - hoping to have both an in-person and an online session / it's a long document, we will try to pull out the most important pieces / keeping in line with our IAP2 public engagement framework we want to be thoughtful about where there is room for meaningful engagement here.

There are decisions that need to be made that are not locked in, we need to be transparent about what those are. Options will expand as we move forward. A lot of shared interest in our growth and how we manage that.

Q: Do you use the projections that are normalized for the 2050 regional strategy or do you use the baseline OCP projection lens that were finalized in 2017-18? And do you traditionally consult using inform or involve or consult?

A: we are in the consult range

- we draw on a range of consultants, more than city plan, update plan every 18 months, we share our data points with the city /have external consultants to work on data points

Q: So this will take 5 years. What is happening in those 5 years? They are adding more divisions, we know the District has made a pledge not to take any more play space away with portables, so what's going to happen? Tell us about future portables in the next 5 years

A: it's a short time crisis / Plans are approved based on numbers and numbers are based on projections, but school is not approved and built for 5-7 years, that's why we removed childcare, there is a limit to the amount of portables on sites,

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kids need more room, it's very challenging. EGMS is very very crowded, we are determined to get these schools built.	
Role of DPAC And PACs is going to be very important as we move forward. Board is asking for support:	
New elementary school is coming, many upset neighbours - have seen unacceptable parent behaviour, don't like traffic noise or sound of school bells. These neighbours are meeting with local MLAs, but school is going to be built. Nowhere else to go, if not here there is a 7 year delay. It's going to be difficult in that neighbourhood. Board could use more support. Also looking for a site for a new middle school in the West End.	
Q: Catchment redrawing - how far in advance will parents learn this? Parents need a minimum of 2 years for this information for child care and out-of-school care.	
A: We don't want to do phases of catchment changes, we want to wait until the new school is built and we're ready to move people in it. Managing uncertainty is also stressful	
Q: What kind of support are you looking for from DPAC and PACs? A: what you normally do which is effective / posting on social media, letters to the editor to help others in the community to understand we need to get schools built, not sure if we want to get more organized than that, but we can discuss. An elementary school will have less vehicle traffic, more people will park a block or two away and walk. Similarly there are lots of objections to bike lanes but people in wheelchairs use the lane and are separated from the traffic.	
Q: Program of choice review - where when we find info that you gathered A: Review and full recommendations are coming to public in september	
 School Reports         • QAYQAYT ELEMENTARY (Melody):         - Sports day on Friday / pride parade last week / provided freezies         - Discussion re: impact on the attendance of students on Pride Day as some parents do not send their kids.	
• LORD KELVIN ELEMENTARY (discussion, no rep present)- need help to get PAC up and going/ hard time getting 3 members	
• F.W. HOWAY ELEMENTARY -Had an awesome fun run / having sports day / PAC gives out freezies / encouraging past chair to join EGMS / Howay has co-chair set up for next year	

# • TWEEDSMUIR ELEMENTARY (Krista Macauly)

really busy / welcome to K / struggling with participation / tried to get newer parents and make it less formal / trying to make PAC more inclusive - field trip time /last Friday had a crazy and wonderfully successful spring carnival, thank you Trustee Russell who was on the dunk tanks, it was an awesome event. Also thanks to Trustee Sluis who ran the bbg, Chief Larrabee who did the opening, wonderful way to build community / events super well attended / 200 people attended bingo

- hard to get PAC members at meetings, but lots of volunteers / more than 130 volunteers for carnival

## • FRASER RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL - (Charmaine Urbano)

Grade 5 welcome was well attended / Mina from walking school bus was at the school; lots of interest / lots of discussion about bring your own device, talk about adding it to the school supply list / instead of using the shared chromebooks that are breaking down and not enough of them / A - no barriers / if you can bring your own device, great bring it, if not, there will be no barriers in using one

Q&A: Are chromebooks being upgraded - yes / They may be slower to log on with old chromebooks /mentioned to all 5th graders coming into the school / sports day 27th, AGM in September / 3PAC execs went to the High School / lots of new welcome to Grade 5 parents have signed up

## ECOLE GLENBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL (Trish Robinson)

Field trips happening, indigenous event at Queens Park / beach-like themed party during the day - at the school with inflatables / grade 8 grad the following week

Had elections/ key people leaving / hoping for more / need a treasurer

### NWSS (Kathleen)

#### reports from:

- HERBERT SPENCER ELEMENTARY
- SKO:WECH ELEMENTARY
- QUEENSBOROUGH MIDDLE
- QUEEN ELIZABETH ELEMENTARY
- HUME PARK HOME LEARNERS

### CORRESPONDENCE

<ul> <li>Co-signed letter with NWTU &amp; CUPE to Minister of Education, Rachna Signh advocating for funding for cooling systems in all schools and to develop guidelines for air quality with minimum and maximum temperature. This letter has been posted on our website</li> <li>Letter to the City of New Westminster in support of EGMS students from the Monkey Rebels (school club) and their advocacy for a 15 minute city.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>OLD Business</li> <li>Update on Walking School Bus - survey of interest went to Qayqayt and FRMS / we need more people to fill out survey / If pilot is successful we could get more routes next year Mina also spoke to parents at Tweeds</li> <li>As discussed in the Chair report frosting on windows at NWSS will take place during the summer</li> <li>Other items in Old Business - which included heat in the schools, advocacy to the city on the OCP and programs of choice have already been addressed earlier in the meeting</li> </ul>	Laura
<ul> <li>NEW Business <ol> <li>Letter re: Climate Action</li> </ol> </li> <li>Climate action - The Chair questioned what's happening in schools this year. At recent Education Policy and Planning meeting the district update only included two schools and it seemed to be driven by school administration or staff. A district policy has been adopted about being carbon neutral by 2030, and a climate crisis called in 2019, what are other schools doing? <ul> <li>Individual actions will not get us out of this, they can be useful for increasing climate literacy.</li> <li>At Tweedsmuir they use the Good Ancestor initiative - lots of climate focused learning / climate action grants for schools to work through / District teacher lead works with schools when school admins reachout.</li> <li>A: Climate funding not continuing / still opportunity for school budgets to support that (come out of school budget) / principals can contact us /no requirement to participate at a staff level / start small, good reminder for PACs to have conversations with principals</li> </ul> </li> <li>School Planning be involved in 15-minute city plans <ul> <li>this was passed at the City council meeting last Monday: Be it resolved</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
the City of New Westminster endorse the concept of becoming a 15-minute city and create a plan to implement by 2030 <b>LRFP</b> Discussion about the urban school model/ some have seen Crosstown on Expo Blvd in Vancouver / we need joint user agreements / this is the responsibility of district and city and developers/ developers hold too much power / advisor	

planning committee - developments in the review process, board had not reviewed it, whether it's trustees working with city and sitting on committees, they need to work together and it has to go beyond amenities / developers and cities need to work together / reviewing the planning of this city - there has to be a way to update it so we're thinking about schools as planners, nobody has thought through the process - would love the board to sift through this. When DPAC asked Supt Hachlaf about this at a previous meeting he responded "what's the urgency?" Well conversations have started at between developers & the city, partnerships are forming, tools like the OCP, legal documents need to have schools inserted. -right now a huge development application is with the city / great opportunity to advocate school planning with city <b>Re: climate change</b> - Facilities based plan - old buildings getting upgraded with heat pumps, creating better carbon neutral footprint / climate action education - Dominic - need to deliver curriculum on climate action. Does LRFP have climate action vetted in the plans / CARR - report what you are doing to address the climate action - reading through them / facilities side has seen good progress, but we should be our own benchmark, where is the leadership? The second half of the CARR report is basically empty when it comes to leadership action for climate change / Comment from guest: District is a major employer - translink has mechanism to be a leader / translink will partner with large employers	
 Adjournment: Melody / Krista 8:45 Next Meeting: Sept 2023	