

7:30

Superintendent Update

- Started on April 2nd, 2024
- Happy to work with staff and students and connect with DPAC
- Interim Associate Superintendent is Julie Pierce, has worked with interim Superintendent
- New Superintendent will be hired with input from partner groups, including DPAC
- Budget process is underway
 - No learning supports added this year
 - No service cuts either
- Working hard to handle increasing student population with portables and rearrangement of spaces
- Essential spaces for inclusive education and explorations given priority
- Excited to meet next month, met some students at symposium, their feedback important for budget priorities

Board of Education Update

- Superintendent - Mark Davidson
 - Superintendent in Medicine Hat for 8 years; former teacher, principal,
 - Has experience working on the ministry side; working in a district in a similar manner; cares deeply in relationships
- Thank you to DPAC for support with Superintendent interviews, fundraising, coordinated media on short term capacity growth
- Budget Update
 - Please respond to both district and DPAC survey
- Capacity Crisis
 - New legislation for transit-oriented growth will impact future projections
 - Land deficit - New West only has 50% of ministry site standards
 - BoE is doing a lot of advocacy with Ministry
 - For short term - \$800K for portables 2024-2025 will impact operating budget; won't lead to short term cuts, but will not be able to add. 2025-2026 projection is about \$1.1M
 - 7-8 portables this year; Qaqyat renovations; trying hard to keep specialized spaces intact
 - High School - reducing # of international students, going to online model for Career Life Ed 10. 2025-2026: further cuts to international students, move to 5-block model from current 4 block; Pam Craven to make proposal to Board by end of Month
 - Guiding Principles - original principles was quite general; new principles for K-8: students that reside in new west are put in NW schools; students are placed in catchment school; students

Sylvia Russell
(via email)

Cheryl Sluis

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Aim to spend all gaming grant this year and divide it among requests ○ Deadline for gaming reports and spending is end of the year ○ Gaming grant applications are open until June 30th and deadline is strict ○ Need AGM minutes and 3 signatures (chair, secretary, treasurer) to apply for gaming grant ○ Can use most recent AGM if next one is after the deadline ○ Offer help from DPAC for filling out gaming grant application <p>School Generated Funds Committee Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Staff, DPAC, EGMS, Spencer (Elementary), VPs, Board of Education, Danielle Connelly, NWSS PAC ● Committee members: staff, partner groups, principals, VP, 2 trustees, secretary treasurer ● DPAC has 3 seats (1 secondary, 1 middle, 1 elementary) ● Committee reviews school funds from fundraising, fees, grants, etc. ● Issue with musical theater program at high school triggered review ● 3 meetings held, account summaries and balances shown ● Recommendations to amend AP 520 and 525 in progress ● Parents want money to go to intended purpose, district wants to avoid inactive or large accounts ● Seeking balance between transparency and good practices 	<p>Laura Kwong</p>
	<p>School Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Skwo:wech (Joana) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fun-lunches ○ Decided to remove cakewalk event due to racist history ○ Will have movie night soon on Earth Day ○ Will get 450 gardening kits; t-shirt with school logo for each student ○ Saleema Noon presentation ○ Question to PACs: What type of other Grade 5 field trips do you have accommodate accessibility needs? Qayat did PNE and Cultus Lake (way too expensive).Wild Play. Otter Co-Op Park in Aldergrove; Watershed and Steveston Shipyards ● QMS (SueK) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No update ● Connaught (Heather K) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Grade5 ideas: Kayaking at Rocky Point, Otter Co-Op ○ Will be getting Saleema Noon - workshop over zoom; workshop with kids over a day ○ May - school wide field trip to ?? ○ Caseknke Ukrainian Egg Decoration for Easter ○ Gearing up for Connaught Heights Carnival ● Howay (DougH) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School brought in Bollywood Dance Teacher 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fundraisers: Fun Lunches, Purdy's, Growing Smiles ○ New Parents are starting to get involved ○ New portable in place ● Tweedsmuir (CarlineA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ArtCard and Fun Lunch ○ Lauren Mclean - Nature Workshop ○ New portables are now open and kids are happy to have a real classroom! ● Qaqyat (TheresaL) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fundraisers: Purdy's, Readathon ○ AGM in May ○ One of the PAC members is planning to go to BCCPAC ○ Trivia Night (90s) ● NWSS (CyrusS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Haven't had a meeting yet for next ○ We are losing quite a few members, and if anyone from middle schools are coming in they can reach out - especially treasurer ○ SpiritWear fundraiser 	
	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None 	<p>Laura Kwong</p>
	<p>OLD Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None <p>New Business</p> <p>Preliminary Results on Parent Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Survey ends on Sunday at midnight; Survey is open - about 450 responses so far ● Need more responses from RCAP, Queensborough, and Queen Elizabeth ● Survey data used for advocacy and budget requests to Board of Education (due next week) and BCCPAC and Ministry of Education (ongoing) ● Survey is anonymous - only ask for schools of kids ● Chart shows responses by school - colors for elementary, middle, secondary, and portables ● Want to see if portables affect comfort in classrooms ● Student safety and wellness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Most agree: feel safe in bathrooms and extracurriculars ○ Some disagree ○ Many unaware of erase reporting tool and Wellness Center ○ Need feedback for district and Board of Education ○ ERASE is an anonymous online tool to report safety, bullying, harassment, racism, and other incidents in schools; created by Alberta provincial government and school districts can opt to participate in it 	<p>Laura Kwong</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reports can be categorized and users can choose to be anonymous or not ○ Reports go to external body and then to district director of safe and caring schools → passed on to principal for actual follow up and any action needed ○ Importance of adult supervision, support, trust, and comfort for students ● Facilities and capacity challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Split timetable and urban school model have no clear consensus among parents ○ Most parents are in favor of keeping the middle school model ○ Many parents are not familiar with the long range facilities plan ○ Long form responses reveal concerns about infrastructure, advocacy, accountability, and impact of overcapacity ● Inclusive education responses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pointed out some questions about sports for diverse learners ○ Concern about the low percentage of parents who felt their children were adequately supported by an EA ○ Feedback from parents on inclusive and diverse learners, highlighting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Low percentage of parents who felt their children were adequately supported by an EA ○ High percentage of parents who knew who to talk to at school about learning support needs ○ Small percentage of parents who had concerns about the indigenous focused grad requirement ● Concerning comments from some parents who did not accept SOGI ● Proposed a budget ask for the district to hire another psychologist to reduce the wait time for assessment and to ensure the quality and training of support staff ● Transportation, programs of choice, food and nutrition, and DPAC operations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High support for the walking school bus and expansion of programs of choice to Queensborough ○ Feedback on the Fuel Up quality and supplier ○ Top three topics for parent Ed: online safety, mental health, and healthy body image 	
	<p>Adjournment: 9:05pm - Cyrus</p> <p>Next Meeting: May 18th 7pm @ FRMS</p>	