



Vancouver District Parent Advisory Council

Meeting date: **May 9, 2013** **Started: 19:35** **Ended: 21:45**

Location: Vancouver School Board

Purpose/Notes: Regular scheduled meeting

Chaired by: Colin Redfern

Minutes rec. by: Claudia Ferris

Attendance:

Present: Melanie Antweiler, Steve Baker, Claudia Ferris, Stefanie Gajdecki, Iraj Khabazian, Ivy Leung, Monica Moberg, Colin Redfern, Jim Smith

Regrets: Mabel Sun

Absent: Diana Day

Late:

Guests:

Sarina Auriel (regrets), Jennifer West (absent)

Meeting Documents:

(no documents)

Meeting Minutes:

1. Committee Business

1.1. Review Agenda

Colin Redfern

The agenda may be adjusted to provide for priority items and new items added. Once the agenda is accepted with changes, this will be the order of the business for the meeting.

Minutes:

Iraj has additions regarding two issues from PAC under new business

Addition to the Treasurers report from Colin for a request for professional development

Notice of information in the Chair's report for business continuity/intern

Motion to pass the revised agenda – Colin moved Monica seconded – carried

Motion to table approval of the minutes from the April 25th DPAC meeting until the next DPAC meeting moved by Colin seconded by Monica – carried

Report:

Status: Completed

1.2. Report from Chair

Colin Redfern

The chair will provide an update on any business attended to between meetings and provide a brief summary of activities. Where possible, the chair will include a written report in this section prior to the in-person meeting.

Minutes:

Chair was passed to Ivy Leung for the Chair Report

Motion that the date for the AGM be moved to June 20th, tentative to be confirmed by Monday May 13th - moved by Colin and seconded by Jim- carried (this is now confirmed for June 17th)

Colin moved that DPAC hold the AGM at a restaurant where DPAC can have a meeting and a dinner after, seconded by Ivy - carried

Colin moved that DPAC buy a gift in recognition of Jennifer West's contribution to DPAC in the amount of \$100.00 MEC gift card. Seconded by Jim - carried

Report:

BCCPAC Review. DPAC Chair requests a written BCCPAC report to be coordinated by Iraj and Jim with



input from Ivy, Steve and Claudia, Mabel and any other PAC reps. Iraj requested through the Chair that the link to the DPAC petition be shared with all the Lower Mainland DPACs.

AGM - Meeting Date and Location

Suggest June 20th tentatively for DPAC AGM – format should be 3 reports: Chair's, Treasurer's Report and Communications traditionally followed by a dinner. Suggestion of Cravings or similar restaurant that has an area that can be sectioned off.

DPAC Retreat - Date and Location

Colin requests that DPAC exec send into Colin in August – 3 days that will work for you – not the week of the 20th – suggest look at a Saturday or Sunday (Ivy, Iraj and Jim have responded to this so far)

Recognition for DPAC Executive Member

Colin is meeting with Patti on June 14th to get a report from Patti. At the last two table officers meeting, we recognized that we had some issues with transitions when Jennifer phased out. The discussion centered on continuity of both table officers and an intern to be able to back Steve up. Colin has a resume of an intern who looks very promising and is available in June. Chair would like to bring this intern in prior to the AGM. The idea is that this would be paid a nominal rate of \$20-\$25 per hour in a contractual obligation.

Status: Completed

1.3. Treasurer Report

Monica Moberg

The treasurer will provide an update on any business attended to between meetings and provide a brief summary of activities as well as a summary of our financial position. Where possible, the treasurer will include a written report in this section prior to the in-person meeting.

Minutes:

Colin assumed the Chair for the Treasurer's report.

Monica moved to approve professional development for Ivy to take Landmark training \$535.00 – seconded by Iraj

- Carried

Report:

Treasurer's report –

Balance of gaming account \$808 not including \$300 for the gay prom. The gay prom committee has not got back to Monica. Note we get our deposit back from Heritage Hall and there is money coming back but we have to be cautious and prudent at this time.

Status: Completed

1.4. Other Committee Reports

This will include sub-committees of the DPAC such as the Advocacy Project, the PAC Celebration, Lower Mainland DPAC or other similar activities. If possible, a written summary will be provided in the report section.

Minutes:

Report:

Pride Report – Sunday August 4th – all DPAC are invited to attend. Float decorating party evening of the 3rd only about an hour.

Special Education Ctte report – Jim

Started off slow as they are changing the reporting process with the ministry. Real discussion was about parents. When Jim asked how parents would be advised of this, the discussion turned to the explanation that before a child can receive a designation, they must have the permission of the parents. BCTF representatives explained that once they recognize the child is special needs and gets a designation, they have a weekly meeting and discuss as many of the children as needed. Parents are not invited because of confidentiality. After some discussion of the process, there was some resolve so that they would change the process so that if there are any changes made, the parent will be invited to discuss it with the team. Jim asked about ELL parents who don't know the system, recommended that there should be translation services.

Colin points out that if you have an expert opinion/diagnosis of your special needs kids, under ministry criteria, the principal and teaching team cannot ignore it.

Conference in New West and Nanaimo – 1 day conference, might be something to suggest next year –



Steve notes that BCCPAC would offer one in June if we wanted to host it then. There is a conference October 25th in Killarney – please include this in notes for retreat. Poster Speaking of Kids

Transport advisory ctte – has moved from bike advisory ctte. The intent was to get more kids biking to schools, want bike training in Sept – Colin wants to write a letter on behalf of DPAC and under the direction of his executive, parents want to promote biking and walking and anything else follows under the scope of the city of Vancouver and anything else is not our business. Discussion = should be healthy physical activities such as walking and biking and reducing carbon footprints. Under ctte 3 right now, may move to ctte 4. Executive is supportive of Colin writing a letter

ICT Ctte: not having minutes taken for parents so take your own and correct the official minutes or they get left off. Recommend that any notes that needed adding, cc to Steve Cardwell. Some cttes do include questions.

LM DPAC

Colin notes that we have chatted with other reps and has suggested we hold another meeting to reopen discussion – nothing but favourable response – please get into notes for retreat.

Status: Completed

1.5. Communications Coordinator

Steve Baker

The communications coordinator will provide an update on any business attended to between meetings and provide a brief summary of activities. Where possible, the communications coordinator will include a written report in this section prior to the in-person meeting. For on-going projects or activities, there will be sub-reports outlined below.

Minutes:

Report:

Steve Report

Surveys – have been looking into how to get more surveys up onto the website – difficulty is target audience to get information that is useful. Will carry on – want to survey all PACs on the communication we have been doing with them. While we use mailchimp it gives us some stats but some people have spam control. Reviewed list and found 6 schools that are not on the list and has emailed principals to share nominations and inviting them to PAC celebration and signing up from e-bulletin. We need some targeted approach to find out what they are doing with the emails – are they sharing them with their PACS?

Picking up proxys we had 20 schools that never responded at all...never updated us. Need more communication with PAC chairs – we might need to look at communicating directly. Iraj is saying we might like to look at using the blue box or fax through schools and principals.

Ivy has started to call the PAC list to invite them to the celebration, many of the emails need to be updated.

Ivy notes that other DPACs offer prizes for those folks that answer our surveys.

Status: Completed

1.5.1. Surveys

Steve Baker

Report:

Status: Deferred: 13/06/2013

1.5.2. Website

Steve Baker

Report:

Status: Deferred: 13/06/2013

1.5.3. Workshops

Steve Baker



Report:

Parents as Career Coaches – 35 attended – facilitator says if we can target Churchill, they've got the best set up and they are getting 140 people out when they just have one spot. We've tried JO twice and Churchill once and it is ideal – very cooperative and supportive school. Templeton is also willing to host. Note that Van Tech is also good.

Look at if it is possible to do on an ongoing basis and just continue on. Question from Ivy that there may we one presented in Chinese – Monica will follow up to see if we can find a presenter for a Chinese language workshop. Ivy suggests that this would be a great co-venture with Richmond PAC.

Question of how many we should be doing – one in fall and one in spring.

Suggestion of another option of scholarships specific workshop..

Steve note workshops for the fall – maybe media training for PACs? Colin note that we could try to get someone for PAC 201 for a workshop on constitution and bylaws. Will need to think about first speaker to be booked around June.

Dr Patricia Porter suggestion from Iraj

Status: Completed

1.6. Media Coordinator

Claudia Ferris

Report:

DPAC was very busy in the media over the final budget adoption by the VSB. We sent out a media advisory on April 28th and spent the day and evening of April 29th responding to media. Colin, Iraj and Monica all participated in interviews with media.

Coverage of DPAC's positions on the budget and on funding for education appeared on Fairchild TV, CBC TV, CBC radio On the Coast, CBC on-line, CBC Radio Canada and in the front page story on the Vancouver Courier.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/story/2013/04/30/bc-vancouver-school-board-2013-2014-budget.html>

<http://www.vancourier.com/Vancouver+School+Board+minimizes+cuts+balanced+district+budget/8317967/story.html>

Our Facebook page saw posts receive as many as 1,500 views in a week

Status: Completed

1.7. PAC Celebration

Steve Baker

Monica made motion to have a cheque for \$200 made out to petty cash for out of pocket expenses such as flowers and candles that will be fully accounting for expenses – Jim seconded – carried unanimously

Report:

PAC Celebration

Colin – will create a speech that includes some of this year's accomplishments.

Promoting DPAC executive members, we need to recruit.

Colour scheme – red and white is good.

Any outfit that goes well with red – black and white suits, red ties, grey etc.

Monica wants to include staff in the corsages

Claudia to Invite Janet, Cheryl, Omni and Fairchild – fave reporters. Mi-Jung Lee, CKNW

Status: Completed

1.7.1. Color Scheme

Monica Moberg

Red, White and Black

red or white table cloths

Red candles

Red Flowers- Red Buttonierres and Corsages - Centerpieces are floating flowers.

Red, black or white pebbles artistically strewn on tables

Minutes:



Report:

Status: Completed

1.7.2. Cheque for petty cash expenses/ Check for Flowers

Monica Moberg

Minutes:

Motion for a check in amount of \$200.00 for out of pocket expenses for Celebration. Bring me receipts or no reimbursement.

Motion for check for Flowers.

Motion for covering expenses relating to Celebration.

Report:

Status: Completed

1.8. BCCPAC

Iraj Khabazian

Report:

Status: Completed

2. Past Business

No Past Business

3. New Business

3.1. PAC Report

Iraj Khabazian

Minutes:

Report:

Iraj - Report from Graham Bruce that the PAC chair and DPAC rep are in the same household – gave advice to the PAC to verify this and check their bylaws.

Iraj - Garibaldi PAC have issue with cross boundary sibling registration – parent says they were separated. Advice to PAC is that they talk to Scott and cc Steve Cardwell and let him deal with it – thi is a constitutional requirement, no siblings can be separated. Garibaldi has been cut to 4 or 3 teachers depending on how many registrations. 1st home school base in the district.

Colin and Monica - Norquay update, received phone call today from Barb and found the same principal is assigned to Norquay again – Rob Schindell is there to observe the interaction in the meeting with parents and principal. Observe relationship dynamics – process is started. Principal had excellent administration skills and now that it is launched, maybe need someone with better personal skills. Have arranged a meeting to look at the books with parents and VSB staff.

Status: Completed

4. VSB Committee Business

4.1. VSB Board and Committee Reports and Recommendations

Report:



Status: Completed

4.2. Board Highlights of Interest to DPAC

Report:

Status: Completed

4.3. Committee I - Management Committee - Matters of Concern to DPAC

Colin Redfern

Report:

Status: Completed

4.4. Committee II - Planning and Facilities - Matters of Concern to DPAC

Colin Redfern

Report:

Status: Completed

4.5. Committee III - Education and Student Services - Matters of Concern to DPAC

Ivy Leung

Report:

Status: Completed

4.6. Committee IV - Personnel - Matters of Concern to DPAC

Monica Moberg

Report:

Status: Completed

4.7. Committee V - Finance and Legal - Matters of Concern to DPAC

Monica Moberg

Report:

Status: Completed

4.8. Advocacy Committee

Ivy Leung

Report:



Status: Completed

4.9. Date Next Meeting

Minutes:

Next Meeting Scheduled for 7:00 PM on May 23, 2013 at VSB Education Centre. (Note: Subsequent to this, at the PAC Celebration it was agreed to cancel this meeting and should there be any need to complete any business we would do this by conference call).

Report:

Status: Completed

4.10. Adjournment

Minutes:

Report:

Motion to adjourn at 9:45 PM

Status: Completed

Recording Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:
