



Vancouver District Parent Advisory Council

Meeting date: **March 14, 2013** **Started: 7:00 PM** **Ended: 9:30 PM**

Location: Vancouver School Board - Room 108

Purpose/Notes: Regular scheduled meeting

Chaired by: Colin Redfern

Minutes rec. by: Steve Baker

Attendance:

Present: Steve Baker, Claudia Ferris, Colin Redfern, Jim Smith

Regrets: Diana Day, Iraj Khabazian, Ivy Leung, Monica Moberg, Mabel Sun

Absent:

Late:

Guests:

Sarina Auriel (regrets), Suzanne Salter (VESTA) (present), Jennifer West (absent)

Meeting Documents:

(no documents)

Meeting Minutes:

1. Committee Business

1.1. Review Agenda

Colin Redfern

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.2. VESTA Presentation

Suzanne Salter (VESTA)

Minutes:

Two representatives presented report on Community Dialogue with Parents on low income. Looking to DPAC for support for presentation at Committee III on April 23, 2013. No Action taken as there was not quorum for the meeting.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.3. Approve Minutes of Last Meeting

Colin Redfern

Minutes or notes previously distributed are considered approved once presented. Any changes to the minutes are to be addressed in this section. Should there be any changes, the minutes or notes are considered approved with majority vote.

Minutes:

No Quorum - Approval of minutes carried forward to next meeting.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.4. 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.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.5. 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.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013



1.6. 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.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.7. 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.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.7.1. MLA Meeting

Steve Baker

From the Communications Plan, DPAC agreed that we would invite a meeting with the Vancouver MLAs for an opportunity for Vancouver DPAC to highlight our challenges and concerns in regard to Provincial policies affecting the Vancouver School District. The goal is to have a meeting prior to the call of the 2013 Provincial Election.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.7.2. Meetings with "Partners"

Steve Baker

Invitation sent to Support Staff Unions for meeting on April 25th at 6:00 pm.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.7.3. Surveys

Steve Baker

The communications plan included the opportunity to survey the Vancouver PAC leaders and, where appropriate, parents within the Vancouver School District. This provides the DPAC Executive an opportunity to reflect a more informed perspective of the PACs we represent from a District perspective.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.7.4. Workshops

Steve Baker

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.8. Media Coordinator

Claudia Ferris

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.9. Communications Plan

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.9.1. Funding

Steve Baker

The Communication Plan includes assessing fundraising versus funding. As part of the advocacy project for "invest in our children", the ongoing accumulation of funding challenges and fundraising challenges within the District will be monitored to allow for informed comment from our DPAC Executive.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.9.2. Trustees

Steve Baker

Liaison with School Board Trustees provides the opportunity for DPAC Executive members to address the parent voice directly with Trustees. While Trustees may approach DPAC Executive members with a partisan perspective, it is also helpful for DPAC to understand the "political agenda" from Trustees.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.10. PAC Celebration

Steve Baker

In recognition of the volunteers from PACs that assist in parent advocacy and support DPAC initiatives, DPAC has established an annual event for recognizing these volunteers. The annual celebration provides



the opportunity for DPAC Executive members and PAC Executive members to meet in a more casual environment to share stories, concerns and celebrate successes in mutual objectives. The entire DPAC Executive is involved in planning and participating in this event.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

1.11. BCCPAC

Steve Baker

Within our mandate, DPAC promotes participation of PACs in the Provincial organization (BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils). This includes promoting membership and active participation at the Annual General Meeting. Liaison with the BCCPAC Executive and other PACs throughout the Province assists in the promotion of our advocacy project on "Invest in our Children".

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

2. Past Business

2.1. Meetings with "Partners"

Steve Baker

The communications plan recognizes the importance of maintaining relationships with "partner groups" within the Vancouver School District. Establishing an opportunity to meet with partner groups to share mutual concerns and keep each other informed on our activities assists our DPAC to be effective representatives at various committee meetings of the Board of Education. In addition, the opportunity to establish an informal connection with the representatives of the partner groups assists in addressing issues of mutual concern as well as understanding the concerns of the other partners.

From meeting of 28/02/2013

Report that there were two attempts to put out dates to do a meeting with Trustees. Steve is recommending a couple of dates that would work for DPAC to put out to the trustees and Steve will follow up. Colin recommends that we try to do something before DPAC meeting 5:30 - 7:30 - suggest after spring break April 11th suggested date.

Suggest meeting with support staff unions April 25th - 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

2.2. Parents as Career Coaches

Steve Baker

Report:

As of today we have 33 parents signed up for this event that is scheduled for April 3rd and 10th. Templeton PAC has asked if they could host the same event in the Fall. More advertising for this event will be done over the break with a hope to have approximately 40 participants.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

3. New Business

No New Business

4. VSB Committee Business

4.1. VSB Board and Committee Reports and Recommendations

DPAC Representatives to Committees and the School Board have the opportunity to provide input. When reporting on representation to Committees, the purpose of reporting to DPAC is to address issues of concern to DPAC and/or parents. Highlighting issues that are likely to be of future concern to DPAC or parents and to acquire guidance and input from members of the DPAC Executive is what needs to be addressed at Executive meetings. Other Committee or Board information is available publically and is available to the DPAC Executive so there is no need to share other business of the Committees or the Board with the DPAC Executive.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013



4.2. Board Highlights of Interest to DPAC

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

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

Colin Redfern

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

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

Colin Redfern

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

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

Ivy Leung

Report:

March 12, 2013

1. Reconciliation Canada - presenter asked for support from VSB to promote project and a Walk for Reconciliation on September 22, 2013 in Vancouver BC. Our Board members fully supported.

They are a charitable project, established as a collaboration between the Indian Residential School Survivor's Society (IRSSS) and Tides Canada Initiatives Society (TCI).

www.reconciliationcanada.ca

2. Pinnacle Alternative Program

"Transitions and Supports for Aging-out Students"

Program leaders requested extensive support for these vulnerable students after they reach age of 19. They asked for continuous supports until the end of the school year. Services ranging from mental health issues, neglect and abandonment, severe trauma, addictions, and abuses of all kinds. There is a huge gap, to lessen the gap, required a cohesive plan involving all agencies will be challenging to implement. The 3 stakeholders - Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Children and Family Development.

3. Changes to Settlement Eligibility Criteria and Funding

As of April 2014, the following categories will no longer be eligible for service

- Temporary foreign workers (work permit holders)
- Student permit holders
- Refugee claimants
- Naturalized Canadians (landed immigrants who become citizens)

These students will be the Federal Government responsibilities.

Trustees plans to write letter to both Federal and Provincial governments.

4. Elementary Special Education Program Updates

VSB for re-purposing reasons and better align their programs with current student needs, will be

- relocating the 2 MACC classes from Queen Mary to Olser Elementary.
- Reconfigure the MACC Program at Tecumseh from Grade 6/7 to Grade 5/6/7
- discontinue the grade 4/5 MACC program at Tecumseh
- create a new Gifted Outreach teaching position
- Create a SEAD (social, emotional, and academic development programs) at Beaconsfield, McBride, and Nightingale for September 2014.
- close the Learning disabled/behavior disordered (LDBD) program at Seymour
- close the Social Development Program at Bruce Elementary
- close the Special Remedial Program at Nelson Elementary
- Early Intervention Program - Changes to PEIR hosts by Collingwood over past 5 years
 - now to create a VSB early intervention resource program
 - close the Life skills programs at Beaconsfield

VSB claimed no extra monies are needed to make all above adjustments.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013



Steve Baker

4.5.1. Aboriginal Focus School

Status: Completed

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

Monica Moberg

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

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

Monica Moberg

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

4.8. Advocacy Committee

Steve Baker

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

4.9. Date Next Meeting

Report:

Next meeting will be April 11, 2013. A request has been put to the Trustees to meet for dinner at 5:30 PM. Confirmation has not been received.

April 25th may be a meeting with the support staff unions starting at 6:00 PM. Confirmation has not been received yet.

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

4.10. Adjournment

Status: Deferred: 11/04/2013

Recording Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:
