

DPAC Minutes General Meeting

September 13, 2017.

1. Call to order @ 6:30 p.m.
2. Attendance: Marta Bukmeier, Wendy Collins, Carl Cooper, Sheri Hamilton, Vic Hamilton, Heather Hamlin-Gravells, Jennifer Henrie, Erna Jacobs, Peter Jory, Nikki van der Meer, Kerry Miller, Heather O'Brien, Julie Pleadwell, Kari Wilkinson, Christy Wright, Marcie Zimmer.
3. Motion was made by Kari W. to adopt the minutes of the general meeting of June 20th, 2017, seconded by Sheri H. and all attendances were in favor.
4. Treasurer's Report:
 - Update was made to the Income and Expense statement of 2016/2017.
 - July and August 2017 statements:
 - Revenue: BCCPAC AGM reimbursement \$428.00 was received for travel plus \$0.26 interest.
 - Expenditures: \$75.00 for DPAC membership in the BCCPAC and thank-you gifts for Steve Fabro (who represented DPAC on the policy committee for 9 years); Heather Hamlin-Gravells, outgoing Secretary and Jennifer Henrie, outgoing Vice President; which comes out of the General PAC Supplies.

DPAC has proposed to host the following:

- "Screenagers" documentary talks about "what does the screen do to your brain?" which costs \$650.00 plus \$50.00 to rent a facility.
- "Over 18" documentary: SMS paid for multiple-use licence fee to show at Salmar Theatre on September 18th. SMS has offered DPAC the opportunity to show this film to parents at no additional licence fee. We would only have to pay rental fee for a facility or have a showing at a school library.
- Carole Fullerton Parent Numeracy Workshops – November 8th in Armstrong and February 22nd in Salmon Arm. Cost \$1,000 and approved from last year's Gaming Grant funds.
- DPAC will work with Carl Cooper to find additional parent workshops over the next year. Other topics may be considered like workshops about anxiety or digital literacy.

Motion was made by Kari to increase the Expenditures budget to \$3,500 for Parent Education Sessions. All of the funds we receive from gaming + \$1000 carried forward from last year, will be spent on parent workshops. In order to balance the budget, we reduced the BCCPAC conference item to \$1000 and we removed the "reserve for next year" item and we reduced the meeting expense item to \$425.19. Seconded by Sherri H. and all in favor.

FTE funds means full time equivalent which means that \$0.17 per student can be spent on parent workshops. Each PAC receives this funding from SD83 in the New Year. PACs can choose to use these funds for their own parent education at their school or forward to DPAC so we can pool our money to host larger parents workshops.

Spelling Bee - this is an event that LASS (Literacy Alliance of the Shuswap Society) puts on each year as a fundraiser. DPAC usually supports this event by attending at a cost of \$1000 and supporting our volunteer one to one readers. We decided to continue to support this event as LASS does work in our schools in alignment with our objectives. We can no longer use gaming funds for this purpose, so the funds will have to come from our general account.

5. Mr. Peter Jory, Superintendent of School District 83:

Mr. Jory engaged in discussions with community members to get a global understanding of the community. Senior team has worked together with Mr. Jory to come up with a draft for a strategic plan. It is critical to go through a process with the PCG (Public Consulting Group) with info of main ideas and feedback. From October 16-20, there will be 5 sessions to create a draft schedule and where questions can be answered.

Following a strategic plan, a long-term facilities plan can be made. With a serious facilities plan, capital can be gained from the Ministry of Education. Space challenges will be coming up.

The School District uses the Baragar Demographics program for cohort management which studies demographics and calculates birth rates.

First on the list was the hiring of qualified teachers while applying restored contract language to that process. More than 200 postings were filled with full-time, part-time and other positions which were driven by increased enrollment and the restored contract language.

Infusion of money changed the landscape and therefore the School District is not in a crisis.

Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA): The main goal of this tool is to build trust in the school system in which everybody can believe in and should engage in: Students, teachers and parents. Students should be prepared to write the test. If they are ready for the test, there will be fewer gaps, creating confidence for students and communities. Teachers could work on gaps before end of school year. Parents should be able to understand practises at school. Coaching of principals is happening. As a tool, it is not complete and the method is not representing the whole school.

The approach of the district is to coach principals to communicate effectively with parents and the public. Principals should be easily approachable, websites should be up-to-date etc. "Parent Connect" can be worked on. It is always best to exhaust the communication line with the principal first.

More technology will come to the schools with training to match as well. Old technology will be taken out, so that new ones can come in.

Library Commons: A library with modern library services, technology, more than 1 teacher working with students and is an interactive education center.

The three pillars of this School District are:

- ✓ Students first: Improve the life trajectory of the student.
- ✓ Organizational efficiency
- ✓ Health and wellness

6. Mr. Carl Cooper, Director of Instruction:

- Enrollment numbers as per September 9, 2017: 83 students above last year and 100 students above projection numbers in February. When there are 3 special needs students in a classroom, there will be 1 student less in that class; when 4 special needs students, there will be 2 students less per class. New classrooms are being set up, computer rooms are being converted. M.V. Beattie received 1 portable which did not need to be funded out of the capital account.
- French Immersion is in demand and placement is a problem. Registration has changed for all Kindergarten students to October 2. One can plan better when information is received at an early stage, so the goal is to inform everyone before registration starts.
- Implementation days: There are 4 provincial leaders for new curriculum, 30 teachers train teacher leaders to work with staff. It is a complete deconstruction of what we did before. Teacher is not the centre of learning anymore, but will be the facilitator. The new curriculum is going deeper into learning. Enquiry, creativity, collaboration, versatility, think what you can do and become entrepreneurial are all part of this new direction.
- Carole Fullerton is the provincial leader for numeracy. She will be 8 days in the district. Thirty teachers watch her teach. She will be in Armstrong November 8th, 2017 and in Salmon Arm at the DESC February 22nd, 2018.

7. Discussion items from the Partner Group Table:

- ✓ Review of number of trustees and representation for a newly elected board. First a recommendation will go out to the Ministry of Education put together by a subcommittee which consists of 1 person of every partner group (NOSTA, CUPE, DPAC, etc.). Various models of trustee groups will be considered and then shared with the communities for feedback. A recommendation will be sent to the Ministry of Education by the end of December so the government can consider and make a decision by spring 2018.
 - ✓ Surplus money: Budget is tighter this year. Surplus is \$1.2 million of which over \$900,000 is internally restricted, with an unrestricted amount of \$363,000. **Please review the list and email your comments to DPAC before September 20th.** No transfers to capital.
 - ✓ PVP (Principal / Vice Principal) meetings: The goal is to all meet, also for VP. Budget will be streamlined; some money may be saved here and may not need the full \$8,000.
 - ✓ Curriculum Implementation \$100,000: Government is demanding this change and district is compelled to do this. New curriculum is designed to be student centered and does not look the same everywhere. Designated teacher will provide learning sessions for teachers and cannot be done only on Pro-D days.
8. Next DPAC meeting will be October 16, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m. at Carlin Elementary Middle.
Guest: Official Trustee Mike McKay.
9. Adjournment 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Erna Jacobs
DPAC Secretary

