

MINUTES



DPAC
DISTRICT PARENT
ADVISORY COUNCIL
ABBOTSFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: February 23, 2023
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Zoom
Executives in Attendance: Michelle Bastien, Vice Chair
Winsome Rauch, Secretary
Tracey Lamoureux, Treasurer
Amy MacKenzie, Director
Kara Dickson, Director
Special Guests: Director of Instruction Kat Hannah, Trustee Mike Rauch
Attendance: See Zoom Attendance attached

1 Call to Order

Acting Chair Michelle Bastien called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

2 Welcome & Introductions

Acknowledgement of Local Indigenous Community

3 Updates from Director of Instruction Kat Hannah

Director of Instruction Kat Hannah provided update on Learning Support Services Department and how it affects the district. She discussed home-school partnerships, learning and success for every student, and growing adult connections, skills, and competencies so that students can grow in those areas too.

LSS is working on increasing the capacity of staff to implement inclusive instructional practices through initiatives such as monthly departmental professional learning, a district-wide workshop series, and individual and team consultations. She listed key projects and activities in the district that support the strategic plan pillars.

Ms. Hannah explained Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) tools and shared a YouTube video demonstrating the use of a core word board. She also reminded parents about the Student and Family affordability fund for 2022-2023. All inquiries will be kept confidential.

4 Question Period with Director of Instruction Kat Hannah and Trustee Mike Rauch

Questions were asked and answered about

- How is the core word board used? This requires special software licensed to the district. Young people use the software on iPads, or staff can make laminated flipbooks. It is used by schools that are interested and schools can ask for them from the speech language

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pathologists. The use of this assisted technology is used at elementary, middle, secondary. It can be used with adults and with peers and the core word boards are tailored for each student or context. Reach out to your principal for AAC tools.

- Whether the Affordability fund could be used for players on the school wrestling team? Talk to your principal.
- How does one go about receiving learning support for their child? Start with the classroom teacher. They will evaluate the strengths of the learner to leverage it and support the student to learn what they need to learn. If there are young people who are struggling, refer to school-based team. This team will look at supports, develop a plan, and work with the family.
- A checklist or a flow-chart for parents seeking support for their child? Start with a conversation with the classroom teacher if you have questions, concerns, worries. Step 1 – teacher; step 2 – principal; step 3 - school-based team.
- Whether the information about school-based team can be shared with parents? Some parents don't seem to reach out for assistance through the school district or school because they believe the wait is very long. Or that their child may be identified for support, but they are not high enough priority relative to other children. Parents are always encouraged to speak to their teachers and ask.

5 Quorum

The quorum of five voting members was met.

6 Approval of the Minutes from January 26, 2023

Secretary Winsome Rauch read the minutes of January 26, 2023, meeting.

It was MOVED by Michelle Bastien and SECONDED by Jas Badesha THAT the minutes of the January 26, 2023 General Meeting be approved. CARRIED

7 Treasurer's Report

7.1 Treasurer Tracey Lamoureux presented Account balances as of February 23, 2023

7.1.1 Gaming Account \$9055.72

7.1.2 General Account \$1955.18

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8 Old Business

- 8.1 Shared Zoom licenses (email requests to sd34zoom1@gmail.com)
- 8.2 Parent Info Session – Rising to Resilience with Dr. Jean Clinton (Held February 16th at Abby Arts from 6-7 pm).

9 New Business

- 9.1 2023-2024 Calendar Feedback – please give feedback to the school district.
- 9.2 Superintendent Search Feedback – reply by February 28.
- 9.3 Parent Information Session in April - The topic will be “Sexual Exploitation” and details will be given closer to the date.
- 9.4 SD34 Events
 - 9.4.1 Public Board Meeting – March 7th at 7 pm, also livestreamed on YouTube
 - 9.4.2 Public Board Meeting – April 11th at 7 pm, also livestreamed on YouTube
 - 9.4.3 Annual Joint Partnership Meeting – February 27th 6:30-8 PM at Clarion for DPAC executives, principals, senior administrators, Board of Education trustees, PAC Chairs and one other PAC member. Registration is required
 - 9.4.4 Erase Parent Session – February 27th and March 9th – 6:30 PM (virtual) – registration is required.
 - 9.4.5 Public Budget Info Night - March 2nd. This is the first of two budget information nights held at the School Board Office. The second budget information meeting will be held mid-May.

10 Open Floor

- 10.1 Keeping Minutes – A recommendation was made to keep minutes posted on the school website for 3 years. The School Act states that the minutes need to be kept in a location that is easily accessible by all parents. A hard copy of the minutes should be kept in that location for 5-10 years depending on how the PAC is set up (5-year minimum for Gaming; 7 years if the PAC is a registered charity with CRA; 10 years if PAC is a registered BC Society)
- 10.2 BCCPAC Early bird registration ends April 13. The Conference and AGM is May 5-7. Community Gaming Grant funds may cover the reimbursement of attendance fees or travel costs to the BCCPAC conference for up to two volunteers. At the September 2022 meeting, DPAC members voted to approve \$1600 to send volunteers to the BCCPAC conference. Treasurer Tracey Lamoureux will write to Gaming to find out if the reimbursement could be extended to additional attendees.

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It was MOVED by Michelle Bastien and SECONDED by Jas Badesha of ATS THAT DPAC approve an additional \$1850 to spend on BCCPAC Conference and AGM on May 5-7, 2023. CARRIED

- 10.3 Gender Equity – A concern was raised from a school about girl basketball and volleyball teams not getting the same coaching and support as the boys’ teams. The member will connect with former DPAC director Tanya Coghill who has been advocating to remedy the disparity.

11 Next Meeting

The next DPAC meeting will be held April 27, 2023 at 7 PM through Zoom.

12 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

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Zoom Attendance Report

Name (Original Name)
Michelle Bastien- Vice Chair (Shannon Rose)
Winsome Rauch DPAC Secretary (Winsome Rauch)
Amy MacKenzie - Dr. T.A. Swift Rep & DPAC Director (Amy MacKenzie - TA Swift Rep & DPAC Director)
Kat.Hannah Abbotsford School District (she/her)
Tammy Koop
Mike Rauch
jas - ats (Iphone)
Lisa Brandsma
Kara Dickson-DPAC Director/Rep @ IKT
Tracey Lamoureux
Cheryl Davie
Elyse Bradner Elem (Elyse)
Kiran Harry