



DPAC Newsletter

School District #43

November 2003

Volume 1, Number 2

"Our mission is to facilitate, support and advocate for the effective involvement of parents as partners working towards excellence in education."

DATES TO REMEMBER:

DPAC

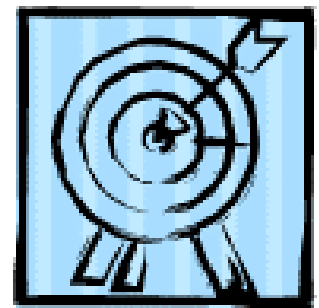
- November 19th
"Leading the Way" BCCPAC Workshop 7 pm
Gallery Room
Winslow Center
- November 26th
DPAC General Meeting 7 pm
Gallery Room
Winslow Center
Speaker: Terry Small
- January 14th
"Asset Building"
Presentation
7 pm Gallery Room
Winslow Center
Speaker: Keith Pattinson

2003/2004 DPAC Goals

DPAC President, Linda Reimer, reviewed each of this year's four DPAC goals at October's general meeting. These goals were formulated at the DPAC Executive Retreat, an all-day planning session held last June to review the past year and plan for the next. The goals for this year were based on the results of the DPAC "Tell Us How We Are Doing" member PAC survey and feedback from the May AGM. They include several specific targets and are as follows:

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS:

- HOLD REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETINGS TO REVIEW & UPDATE OUR DPAC CONSTITUTION/BYLAWS
- REPORT OUT TO MEMBERSHIP ON PROGRESS & OBTAIN FEEDBACK WHERE NECESSARY



PARENT EDUCATION:

- DELIVER 3 PARENT EDUCATION SEMINARS (participants to fill out feedback questionnaires)
- Possible Topics: Communication; Team Building; Conflict Resolution; SPCs; Advocacy; Parenting; Teachability Factors; Asset Building

NETWORKING:

- CHANGE FORMAT OF GENERAL MEETINGS
 - HOLD AT LEAST 1 ZONE NETWORKING SESSION PER YEAR
 - HAVE NETWORKING AT MORE THAN 50% OF MEETINGS
- Possible Topics: Education Core Values; PAC Participation; Sharing; Issues Discussion; Question Period

INCREASE PARENT INVOLVEMENT:

- INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENT ED
 - INCREASE PAC PARTICIPATION THROUGH EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION
 - BUILDING ON OUR PARENT BASE
 - ZONE REPS TO ESTABLISH GOOD COMMUNICATION WITH THEIR PACS
- INCREASE MEETING ATTENDANCE BY 10%
- ENSURE AN INCREASE OF 7, IN THE DPAC REPS AMONGST THE NON-ATTENDING 15 SCHOOLS

- January 28th
DPAC General Meeting 7 pm
Gallery Room
Winslow Center

SD #43

- Board Meetings
2003/2004
7:30 pm
November 18
(Catchment Review)
December 9
January 6
January 27
550 Poirier St.
Coquitlam
- November 17th
Transportation Review Public Meeting 7 pm
Gallery Room
Winslow Center
November 27th
Survey due to Board Office
- December 2nd
District Strategic Plan Parent Input Meeting 7 pm
Gleneagle Secondary School Library

“Leading the Way” Workshop

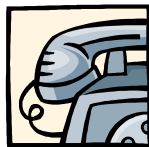
What is leadership? Why do we need effective leadership in PACs and DPACs? How will effective leadership lead to greater parent involvement in our schools and districts? This participatory workshop will examine these key questions while helping you assess your own leadership style. Learn about consultation, representation, and conflict resolution; how to take a position on an issue; and how to move your PAC or DPAC forward to effective decision-making.

November 19th Winslow Center Gallery Rm from 7 to 9:30 pm
Please R.S.V.P. by Saturday, November 15th to Claude Hrycaiko, DPAC Parent Education Coordinator, at 604-942-5013 or claudenh@shaw.ca

There is no charge for the workshop. The workshop is designed for PAC Presidents, Vice Presidents, DPAC Reps and any others wishing leadership training.

Updates

DPAC Advocacy Project



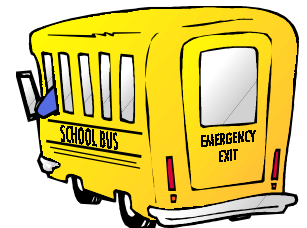
We are still looking for new advocates, either English speaking or with the ability to help families in other languages. Contact the DPAC office for an application form or pick one up at the November 26th DPAC General meeting. Training is provided.

Secondary School Catchment Review

The District's Steering Committee will be presenting their recommendations to the Trustees at the November 18th Board Meeting.

SD#43 Transportation Survey

By now, this District survey should have arrived at your school. Contact your Principal if you do not yet have your PAC's copy. Your PAC's input is essential. It will help to shape the Student Transportation Policy and will affect how District dollars are spent. The **survey is due** to the Board Office by **November 27th**. A **public meeting** will be held on **Monday, November 17th in the Gallery Room at Winslow Center** to allow members of the public to make 5 minute individual or group submissions. Contact Barb Simonovic at 604-937-6712 by noon Friday, November 14th to place your name on the speakers' list.



Designing Our Future: A Blueprint for Excellence

One final opportunity has been provided for parents to be involved in Stage 2 of the Strategic Planning Process of SD#43. There will be a **Parent Input “Make Up” Meeting Tuesday, December 2nd from 7 to 9 pm at Gleneagle Secondary School Library (1195 Lansdowne Drive, Coquitlam)**. All parents are encouraged to attend with a special request going out to parents of elementary school aged children. For more information contact Julie Pearce or Donna Greenstreet at 604-939-9201.



2003/2004
School Calendar:

December 19
Schools close for
Winter Vacation

January 5
Schools reopen after
Winter Vacation

District 43 Parent
Advisory Council
1100B Winslow Ave.
Coquitlam, BC
V3J 2G3

Phone:
604-939-3690
Fax:
604-939-3695
email:
dpac43@telus.net

... and we will soon be on
the Web!

DPAC
ADVOCACY
HOTLINE:
604-939-0111

BCCPAC Membership Due



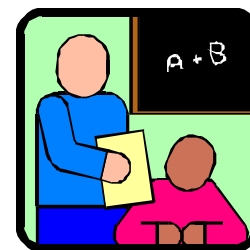
DPAC feels that it is extremely important that all of its member PACs are also members of the provincial parent organization BCCPAC. For that reason, DPAC will continue to subsidize BCCPAC membership fees this year. PACs are asked to **submit the BCCPAC Registration form along with a cheque payable to 'DPAC' to the DPAC office (or bring it to the GM) by November 26th**. DPAC is requesting a minimum \$30 contribution but if a PAC is willing and able to pay the full \$65 BCCPAC fee, it would certainly be appreciated.

Terry Small Presentation

A reminder that Terry Small will be speaking about "How to Help Your Child Succeed in School" at the

November 26th DPAC General Meeting
from 7 to 8 pm

**Please R.S.V.P. to Claude Hrycaiko, DPAC Parent
Education Coordinator, at 604-942-5013 or
claudeh@shaw.ca**



Please note correction to RSVP email address from previous newsletter.

Highlights - October 29th Meeting



On **January 14th (7pm Winslow Center)**, **Keith Pattinson** will be giving a presentation to DPAC parents on "**Asset Building**". We hope to have Tamara Ramusovic, President of Student Leadership Council, give an introduction. The SD#43 Student Leadership Council is supporting the implementation of the Asset Building program in our District.

BCCPAC

A BCCPAC Regional conference is being planned for February or March of 2004. It will be held in Burnaby/New Westminister. Details to follow.



A new Issues Bulletin dated November 2003 is now available on BCCPAC's website <http://bccpac.bc.ca/> under 'What's New'. It is titled an "Overview of the District Allocation of Funding to BC Public Schools". It explains how education funding is allocated to schools in BC. The bulletin contains important information for PACs, DPACs and School Planning Councils as they participate in school and district budgeting, planning and decision-making.

Note there has been a change of the "Members Forum" password effective October 31st. See your BCCPAC mailing.

The Society for Advancement of Excellence in Education has released a 60-page report on School Planning Councils. It is available on BCCPAC's website <http://bccpac.bc.ca/> under 'What's New'.

BC College of Teachers has now released a "Person Complaints" Brochure. It is available on-line at http://bcct.ca/documents/pc_brochure.pdf



School District #43

The Board of Trustees has authorized the creation of 5 new Vice Principal positions in District 43. DPAC will be involved in both the short-listing and interviewing of candidates.

On or before Oct 30th of each year, school boards must submit to the Ministry of Education a declaration that their class size averages comply with provincial legislation. DPAC now has a copy of our District's report if anyone would like to see it.

Dr. Gordon Neufeld is a Vancouver-based developmental psychologist who consults with parents and professionals regarding children, their challenges and their teachability. Last August, he led a 3-day conference sponsored by SD#43. He will be returning to the District once again in late August 2004. Details to follow.

Ministry of Education

This year's grade tens will not be writing the FSA's, they will be writing the new Language Arts Provincial Exam. The new Grad requirements are in the process of being implemented, they can be viewed at

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation/grad2004.htm



School Community News



Gleneagle Secondary Christmas Craft Fair – 1195 Lansdowne Drive, Coquitlam, Saturday, November 15th from 10 am to 4 pm

Castle Park Elementary KIDS SWAP MEET - corner of Confederation Drive and Citadel Drive, Port Coquitlam, Saturday November 15th from 9am to 2pm

Nestor Elementary School Christmas Craft Fair - 1266 Nestor St, Coquitlam, Saturday, November 15th from 10 am to 4 pm

Neighbourhood Forum & Ideas Fair – Sasamat Outdoor Centre, Saturday, November 22nd from noon to 4 pm Sponsored by TriCities Community Solutions Info at www.communitysolutions-tricities.ca

The DPAC Newsletter is distributed only via email. Individual PACs can print out copies for circulation as needed. Does your PAC have a question for DPAC? Do you want to publicize an upcoming speaker, conference or school event? Submissions will be accepted from individual schools and included space permitting. The monthly deadline will be the date of the DPAC general meeting. Please email to the DPAC office with "newsletter" in the subject line.

