



District Parent Advisory Council

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District 43: Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Anmore and Belcarra

DPAC General Meeting Wednesday, November 25, 2009 Gallery Room, Winslow Centre

Heidi Gable called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

DPAC Executive in attendance: Heidi Gable – President, Constance Woodhall-White – Secretary, Jason Turner – Treasurer, Deanne Harris – Health & Safety Coordinator, Julie Dott – South Zone Rep, Marie McCabe – Member at Large.

Minutes taken by: Constance Woodhall-White

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION made by Marie McCabe, seconded by Julie Dott, to accept the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

MOTION made by Ryan Drew, seconded by Marie McCabe, to accept the minutes of the October 25, 2009 General Meeting as presented. **CARRIED**

3. President's Announcements

- Heidi Gable

- BCCPAC Fall Conference
- District budget process:
 - Session (to be held in the gym @ Winslow Centre) for school teams (teams to include Principal/teacher(s)/CUPE/parent(s)) run by Tom Grant & Rick Humphreys to help inform the teams "How money flows to the schools; issues surrounding the budget that come up and how that will look", and then time for the "teams" to discuss their own school's budget within their team
 - Question asked: What are we going to do with the problems we know there are with the budget?
 - Response: Currently PACs raise money now for a number of items that are felt should be covered by the school budget. Suggested that a survey (online survey using survey monkey) is conducted to get an idea what PACs are actually paying for. BCCPAC would also like this information.

4. Superintendent's Report

- Tom Grant

- What is an effective school district? Too many assumptions have been made so we went back and looked at "How we work with Principals and parents" – much more satisfying.
- Looking at better ways to get parent involvement
- A framework with different perspectives
 - How do we communicate?
 - What is the role for volunteers?
 - How do we as parents provide support at home?
 - How do we involve parents in the decision making process?
 - How do we support partnerships with the District and parents?
 - How do we use the framework?
 - When do we bring PAC into discussions?
- Coquitlam (District 43) is the second lowest funded District in the Region

- Planning a Budget Evening:
 - we will discuss how the money is allocated
 - how does money get to your school?
 - How parents help your school make decisions?
- Involving parents more in governance, new principal hiring – inviting DPAC to participate
- Full Day Kindergarten
 - Parents have the right to enroll or not
 - Staying with a play based program
 - Roll out the program over 2 years
 - 1st year (Sept. 2010) will be some schools based on number of seats our District gets allocated (schools chosen based on vulnerability, space available, resources)
 - Have Nancy Carl come in and give the parents a better idea of what it will all look like
 - A protocol will have to be designed for first & second year

5. New Buildings & Designs - Carey Chute

- Following the concept of Neighborhood Learning Centers
- There has been an evolution since Sept. 30/08 – underutilized schools prompted a process of bringing community agencies together to see what could be done to work with them & help meet their needs as well (ie. Providing services, kitchens, theatres, halls, libraries)
- Money from both the ministry & community to help fulfill some of these needs
- Former pilot projects in Prince George, Queen Charlottes & Peace River
- the purpose is to bring community schools under one space that in turn helps increase both daytime & night time use & access > inclusive approach

6. Treasurer’s Report - Jason Turner

- Income Statement to 31Oct09 vs 2008/09 Budget
- Financial Statements received and will be filed into records as presented for review at the end of the year
- Approval of the 2009-2010 DPAC Budget
 - Proposed 2009-2010 budget was presented

MOTION made Jason Turner, seconded by Terry Towner, to accept the “2009-2010 Proposed Budget” as presented. **CARRIED**

7. Volunteer Opportunities

- Tabled until next DPAC General Meeting

8. Networking

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9. Adjournment

MOTION made by Heidi Gable, seconded by Julie Dott, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. **CARRIED**