



# District Parent Advisory Council

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

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## DPAC General Meeting Wednesday, November 26, 2008 Gallery Room, Winslow Centre

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

DPAC Executive in attendance: Heidi Gable - President, Darren Rosenthal – Vice President, Jason Turner – Treasurer, Kristina Harvey – Parent Education, Kim Nelson – West Zone Rep., Marie McCabe – Member at Large, Richard Stewart – Past President

### 1. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION** made by Marie McCabe, seconded by Ginger Nasser, to accept the agenda as presented.  
**CARRIED**

### 2. Approval of Previous Minutes

**MOTION** made by Heather Rossi, seconded by Shannon Phillips, to accept the minutes of the October 29, 2008 General Meeting as presented. **CARRIED**

### 3. President's Report

- Heidi Gable

- o Power point presentation – quotes & support of parent involvement

### 4. Superintendent's Comments

- Tom Grant

- Senior staff already looking at presentation they will make to politicians
- At our January meeting the District should have a number of facility initiatives to present to us
- Involved in Middle School revisioning
  - o Looking at where we are after 14 years of having middle schools
  - o Are we meeting the needs of today's kids/learners?
- Seeing all sorts of Olympic opportunities
  - o i.e. athletes visiting schools; curricular perspective
- Tom talked about a "Safety Audit Team" program that runs in North Vancouver District
  - o Teams are made up of Administration/Teachers/Parents/Students
  - o Look at social, physical & emotional safety
  - o Safety audit is done 1/year at every school > takes approximately 4 hours
  - o Tom posed the question to all in attendance: Is this something we as parents would like to see implemented in our District?
    - Show of hands indicated that yes, our parents are interested
    - If anyone has any other feedback on this they were asked to give it to Heidi
- 4 administrators retiring at Christmas:
  - o Vice Principal from Aspenwood Elementary
  - o Principals from Blakeburn, Hampton Park, Seaview
- Relooking at the way the District handles the process for interviewing for administrative positions > usually 1 or 2 parent reps are asked to be a part of the process, but as the meetings are always conducted during the day most parents have to take time off of work to participate
- Grant received from the Attorney General's Office
  - o Money used to hire 7 settlement workers > mandate is to help refugees get settled in the community
  - o Settlement workers stationed out of Coquitlam Continuing Ed

- Arrangements will be made to have them come to a DPAC General Meeting to be introduced

## 5. Group Activity: Parent Resources - Heidi Gable

- What information do we need on District website / DPAC website / PAC website?
  - All present asked to circulate & add their thoughts/ideas/suggestions to the various questions posed on flip chart paper spread through out the room on the tables

## 6. Committee Reports - Heidi Gable

- Gave a list of current committees that DPAC has/needs representatives on
  - District Committees – include representatives from all partner groups
    - Student Services Advisory
    - French Advisory
    - Montessori Liaison
    - Aboriginal Education
    - Student Achievement Advisory
    - Partner Group Presidents
    - Technology Education
  - Community Committees
    - Community Literacy Plan
    - Early Learning Conference Planning
    - Encompass Conference Planning
    - Tri-City Middle Childhood Matters
- If anyone is interested in having additional information on a specific committee or wishes to volunteer to sit as a DPAC Rep on a committee please contact the DPAC Office at [dpac43@telus.net](mailto:dpac43@telus.net)
- Committee reports are posted on the DPAC website

## 7. Stuff - Heidi Gable

- Galileo Project
- Encompass Conference (April 16-18/09)
  - Creating Enriched Learning Environments Through Social Emotional Development & Academic Success
  - Will be held at Heritage Woods Secondary
  - Speakers:
    - Keynote:
      - Dr. Donna Beegle
      - Kathy Lynn
    - Featured:
      - Dr. Kim Schonert-Reichl
      - Dr. Lee Brown
      - David Bouchard
      - Katy Hutchinson
      - Dr. Shelley Hymel
      - Dr. Martin Brokenleg
      - Ivan Coyote
      - Eekwooll
  - Schedule of Events:
    - Thursday, April 16 – 7:00pm
    - Friday, April 17 (this is a Pro-D) – starts at 9:00am to approx. 3:00pm
    - Friday, April 17 – 7:00pm > Student Concert – Tickets \$10
    - Saturday, April 18 – 9:00am – 12:30pm
  - This conference is sponsored by the Coquitlam CTA, BCTF, Coquitlam School Board, Coquitlam Staff Development, Coquitlam Aboriginal Education, and Lando, Mitchell and Attias Foundation
  - is open to parents of District 43 students as well
  - Cost for SD43 parents
    - Full Conference \$50 (includes buffet lunch on Friday) \*Does not include Friday evening concert.
    - Thursday only \$10
    - Saturday only \$10

- DPAC will be arranging childcare
- More information will be available in late February 2009 (at [www.cta43.org](http://www.cta43.org))

## **8. Treasurer's Report**

**- Jason Turner**

- Income Statement to 31Oct08 vs 2008/09 Budget
  - Financial statements received and will be filed into records as presented for review at the end of the year.
- Looking into other options as we are being charged \$15/month in bank charges
- BCCPAC Conference fees
  - Question was asked if DPAC would be providing some funds to pay for others to attend the conference.
    - DPAC Executive will put together some various options and bring them back to the DPAC General Meeting for discussion the choosing of one
- Parent Education Money:
  - Question was asked if this money is available for PACs to use to fund their speakers.
    - DPAC Executive have had some discussion on making some of this money available to PACs, but more discussion needs to take place and some procedures/policies as to how this money can be used or accessed by PACs drawn up.

## **9. No More Deficit Thinking!**

**- Heidi Gable**

- Something to think about: How can we change our thinking so that we see our children's assets instead of their deficits?
- Viewed TED Talks on You Tube.
  - How do we bring this (concept/ideas covered on video viewed) to our children's classrooms?

## **10. Networking**

- Brenda Seaman talked briefly in the time remaining about what can be done to see about having the rules/policies changed so that all schools in District 43 can apply for a part of the funds that the City of Coquitlam is able to grant from revenues they receive from the Casino. Currently only schools within the City of Coquitlam can apply. Discussion had to end due to time constraints.

## **11. Adjournment**

**MOTION** made by Marie McCabe, seconded by Darren Rosenthal, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.

**CARRIED**