

**District Parent Advisory Council Meeting SD#22  
Minutes for November 28th, 2024**

**Attendees:**

Yania Greenaway, DPAC President | *Fulton / AIAO*  
Erica Luttmending, DPAC Vice President | *Silver Star*  
Jen Kossowan, DPAC Secretary | *vLearn*  
Tara Smith, Member-at-Large | *Hillview*  
Sonya Richman, Member-at-Large | *CBSS*

Rebecca Berry, DPAC Rep | *Kidston*  
Kassandra Anderson, DPAC Rep | *Mission Hill*  
Sean Ling-Allen, DPAC Rep | *Seaton*  
Robyn Fraser, DPAC Rep | *JW Inglis*  
Casey Hewes | *Silver Star*

Katherine Oviatt, Assistant Superintendent  
Debbie Cullum, Vernon Principal / Vice Principal Association Rep  
Gray Boisvert, CUPE 5523  
Kelli Sullivan, School Board Trustee & Board Chair  
Vanessa Mitchell, School Board Trustee

**PART A**

***Meeting called to order by Yania Greenaway at 6:00 p.m.***

Everyone was welcomed and a land acknowledgement was given by Yania Greenaway.

***Katherine Oviatt, Assistant Superintendent, gave the Superintendent's Report on behalf of Karla Mitchell.***

Student success - AI is a hot topic provincially right now and there's a lot of concern about how it can be used negatively. SD22 is trying to embrace its positive uses and the district has sanctioned Canva, Co-Pilot, and Adobe AI. The reason they've gone with these particular applications is because the data is kept secure within the district. The district is on top of this issue and is doing its very best to leverage it in a way that is both useful and forward thinking.

Kindergarten gradual entry - used to be a month and is now down to 5 days. This is in large part due to feedback from families and it being difficult to accommodate with work schedules. A few things to consider are that these kids are very young (some just 4 years old) and they're coming off of summer. The goal of gradual entry is to increase stamina over time and set the kids up for success - small groups seem to be really helpful in this process.

FSA's are now complete. Teachers come together to mark these collectively in order to minimize bias and up consistency. You can see how we are doing by exploring the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning 2024 ([Framework for Enhancing Student Learning - 2024 - SD22](#)) Appendix A ([SD022\\_ESLR\\_Section A DRAFT.pdf](#))

For the past 3 years the district has been catching up on principal, assistant principal, and essential staff assessments. These assessments involve going into schools, visiting with

principals, seeing how things look on the ground, and receiving some feedback from external sources (PACs, parents, students). Evaluators might attend PAC meetings to discuss and get information that helps admin members and the district grow.

The Board of Education will be continuing to repeal and update policies and regulations on the website. If you go to the portal, you can find all of the policies here: [School District #22 \(Vernon\) - Document Center](#). Any policies with a 2-digit number are old policies that have yet to be repealed (out dated or no longer relevant) or updated. Any regulations ([School District #22 \(Vernon\) - Document Center\\_regulations](#)) are waiting to be switched to policies, repealed, or changed to procedures. You can find all policies by going to SD22 Website -> Board of Education -> Policy, Procedure and Bylaws -> [Compass portal](#).

Indigenous Parent Night went well and was well attended. Parent voices were heard. Katherine thanked Sonya for attending on behalf of DPAC.

JW Inglis childcare centre update. The architect has been hired and the district is moving forward with the project. The community will be involved in some of the planning and Indigenous voices will be sought out especially.

The difference between a Board Committee, Provincial Committee, and Advisory Committee was shared. (Calendar Committee and previous EPAC were advisory committees, Board Committees – implications for collective agreements, Accessibility Committee – provincially mandated committee.). Committee Terms of Reference designate the composition of those committees.

SOGI - Katherine would like to keep this as a standing topic on agenda. SOGI leads are in place in every school and they meet together to discuss. This year the leads are meeting with Mischa Oak who specializes with cooperate training around the LGBTQIA+ community. Mischa has come in and talked with principals, vice-principals, the transportation department, etc. in order to improve understanding and ensure that we as a district are truly inclusive. SOGI leads have been told that Katherine is happy to deal with any issues that may come up, particularly in difficult situations, and that SOGI leads should not have to “come under fire”. This is not their job.

***Katherine gave a report on behalf of Dave LaFontaine, Indigenous Principal, as he was unable to attend.***

The Indigenous Education Department sent 33 students to UBCO to learn all about attending university and it was a fantastic opportunity to learn more and truly see what it is like. One of the main focuses of the Indigenous Ed dept is the transition between elementary school and high school and the goal is to make those bridges stronger and the transition as smooth as possible.

May 27th is the district's Indigenous Graduation and this year it is scheduled to take place at Charles Bloom.

***Kelli Sullivan, School Board Trustee, gave her report on behalf of the trustees.***

Highlights from last board meeting - November 13th:

Board elections happened at the last meeting and Kelli was elected as the Board Chair.

Christine Love gave a presentation on behalf of the Inclusion department.

Heard from 2 out of 3 students who attended a space field trip for visually impaired students and it was incredible and really meaningful for the campers who went to the USA to NASA for the week.

One of the policies that got repealed in the last sweep was the role of the Superintendent. This new policy follows a Carver Policy of Governance and is available to the public for review.

The Board discussed the importance of holding quarterly meetings with OKIB Chief and Council and requested that staff reach out to set up a meeting.

The Board also discussed with staff the need to add “board monitoring of compliance with the LEA” (Local Education Agreement with OKIB) to the public meeting agenda.

Trustee Mitchell discussed matters relating the provincial IEC Council that she has been invited to sit on. (Indigenous Education Councils (IECs): All school districts must establish an IEC to advise on curriculum, student support, and other aspects of education. IECs must include representatives from First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities. The IECs' membership and function must reflect the local First Nations in whose territory the board operates. It has also been recommended that IEC be included as a standing item on Board meeting agendas).

Trustees (along with Superintendent Mitchell and Secretary-Treasurer Johnson) attended this year's annual BCSTA Academy in Vancouver from Nov 21-23. New Minister of Education and Child Care, Lisa Beare, attended and spoke of the importance of working together to continue building a strong public education system.

Keynote topics at the Academy included Generative AI in public education and the importance of Street Data for building equitable and responsive systems.

***Debbie Cullum gave a report on behalf of the principals and vice principals in the district.***

Had the AGM on Monday and Debbie brought up parent / caregiver concerns around conferencing and there not being enough time / explicit info for new families. Debbie also relayed the fact that it's super important that families receive copies of the children's IEPs.

Principals and vice principals were also in attendance for the FSA marking session. Booklets will be sent home on December 8th and families will be able to see where their child falls on the proficiency scale. Ask your school if you do not receive you child's by winter holidays.

Schools have been super busy with all kinds of things including sports and holiday performances. First set of reports will be coming out before the winter break.

A question was asked about pickle ball and if it's coming into the curriculum, as well as if schools will be receiving pickle ball equipment and having pickle ball lines painted on their gym floors. Debbie said that this is not officially being added to the curriculum, but pickle ball could very well be part of any physical education program under the current curriculum. Whether or not schools use their budgets to purchase pickle ball equipment is up to them.

***Grey Boisvert gave the CUPE report from the BC Fed Convention.***

T1B funding coming in - it's \$10K, which is a good amount.

Staffing shortage continues throughout several CUPE positions. Jobs are on Make a Future on the district site and if you know of someone qualified who is looking for work, please spread the word.

It is a bargaining year and potentially the bargaining will happen in late spring. Grey hopes CUPE can get a fair collective agreement signed without any job action.

Better Support Better Schools campaign is in progress and is currently collecting signatures. This campaign reaches further - CUPE wants more support for EAs and more time for them to prep, be involved in IEPs, etc.

Each year at the end of the year, CUPE donates money to local causes. This year they are donating \$4000 to the Vernon, Lumby, and Cherryville food banks as well as \$750 to UpperRoom Mission.

There is a function happening at Justice Park led by Charlotte to recognize violence with women and children on December 6th. Grey is encouraging people, men especially, to be out to support.

***Yania thanked all of the partners.***

## **PART B**

Agenda approved. Motion to approve made by Tara. Seconded by Erica. All in favour. Motion to approve meeting minutes from October, 2023 made by Yania. Seconded by Jen. All in favour.

Yania got into DPAC's Google Drive as new president.

A BCCPAC update was given by Yania on behalf of Sandy who is on the road. DPAC did decide to pay our fees at \$200 in order to maintain good standing and have voting privileges.

Nicole, our treasurer, was under the weather and unable to attend. The only change that would have happened in our accounts is the BCCPAC fee being paid.

Tara spoke about the recent Anti-Racism Committee meeting. The committee is comprised of both previous and new members. Kim Tyson did a presentation on anti-racism and multiculturalism work that's being done in the district. The next meeting is in February.

Yania attended the calendar meeting to work on putting together a school calendar for the next few years. It goes from the committee to the board and then out to the public. Sonya brought up co-lab (sp?) time that's happening at CBSS. In her opinion, it seems that the teachers are all in staff meetings during instructional time, and the students are "just goofing off". Katherine Oviatt will do some checking into this.

Land to Table will be coming to a DPAC meeting in the New Year. We need some more information on this.

DPAC budget meeting scheduled for January 9th @ 6:00pm via Zoom. All SD22 parents are welcome and DPAC is open to and encouraging new ideas for using our funds.

We are looking to create an advocacy sub-committee and we will revisit this in January when

Sandy can speak to it.

Nicky wasn't able to be here, but she wanted to talk about having a standardized land acknowledgement.

Yania brought up the fact that we are still looking for an Indigenous Parent Rep (or reps!) and we've got room for as many members at large as we'd like. Silver Star parent / guardian, Casey Hewes, offered to step up into the role and DPAC voted all in favour to have him join the executive as an Indigenous Parent Rep. Casey told a little bit about himself, including that his background is Cree and mixed European. He works in healthcare and is currently studying for a PhD in Indigenous Health. DPAC is still very open to adding other Indigenous Parent Representatives to the executive.

DPAC Reps gave short reports on what's happening in their schools including challenges, wins, current initiatives, fundraisers and happenings. and current reports.

We once again touched on the district's conflict resolution process ([policy here](#)) and available brochure, which can be found [here](#).

**Upcoming DPAC meetings will take place on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.**

**Upcoming meeting dates:**

January 9th at 6:00 p.m. - budget meeting via Zoom

**\*ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND\***

Motion to Adjourn made by Yania. Seconded by Sean and Sonya.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

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