

**District Parent Advisory Council Meeting SD#22
Minutes for April 10th, 2025
VSS & Hybrid**

Attendees:

Yania Greenaway, DPAC President | *Fulton & AIAO*
Nicky Dunlop, Past President | *Lavington*
Erica Luttmending, DPAC Vice President | *Silver Star*
Jen Kossowan, DPAC Secretary | *vLearn*
Sandy Thon, DPAC BCCPAC Liaison | *Alexis Park*

Sean Ling-Allen, DPAC Rep | *Seaton*
Kassandra Anderson, DPAC Rep | *Mission Hill*
Rebecca Berry, | *Kidston*
Karen Homes, DPAC Rep | *Harwood*

Katherine Oviatt, Assistant Superintendent
Debbie Cullum, Vernon Principal / Vice Principal Association Rep
Kelli Sullivan, School Board Trustee & Board Chair

PART A

Meeting called to order by Yania Greenaway at 6:09 p.m.

Everyone was welcomed by Yania Greenaway and she acknowledged her immense gratitude for the unceded, ancestral territory of the Syilx Okanagan Peoples and the beautiful change of seasons we're beginning to experience.

Introductions were given.

Kelli Sullivan, School Board Trustee & Board Chair gave her trustee report.

Committee of the Whole recommended an amendment to the Board's Procedural Bylaw No. 20 which outlines the order of Business for regular board meetings. This amendment was approved and the order of business at regular meetings now includes item F. Indigenous Education Governance which covers topics relating to Indigenous Education Council, Local Education Agreement, and other matters.

Superintendent Mitchell made budget change recommendations. We have a "cost pressure" of \$1.65 million dollars next year. This is due to several factors including declining enrolment (100 less students), work safe BC costs, inflation costs, sick leave, etc. Priorities determined were student supports - SBRTs and EAs for students with designations in particular. The Superintendent has made recommendations to deal with the cost pressures and they've gone out to families for feedback which is open until tomorrow. Decreases in divisions in elementary, creative combining in high school programs, some targeted funding around literacy (take

money out of operation), reduction of ELL teachers, reduction of itinerant teachers, trustee travel money left from covid going back into operations, summer a/c savings, bussing for Westside Road extension students, discretionary funds from superintendent, etc.

Board operated childcare - SD22 has been the lucky recipient of several streams of targeted funding, but they're coming to an end next year and programs will become fee based. Through these programs, the district has learned that board funded childcare, year round, particularly catered towards inclusiveness is what's needed / wanted / best. The School Act only accounts for childcare on school days and therefore the trustees have written a letter to the Ministry to request changes to this.

*** A more detailed version of Kelli's report can be found [here](#) on her Facebook page.*

Important dates:

The next regular board meeting is on March 12th at the board office at 5:30 p.m.

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

Spring conferences are happening on April 24th and 25th.

Katherine thanked DPAC for their budget feedback.

Indigenous Education committee membership may change as OKIB election just happened.

SD22 is no longer on Twitter - find them on Blue Sky and Facebook.

Childcare funding for JW Inglis has not gone anywhere and that project will continue as planned.

A question was asked about what afterschool childcare will look like in the future and Katherine shared that before and after school programs will continue -at ALL current sites - allowing access to that funding. The district will not be able to operate preschool programs. They are looking at possibly offering one more year - more to come / it's in the planning stage. BCBG childcare contracts will continue as they are. Strong Start will not change as funding remains the same as when the program started and the district has made changes to work within the budget.

Due to tech issues on behalf of DPAC, Debbie Cullum was not able to present on behalf of the Principals and Vice Principals Association.

DPAC was lucky to have two community presenters in attendance - representatives from Land to Table and Allan Brooks Nature Centre.

Land to Table

***Please find the Land to Table slideshow presentation [here](#).*

Allan Brooks

Representatives from Allan Brooks shared about two offerings geared towards students and educators in the community - Nature in the Classroom and their E-Learning Centre.

Nature in the classroom

Educators will visit the classroom - more inclusive - come where the support staff is
Designed to be more in the off season - fall and winter
Specifically designed to fit into the BC curriculum
From preschool to grade 7
These sessions are interactive
Encourage PACs to bring awareness to these programs
Stephanie will pass along some digital files to share

E-Learning Centre

Online digital resource
Launched last year
Ages 5 to 12 (K to 7)
For Educators and parents
Printables, interactive modules
Built around the science curriculum
Meant to help teachers and parents build a curriculum that fits their students
Focus on inclusivity, fun, engaging
Subscription cost
All grade levels \$60 a year
Educators First - Teachers get 1 year for free in exchange for feedback
Access for everyone - if cost is a barrier, inquire
Interactive elements are updatable and AB welcome
School level and district level subscriptions available
April 19th - open to the public
Free to walk

***Learn more about their E-Learning Centre [here](#) and more about their Educators First initiative [here](#).*

Yania thanked all of the partners and invited whomever would like to stay to stay and those who wanted to head out to head out.

PART B

Yania gave her DPAC President's report.

Agenda approved - first by Sandy, second by Jen.

Minutes approved - first by Erica, second by Jen.

DPAC will be having a secondary meeting on April 24th - a website work meeting with Luke Friesen and Josh Vance. This will unfortunately happen on the same night as conferences, apologies for that. Schedules are so full. A survey will go out to the community asking for website feedback that DPAC will then take to the meeting.

Our AGM coming up and will take place on May 15th. All are welcome to nominate themselves for executive positions. Please note: nomination forms must be signed by your PAC beforehand.

A motion was made to hire Susan Wilson to help DPAC with their upcoming advocacy committee. First was made by Jen, second by Erica.

BCCPAC's AGM & Conference is happening on May 23, 24, and 25. Motion to approve two in person attendees which will include AGM & conference for fees, travel (provincial government mileage rate), hotels, and food. All of this is to be kept to as reasonable of a cost as possible, without attendees having to share a hotel room. First by Jen, second by Sandy.

DPAC Representative Discussion

A concern was brought up around students safely getting to Mission Hill Elementary School. A parent shared that the school has a street leading up to it without a sidewalk - despite there being a crosswalk to get across the street beforehand. The parent shared that the crosswalk is also very difficult for drivers to see as it is at the top of the hill and the sun is often shining in drivers' eyes as they approach. The school's other entrance has a sidewalk, but no crosswalk. The parent is concerned for the safety of the Mission Hill students and asked for feedback on what can be done to improve the situation.

Ideas shared include:

- starting an online petition
- spreading awareness on local community groups
- getting on city council's agenda to bring up the concern there
- phoning and emailing the city in order to be heard
- getting admin on board

In the meantime, perhaps:

- a volunteer crossing guard?
- community policing could get involved?

Upcoming Meetings:

AGM & general meeting on May 15th at 6:00 p.m. in VSS Library with a hybrid option

Motion to Adjourn made by Yania. Seconded by Erica. All in favour.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

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