

MINUTES



DPAC
DISTRICT PARENT
ADVISORY COUNCIL
ABBOTSFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: February 22, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Zoom Meeting

Executives in Attendance: Shannon Rose, Chair
Michelle Bastien, Vice Chair
Tracey Lamoureux, Treasurer
Winsome Rauch, Secretary

Attendance: See Zoom Attendance attached.

Special Guests: Assistant Superintendent Bruce Cunnings and Trustee Shirley Wilson

1 Call to Order

Chair Shannon Rose called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. A quorum was met.

2 Welcome & Introductions

Acknowledgement of Local Indigenous Community

3 Presentation from Assistant Superintendent Bruce Cunnings

Assistant Superintendent Bruce Cunnings presented on the Curriculum Department.

- The Curriculum focuses on various initiatives, including assessment/reporting, competency-based strategies, inquiry-based learning, language support, technology integration, mentorship, and in-service programs. The main strategic pillars include engaging opportunities and a progressive workforce.
- Cunnings detailed the diverse curriculum staff roles, covering digital learning, languages, elementary/early learning, literacy, numeracy, mentorship, French immersion, technology integration, and more. The presentation highlighted projects such as implementing MyEd BC Report cards, Ministry reporting policies, a math residency initiative, and genrefied non-fiction collections in school libraries.
- The reporting policy aligns with the 2016 curriculum change, emphasizing meaningful communication. The goal is to involve students, parents, and caregivers in the learning experience, fostering proactive collaboration.
- Core competency self-assessment and goal-setting are implemented from K-12, focusing on communication, thinking, and personal and social skills. Proficiency scales from K-9 use a strengths-based approach, while graduation status updates for grades 10-12 help keep students on track by displaying completed requirements, ongoing progress, and provincial assessments.
- The Family Portal on MyEd enhances transparency, allowing access to report cards, Individualized Education Programs (IEP), and attendance.

4 Q&A with Assistant Superintendent Bruce Cunnings and Trustee Shirley Wilson

- 4.1 When will the Family Portal be available for the next school semester, and is there a target date?

The Family Portal is expected to be available in the next school year, with uncertainty about whether it will be in the first or second semester.

- 4.2 How do you explain to parents who prefer alphabetized grades over the "new" report cards, which they find confusing? Many want the more straightforward A-F grades.

It is a provincial order that we need to work within, and there is a lot of room for growth in understanding the new report card system.

- 4.3 Can you include letter grades and proficiency scales on the same report cards?

Unfortunately, MyEd cannot include both letter grades and proficiency scales. Some schools in other districts have created their own equivalency scales.

- 4.4 Are they going to reevaluate the new reporting system in a few years to ensure it is beneficial?

The future evaluation remains uncertain. The process started with focus groups, but there is no confirmation of its continuation.

- 4.5 How do you measure kids' progress over time, considering a perceived long-term downward trend? Do these tests carry any weight, and where is the testing?

The Ministry of Education conducts FSA tests in grade 4, 7, and 10, which are marked on proficiency scales. Tests like grad requirement exams do not count towards the final grade. We analyze trends and intervene when needed through the FESL (Framework for Enhancing Student Learning).

- 4.6 Are these testing practices the same as when I was a kid?

No, provincial exams no longer exist and have been replaced with literacy and numeracy assessments at the grade 10-12 level.

- 4.7 With no students failing and always moving forward, how do you help those who are "developing" catch up and be at grade level?

With the revised curriculum, students are no longer held back. The hope is that with new teachers and support systems in place, students can progress with continuous learning, even if they enter a new grade with some gaps.

- 4.8 Is the practice of not holding students back district-wide or provincial-wide?

It is provincial-wide. It seems the practice of retaining students is not common in any specific area.

4.9 Why is there no adopted program for emotionally stunted students who are years out of school?

We try to reintegrate socially and emotionally stunted students with their peers and provide support. Bakerview offers unique programs for students.

4.10 Any updates from the Board?

Trustee Korky Neufeld stepped down as Chair to run in the provincial election; he is still on the Board. He will be taking a leave of 30 days during the campaign. The Board acknowledges and appreciates his contributions.

5 Approval of the Minutes from January 25, 2024

Secretary Winsome Rauch presented the minutes of the January 25, 2024 meeting.

It was MOVED by Chair Shannon Rose and SECONDED by Vice-Chair Michelle Bastien THAT the minutes of the January 25, 2024 General Meeting be approved as presented.
CARRIED

6 Treasurer report

Treasurer Tracey Lamoureux provided Closing G/L Account balances as of February 22, 2024

6.1 DPAC Gaming Account

Opening as Jan 25, 2024	\$ 4,490.37
Add	
Less	
Closing Balance Feb 22, 2024	<u>\$ 4,490.37</u>

6.2 DPAC General Account

Opening as of Jan 25, 2024	\$ 3662.62
Add	
Less	
Closing Balance Feb 22, 2024	<u>\$ 3,662.62</u>

7 Old Business

Shannon Rose presented an update on the District Joint Partnership Meeting

8 New Business

8.1 BCCPAC AGM and Conference: May 3 (Conference), May 4-5 (AGM)

Details:

Proxy forms are now available. If you cannot attend, DPAC can vote on your behalf. The deadline for submitting two representatives is approaching.

All are welcome to the conference or AGM. However, only two PAC representatives can attend using gaming funds, otherwise payment can be made from your general account.

8.2 Parent Night Series:

Literacy Night: April 10, 7:00-8:30 pm

Location: Eugene Reimer

Details: The Curriculum Department will send a representative.

8.3 Erase Parent Sessions - Online Sessions:

8.3.1 Youth Substance Abuse: February 24, 6:00-7:30 pm

8.3.2 Establish Safe, Caring & Respectful Digital Communities: February 28, 6:30-7:30 pm

8.4 Public Budget Info Night: March 6 at 6:00 pm

Location: School Board Office

Details: The Teams link for the preliminary budget will be available on the district site.

8.5 Board Meeting: February 12 at 7:00 pm

9 Open Floor

9.1 BCCPAC:

Questions were raised regarding BCCPAC costs and the eligibility criteria for voting and speaking on behalf of DPAC and PACs.

9.2 District International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme:

Pre-Diploma 9 classes at Abby Sr will not be offered next year. Additionally, new fees will be introduced for students writing IB exams.

10 Next Meeting

The next DPAC meeting will be held April 25, 2024 at 7pm.

11 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM

Zoom Attendance Report

Name (Original Name)
Shannon Rose
Bruce.Cunnings
Michelle Bastien - DPAC Vice Chair
Shirley Paulsen Wilson (she/her/hers)
Winsome Rauch DPAC secretary (Winsome Rauch)
Elva - Bradner (Elva & Ephraim Lottenbach)
Amanda-Terry Fox
Dee Sekhon Fraser Middle (Dee Sekhon)
Marc - Abby Sr
Amanda Degenhardt-Centennial Park E (Dr. Degenhardt)
Bethany White - Aberdeen
Rep Chief Dan George & WJ Mouat Secondary# Josephine Leonard (Josephine Leonard)
Deanna - Terry Fox
Angellete
parampreet kaur grewal
Tracey Lamoureux - DPAC/Bateman