



COWICHAN VALLEY DISTRICT PAC

**DRAFT Minutes: January 20, 2021
via Zoom**

Call to Order 7:00 p.m.

1.0 Welcome and Introductions – We are having our meeting via zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

DPAC Executive:

Carmen Sundstrom – DPAC Chair and Cowichan Secondary Chair, DPAC Rep
Amber Marsh – DPAC Vice Chair and École Mt. Prevost Treasurer, non-voting
Trina Medd Eisnor – DPAC Treasurer, Discovery Elementary Chair, non-voting
Aurelia MacInnis – DPAC- Co Secretary and George Bonner Elementary, Chair,
Ann-Marie Braithwaite – DPAC Co-Secretary and Discovery Elementary, DPAC Rep

Voting Attendees

Katie Robertson – Chemainus Secondary, Vice Chair and DPAC Rep
Andrew Wilson – Drinkwater DPAC Rep
Meredith – Maple Bay, DPAC Rep
Lizzi Johnson – FKSS, DPAC Rep and George Bonner Vice Chair
Sarah Milne – Ecole Cobble Hill, DPAC Rep
Dave McDowell - CVOLC, PAC Chair, DPAC Rep
Mary Souter – Mill Bay Nature School, DPAC Rep
Sarah Milne – Ecole Cobble Hill, DPAC Rep
Jennifer Ertel – Quamichan, DPAC Rep

Non-Voting Attendees

Robyn Gray - SD79 Superintendent
Tom Longridge – SD79 Associate Superintendent
Joe Thorne - SD79 Board Trustee
Mike Russell – SD79 Director of Communication

2. Adopt the Agenda:

MOTION: *To adopt the agenda as amended.* Moved by ECB; seconded by Discovery. Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes for Oct. 15, 2020 meeting:

MOTION: *To approve the minutes from Oct 15, 2020 meeting.* Moved by Bonner; seconded by Discovery. Carried.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Chair – Carmen Sundstrom

- DPAC Executive would like to acknowledge and thank our leaders in our community for taking a stand against racism that has arose in our community. As leaders in our community we must continue to fight for equity and equality in all of our schools and our community.
- Wellness and Recovery Centre – Thank you to the PACs and school board and individuals that wrote letters to the Ministry and interested parties regarding the location of the site. Unfortunately, our efforts did not bring about a change of location for the site. The site has begun renovations and is due to open in June. We will continue to monitor the area and keep safety and well being of the students as top priority.

4.2 SD79 Admin - Robyn Gray, Superintendent

- Thank you for acknowledging the work of the leadership team
- COVID exposures in the District and our process. Robyn invites Mike Russell to speak regarding the district process.
- Currently the district has had 4 positive cases – Chem, Quam, CSS and Alexander.
- Process we work through with public health leading the way, we are confident our schools are very safe.
- If there is an exposure, person tested, Island Health has the information and once determined it relates to the school, VIHA Medical health officer calls Robyn. District sets up case management meeting – this will include the immediate staff, teacher, medical contact tracers, and SD79 team
 - Go through the steps of the entire day from when they left home – bus, activities for the student throughout the entire day
 - Through the process Island Health designates:
 - High risk contacts (person who spends over that infectious period over 15min, without masks on in close contact (within 6 ft.). contacted by Island Health – self isolate – do not come to school.
 - Low risk – person that is not in close contact – ie. Classmate sitting at the back - asked to self monitor – letter from Robyn notifying them of the possible exposure. Be cautious and aware of how you are feeling and can come to school.
 - General risk - letter goes home to the school community noting the instance of infection.
 - SD79 cannot give additional information as that is not their information to give due to privacy. It is up to Island Health to address the contacts more directly if needed.

Question: will the SD79 ever override a decision by Island Health.
 Answer: (Robyn)- No, never. These decisions are outside of the SD79 jurisdiction as it belongs to Island Health and adheres to the provincial regulations.

- Two fires recently in the district
 - Drinkwater (outside of the building), fire was extinguished very early on. Some smoke did get into the school and the decision was made to cancel school for the day.
 - The other at Ecole Mt. Prevost – had to cancel school for that day. Closed down a wing this past Monday, due to clean up and maintenance from the clean-up of the fire.
 - RCMP have arrested and charged the person with 3 pending charges.
 - Thank you to the staff, RCMP, parents for dealing with these situations that happened quite suddenly.

- Request for proposal (RFP) for the construction of new Cowichan Secondary have been given out to 3 construction companies.
 - The board will assign the job to one of the 3 builders later this year. Plans for the work to begin is September 2021.
- Numeracy Assessment for Grade 10 students is happening the week of Jan 25, it is a requirement for graduation.
- Kindergarten Registration – French Immersion and Mill Bay Nature started Jan 18 and District wide registration is the week of Jan 25th.
- Foundation Assessment (FSA) – Gr. 4 & 7 – Begins the week of February 15th.
- Opening of Wendy’s House, January 11th at the new location by the board office.
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4.3 Board of Education – Joe Thorne, Trustee SD79

Apologies to DPAC he had to unexpectedly leave the meeting.

- Robyn is speaking on his behalf to share some information. Presentations from the board to CVRD and North Cowichan joint meeting. Working on culture of care. Looking at ways to address anti-indigenous, anti-black, and anti-asian racism.
- International education – we do have some international students coming into the district, we currently have some students in quarantine, through Lake Cowichan Camp – students are given COVID test prior to arriving and then self isolate for 14 days. We have excellent procedures in place which enables us to continue to offer international students a program here in our district.
- Indigenous program – bringing in more opportunities for learning Hul’q’umi’num’.
 - Hello Dolly – expanding
 - Hul’q’umi’num’ resources for staff/students such as the recent flashcards and voice audio for some common phrases/words
 - Further information can be found on the SD79 website – Indigenous Resources

4.4 Treasurer – Trina Medd Eisnor

Report shared to zoom meeting. *See Appendix A*

4.5 IEP Committee – Carmen Sundstrom

- Drop-in committee meeting – Amber attended on behalf of DPAC.
- Committee is looking for feedback on speakers that may be of interest to be brought in.
- Hoping to get the terms of reference for this committee completed and officially name the committee at the next meeting.
- Next meeting of this committee is Thursday, January 28 at 6:30pm.
- Request to send the information about the meeting to the schools directly.

5.0 OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Anxiety Workshop with Tamara Strijack

- Feedback of the meeting: highly informative and her presentation is very calming and relaxed.
- Good attendance – 82 attendees – parents, teachers, EAs and administration.
- Book by Hannah Beach and Tamara Strijack – *Reclaiming our Students* - has in depth information about how to support and work with students that need the support. How to work with staff to increase the support for families.

- Tamara and Hanna to be leaders in the district to develop this program in the district over the next few years.

5.2 DPAC Leadership Summit Highlights

- Very impressed with the presentations- can be found on the BCCPAC website
- Ministry participation
- Good discussions – Truth and reconciliation in education, screening programs, communication, meaningful engagement, mental health in schools, inclusive education
- BCCPAC priorities discussions in breakout sessions – topics such as remote learning, pandemic issues, special needs, school acts appeals and the new funding model.
- Nice to collaborate with other DPACS across the province and network with so many.
- AGM to happen May 1, 2021

5.3 Distance Learning Virtual Classroom Program (DLVC)

- Move from remote learning to a more structured program due to the needs of families.
- District Vice Principal has been assigned.
- Technology increased to support the distance learners.
- A lot of professional learning for teachers of this program.
- Aurelia – speaking from a parent’s view – program is hard to manage a virtual session. Kudos to the teacher. Nice to have a specific vice principal to contact and she feels a team environment to support the students as everyone has made themselves very available and getting through this together is so important.

Question: As the numbers change, will there be room to accommodate new families/students to come into the program?

Answer. Recommend speaking to teacher/principal of current school and then possibly the traditional distributed learning program through The Grove.

5.4 Quamichan School Safety Audit

- Stay tuned more details to come, the review should be completed by early February and will be discussed at the next school board meeting.

6.0 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 COVID exposures in schools

- Discussed above with Robyn’s report.
- No other comments/feedback at this time.

6.2 Childcare Facility Drop-off and SD79 Transportation - Aurelia

- Need options for parents to have childcare before/after school
- New childcare facility – facing a lot of push back from SD79 Transportation to get the students to/from their childcare facility.
- Challenges to meet the transportation requirements with the private facilities.
- Robyn offering to inquire with SD79 Transportation to determine the factors at play and report back next DPAC meeting.
- Funding options may be available:
 - From the Ministry for childcare – “Rapid Childcare Response” – Bench applying

- Federal Application for \$3Million – Mill Bay nature is putting in an application

6.3 BCCPAC Nominations & Awards

- AGM on May 1st –
- Nominations being accepted for various awards and positions are due by end of February
- Bev Hoff award -parent, George Matthews Award – parent leadership, Life membership award – parent who has supported BCCPAC, Education award for graduating student that understands the parent role. Further details on the awards can be found on the [BCCPAC website](#).
- Nominations for BCCPAC Executive – first vice president, For director – 1 yr and 2 yr term – 2 positions.
- Call for resolutions for the BCCPAC – due end of February 28th to be published in the AGM booklet but will be accepted after the date. Resolutions to be reviewed at the May 2021 AGM.
 - DPAC to put forward the resolution that was intended to go forward last year but was not able to due to the pandemic.
 - Motion by ECH and seconded by Bonner to present the resolution to BCCPAC – “Every BC public school should be equipped with an automated external defibrillator for the safety of all staff and students and that they should be provided and maintained in schools outside of the regular operating school operating capital.”

7.0 Adjournment

Without objection Chair, Carmen Sundstrom moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Motion to adjourn: Discovery and seconded by: Bonner

Next meeting: February 18, 2021

Take care and stay safe!

Submitted by Ann-Marie Braithwaite, DPAC Secretary

Attachments:

- January 21, 2021 Approved Agenda
- November 19, 2020 Approved Minutes
- Appendix A - DPAC Treasurer's report



COWICHAN VALLEY DISTRICT PAC

**Agenda January 21, 2021, 7pm
via Zoom**

1. Introductions & Acknowledgement
2. Adopt Agenda
3. Approve Previous Minutes from November 19, 2020
4. Reports
 - 4.1 Chair
 - 4.2 SD Admin - Superintendent Robyn Gray
 - 4.3 Board of Education - Trustee Joe Thorne
 - 4.4 Treasurer
 - 4.5 IEP Committee
5. Old Business
 - 5.1 Anxiety Workshop with Tamara Strijack; Highlights
 - 5.2 DPAC Leadership Summit Highlights
 - 5.3 Distance Learning Virtual Classroom Program (DLVC)
 - 5.4 Quamichan School Safety Audit
6. New Business
 - 6.1 COVID exposures in our schools
 - 6.2 Childcare Facility Drop-off & SD79 Transportation
 - 6.3 BCCPAC Nominations & Awards
7. Adjournment

Next meeting: February 18, 2021 @ 7pm

Treasurer's Financial Reporting Sheet: December 2020

Presented Jan. 21, 2021

Date	Transaction	Details	Credit	Debit	Balance
	Regular Account Balance as of Dec. 2020 Statement				\$ 4,884.84
	Regular Account Balance as of Jan. 21/21				\$ 4,884.84

	Gaming Account Balance as of Dec. 2020 Statement				\$ 4,826.12
	Gaming Account Balance as of Jan. 21/21				\$ 4,826.12

DPAC Financial Summary for the Period December 2020 as per statement

Net Income				
Net Expenses			\$ -	
Regular Account Balance				\$ 4,884.84
Gaming Account Balance				\$ 4,826.12
Term Deposit Balance: Matures 10 April 2021				\$ 8,761.54
FWCU Membership Shares				\$ 5.60
Total Accounts				\$ 18,478.10

*\$151.10 Annual Interest - Term Deposit - April 10, 2020

Treasurer's Financial Reporting Sheet: January 2021

Presented Jan. 21, 2021

Date	Transaction	Details	Credit	Debit	Balance
Regular Account Balance as of Jan. 21/21					\$ 4,884.84
Chq 140	not yet cashed	Tamara Strijack - online		\$ 600.00	
Regular Account Balance as of Jan. 21/21					\$ 4,284.84

Gaming Account Balance as of Jan. 21/21					\$ 4,826.12
Gaming Account Balance as of Jan. 21/21					\$ 4,826.12

DPAC Financial Summary for the Period Dec. 2020 - Jan. 21, 2021

Net Income				
Net Expenses			\$ 600.00	
Regular Account Balance				\$ 4,284.84
Gaming Account Balance				\$ 4,826.12
Term Deposit Balance: Matures 10 April 2021				\$ 8,761.54
FWCU Membership Shares				\$ 5.60
Total Accounts				\$ 17,878.10

*\$151.10 Annual Interest - Term Deposit - April 10, 2020