



COWICHAN VALLEY DISTRICT PAC

**APPROVED Minutes: November 19, 2020
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, non-voting

Ann-Marie Braithwaite – DPAC Co-Secretary and Discovery Elementary, DPAC Rep

Voting Attendees

Katie Robertson – Chemainus Secondary, Vice Chair and DPAC Rep

Matt MacAlister – Alexander, DPAC Rep

Andrew Wilson – Drinkwater DPAC Rep

Lysanne - Crofton Elementary, DPAC Rep

Cynthia Lockrey – Mt. Prevost, DPAC Rep

Meredith – Maple Bay, DPAC Rep

Taryn Leduc – Bench, 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

Jenn Hotner– Khowhemun, PAC Chair, DPAC Rep

Non-Voting Attendees

Robyn Gray - SD79 Superintendent

Tom Longridge – SD79 Associate Superintendent

Joe Thorne - SD79 Board Trustee

Mike Russell -

Larry Mattin – SD79 Director of Instruction (Secondary)

Naomi Nilsson – Cowichan Valley Teachers Association President

Kyle – Maple Bay -Parent

Christine – Maple Bay, Parent

Krystal Adams – Maple Bay, Parent

Kerri Anderson – Maple Bay and Cow High, Parent

2. Adopt the Agenda:

Additions to the agenda – 6.3 Distance learning and what does that hold

MOTION: *To adopt the agenda as amended.* Moved by Bench; seconded by Maple Bay. Carried.

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

MOTION: *To approve the minutes from Oct 15, 2020 meeting.* Moved by Bench; seconded by Frances Kelsey. Carried.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Chair – Carmen Sundstrom

- DPAC Executive have been very busy, asking for patience from everyone, doing our best to get to everyone's emails etc. Carmen is busy attending meetings and communicating with community partners, on behalf of DPAC, as well as other PACs and parents to support them and answer any questions. Thanks for understanding.
- Quamichan, regarding wellness and recovery centre in the area - waiting for the safety audit to be completed. Our school board is engaged and communicating with VIHA.
- Wellness and Recovery Centre – the school board has written 2 letters to VIHA and interested parties. Awaiting their replies.
- BCCPAC DPAC summit - virtually this Friday / Saturday (Nov 20/21). It is open to all members of the DPAC executive. This gives us the chance to converse with DPACs across the province, educate ourselves through workshops, and listen to guest speakers, including members of the Ministry.
- North Cowichan – DPAC is represented as a stakeholder and is engaged in the discussions on community engagement policy and framework.

4.2 SD79 Admin - Robyn Gray, Superintendent

- District is pleased with the response given to learners in the District.
- Change is happening in the province regarding the pandemic – we do know our schools do have the right measures in place to limit the transmission – District is in communication with Dr. Shannon Waters (VIHA) on a regular basis as the situation changes to ensure we are managing the health and safety of students/staff.
- Mental Health is an area we want to ensure we are supporting and providing the social and mental well being support that is needed for staff and students.
- School Board has released the new logo, extremely exciting and will be discussed more with the Board of Education report.
- 99.6% of kids returned to school
- New quarter has started for those on the quarter system.
- Progress reports may be coming home from teachers
- Cowichan Secondary Replacement project – moving forward in the design/build phase – Request for Proposal (RFP) soon to be released.
- Remote learning transition program
 - created b/c of the federal govt funding and need for families/learners to stay connected to their school but not attending.
 - This program was only intended to be a short term solution to allow families time to transition to other learning programs.
 - District is asking Principals/VPs to follow up with the remote learners to determine what their intentions are as of December 1st.
 - We want to make this check in highly personalized to ensure we can meet their needs for the coming months.

- Q – Krystal: If the district’s intention is to cut the remote program – and transition remote learners to another program. What are the options available to them?
 - A. District will gather the information from parents through the conversations with their Principals and look at what may need to be a more long-term option.
- Robyn confirms a letter will be coming out to parents, but the conversation with each parent/principal will be key to getting the individual needs from each family.

4.3 Board of Education – Candace Spillsbury, Trustee SD79

School district logo, amazing representation of our values. Immensely proud of it. Designed by Stuart Pagaduan. Video available giving a summary of the logo and the process of its design.

Touches on committees:

Early learning committee – focuses on children ages 0-8 – childcare centre options in schools.

- Review of early learning in schools – Anne Cooper is coming to the District to do a review. **First stage:** looking at state of early learning in the valley. Childcare centres/strong start centres, anything pre-school in the community. What is the relationship, how can we build it to make it stronger.

AdHoc Covid 19 – Transition Committee:

- Committee did a lot of work pre-school
- Coming back to review the transition program and how to effectively meet the needs of families.
- Schools are found to be 4x safer than being in the community

Distributed Learning is funded only 80% of the regular student. Board will be advocating to get equal funding for these students.

Cowichan Secondary Project – consultation with all the groups and community partners to keep the hope and excitement going. RFP coming out soon.

Carmen – reminds all schools have an appointed trustee from the school board. They do need an invitation to attend and come join a meeting. Encourages PACs to connect with them and invite them to a meeting.

4.4 Treasurer – Trina Medd Eisnor

Report shared to zoom meeting.

Motion to approve the Treasurer’s report: ? the Ecole Cobble Hill and seconded by Ecole Mt.

Prevost – what was the motion???

See Appendix A

5.0 OLD BUSINESS

5.1 IEP Committee – Cynthia Lockrey

- First informal meeting Oct 22, 2020 – went very well – many communications have indicated there is a need for a parent community of support. Grateful for Tom Longridge’s support and attendance at the meeting.
- November 24th – next IEP Committee meeting – DPAC will send out invitation to parents and perhaps EAs.
- Goals of this committee
 - To create a support group

- To educate parents and educators,
- Help parents understand the process
- Communicating effectively to ensure parents understand the IEP and feel their concerns are being heard.
- Host presenters and workshops
- First workshop: Rest in a Restless World Helping a Child with Anxiety – Tamara Strijack November 25th – 6:30-8:30pm.
- Cost to host this session – \$600

MOTION: DPAC to fund the presentation in full to the cost of \$600. Moved By: Alexander and Seconded By: Ecole Mt. Prevost. Motion carried.

- Major concern of parents is the decrease in FTE resource teachers across the district. Ministry of Ed had said students with greater needs will see the same capacity of support that was in place prior to pandemic. This is not the case now.
- Greater support and resource funding **is needed** for these students, not less.
- District recognizes there is never enough \$ to go around.
- It is a collective responsibility – classroom teacher, EA, Principal/VP, school-based team support in many ways, but not always meeting the needs.
- Ever changing and we need to be able to adapt and do our best to meet the needs of our diverse learners.
- DPAC is invested in supporting parents/teachers/students to ensure success for everyone.

6.0 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Form B Reporting:

- Progress based reporting is now the new way for teachers to provide reporting
- Sharing the points of progress on all areas 3 different times during the year and 2 summaries of reporting (January and June).

6.2 Mental Health in Schools Grant

- Government funding to build school programs to support students.
- How to adjust and provide mental health support in an inclusive environment.
- EASE Program – (Everyday Anxiety Strategies for Educators) - collection of evidence-informed anxiety prevention and resilience-building resources for use with students in grades K-7.
- District is teaching kids about mental well being and mental health and mental illness – K-12 program.
- Looking at experts in the community that can work with the us facilitate building this capacity within schools to build compassionate supportive communities.
- Focus on the well being of the community as a whole and building understanding within so everyone feels included.
- Building teams that can train and then go into school to be compassionate, trauma informed and be able to provide the needed support to the school/community.

6.3 Distance Learning

- What will this look like in the coming months?
- District is communicating with families and actively planning what the program will look like to best meet the needs of the families and learnings who wish to continue with remote/distance learning. *See Robyn Gray's report in 4.2 above.*

6.4 Out of school childcare on school property

- Are there options for on-site childcare programs – primarily for after school programs?
 - Conversations with school principal is a good place to start
- No specifics from the district.

7.0 Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Amendment to the agenda: noting the date of the next meeting is 2021, not 2020

Next meeting: January 20, 2021

Take care and stay safe!

Submitted by Ann-Marie Braithwaite, DPAC Secretary

Attachments:

- November 19, 2020 Approved Agenda
- Appendix A - DPAC Treasurer's report



COWICHAN VALLEY DISTRICT PAC

Approved Agenda: November 19, 2020
via Zoom

1. **Introductions & Acknowledgement**
2. **Adopt Agenda**
3. **Approve Previous Minutes from October 15, 2020**
4. **Reports**
 - 4.1 Chair
 - 4.2 SD Admin - Superintendent Robyn Gray
 - 4.3 Board of Education - Trustee Spilsbury
 - 4.4 Treasurer
5. **Old Business**
 - 5.1 IEP Committee
6. **New Business**
 - 6.1 Form B Reporting
 - 6.2 Mental Health in Schools Grant -
 - 6.3 Distance Learning - what does the future hold?
 - 6.4 Out of School Childcare on School Property
7. **Adjournment**

Next meeting: January 21, 2021

Treasurer's Financial Reporting Sheet: October 2020

Presented Nov. 19, 2020

Date	Transaction	Details	Credit	Debit	Balance
Regular Account Balance as of Oct. 12, 2020					\$ 4,884.84
Regular Account Balance as of Nov. 16, 2020					\$ 4,884.84

Gaming Account Balance as of Oct. 12, 2020					\$ 2,326.12
oct. 14	deposit	Prov. BC Gaming Grant	\$ 2,500.00		
Gaming Account Balance as of Nov. 16, 2020					\$ 4,826.12

DPAC Financial Summary for the Period Oct. 12, 2020 - Nov. 16, 2020

Net Income	\$ 2,500.00		
Net Expenses		\$ -	
Regular Account Balance			\$ 4,884.84
Gaming Account Balance			\$ 4,826.12
Term Deposit Balance: Matures 10 April 2021			\$ 8,761.54
Total Accounts			\$ 18,472.50

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