

District 36 Parent Advisory Council

14033 – 92nd Avenue
Surrey, British Columbia
V3V 0B7



ANNUAL REPORT

2013- 2014

Table of Contents

<u>Page</u>	<u>Report</u>
3.....	2013 – 2014 Board of Directors
4.....	President’s Report
5.....	Treasurer’s Report

District Committees

6.....	BDE Advisory Committee
6.....	Discovery Program Advisory Committee
6.....	East Kensington Advisory Committee
6.....	Education Business Community Partnerships Advisory
6.....	French Immersion Advisory Committee
7.....	Innovation & Student Learning Committee
8.....	Intensive Fine Arts Advisory Committee
8.....	Inter - A District Advisory Committee
9.....	Integrated Studies Advisory Committee
9.....	International Baccalaureate Advisory Committee
10.....	Montessori Advisory Committee
11.....	Public Relations
11.....	School Meal Program Advisory Committee
11.....	Traditional School Advisory Committee

Note: The BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Council Annual General Meeting will take place on May 31st, therefore the report will not be available prior to this report presentation. Details of the meeting can be found on the BCCPAC website www.bccpac.bc.ca



2013 - 2014 Board of Directors

President	Bob Holmes
Vice President	Yuko Denham
Treasurer	Karen Tan
Secretary	Angela Doss
Director	Susan Boyes
Director	Mervet Jbara
Director	Peter Johal
Director	Nancy Peirce
Director	Lorraine Pousett
Director	Elaine Raynault
Director	Linda Stromberg

Directors who resigned during this school year:

Charlene Feakes	Former Secretary
Rajneel Raj	Director

***Acknowledgement to these volunteers for their commitment,
dedication and active participation.***

President's Report

As the current school year winds down, it's a good time to reflect on the interesting events of the past year.

I'm quite proud of the improvements we have made in terms of communication, with a new mailing list, Facebook page, and Twitter account. A new website was also a goal for this year – progress has been made, but it is not complete yet.

DPAC has been involved in many meetings with different education stakeholders including the Surrey Board of Education, BCCPAC board members, and other DPAC board members from around the province. Several DPAC board members attended both of the school district community forums, the BCSSA conference, and the BCCPAC Fall Conference in Kelowna. DPAC directors also attended many PAC meetings this year for schools other than their own. DPAC directors met for a one-day planning retreat in September, something we'd encourage our new board to do again next year.

On the topic of capital funding, DPAC has continued to work hard on keeping this issue at the forefront. It was great to see some new elementary schools completed this year, and we are hopeful that the previously announced funding for a new secondary school in the Clayton area comes through on schedule. There are still many pressing needs throughout the district, and we hope our new board will continue to make this a priority. Thanks to all parents who helped advocate for this issue; we know that many of you did.

We've had many great educational opportunities throughout the year, as we try to do every year. Our topics this year included PAC 101, LGBTQ, Anxiety Prevention, Choice Programs, Principal & Vice-Principal Selection & Transfer Policies, Crime Response & Prevention, Anti-Bullying, and Community Partnerships. We always welcome the input of PACs and individual parents as to what they would like to see at future meetings.

DPAC sits on a number of District committees; you will find reports from many of them in this Annual Report. Also, our President and Vice-President meet several times a year with Superintendent Jordan Tinney and Deputy Superintendent Rick Ryan, whom we thank for taking the time to update us on news and events and to discuss different concerns of Surrey parents.

We would like to thank all of our important partners – the Surrey Board of Education, the School District, and of course all of our fellow parents. We look forward to seeing you in the 2014-2015 school year – our meetings are always on the 4th Wednesday of the month; there is no meeting in December, March, or June. We can always use more volunteers to join our Board or even just to sit on a District committee or two.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Holmes
President 2013 - 2014
District 36 Parent Advisory Council

Treasurer's Report



DISTRICT 36 PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
14033 92 Ave., Surrey, BC, V3V 0B7

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-14

Revenues	Budget	Actual			Total	Variance
		General	Gaming	Term		
Delivery Fee - Insurance Forms	1,400.00	1,417.21			1,417.21	17.21
SD36 Funding	2,000.00	-			-	(2,000.00)
Term Deposit Interest	20.00			26.50	26.50	6.50
Gaming Funds	2,500.00		2,500.00		2,500.00	0.00
Total Revenue	\$5,920.00	\$1,417.21	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 26.50	\$3,943.71	\$(1,976.29)
Expenditures	Budget	Actual			Total	Variance
		General	Gaming	Term		
BCCPAC Membership	75.00	75.00			75.00	0.00
Brochures & Name Tags	100.00	123.20			123.20	23.20
Meeting Expenses	300.00	303.19			303.19	3.19
Speakers Fees/Honorariums	2,000.00	-			-	(2,000.00)
Office Expenses	250.00	-			-	(250.00)
Organisational Development	155.00	155.00			155.00	0.00
Society Fees	40.00	40.00			40.00	0.00
Website	500.00	264.32			264.32	(235.68)
BCCPAC Conferences	2,500.00		2,668.30		2,668.30	168.30
Total Expenditures	\$5,920.00	\$ 960.71	\$ 2,668.30	\$ -	\$3,629.01	\$(2,290.99)
Net Income	\$ -	\$ 456.50	\$ (168.30)	\$ 26.50	\$ 314.70	\$ 314.70
Bank Balances:						
Opening Balance (March 1, 2013)		4,037.87	284.83	2,119.85	6,442.55	
Note: Incorrect closing general balance of \$4091.03 was used in last year's annual report - was from Dec. 31 rather than Feb. 28						
Closing Balance (February 28, 2014)		4,494.37	116.53	2,146.35	6,757.25	

Respectfully submitted by Karen Tan and Bob Holmes

DISTRICT REPORTS

BDE Advisory Committee

This committee did not meet this year.

Discovery Program Advisory Committee

The Discovery Program is a work in progress. We met as a committee in the fall with the teachers, the principal, a school trustee, a district staff and a DPAC representative.

The teaching staff has changed this second year but they are very excited about the development of the program. Parents are registering younger siblings for the coming year. There is physical space for this program to expand.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Peirce

East Kensington Advisory Committee

This committee did not meet this year.

Education Business Community Partnerships Advisory

There is a scheduled meeting in June which a DPAC representative will attend.

French Immersion Advisory Committee

The French Immersion Advisory Committee has met twice (March 6th, 2014 and May 7th, 2014). The committee consists of a Trustee representative (Shawn Wilson), Director of Instruction, District Helping Teacher, school principals, teachers, and executive members from the Canadian Parents for French – Surrey Chapter.

The programs are intended to develop fluency in French, leading to functional bilingualism and are located at the following Surrey schools:

- Early French Immersion Programs (Kindergarten entry; grades K-7):
Laronde, Martha Currie, Peace Arch, Riverdale, Simon Cunningham, Woodward Hill
- Late French Immersion Programs (Grade 6 entry; grades 6 & 7):
Crescent Park, Henry Bose, Jessie Lee, K.B. Woodward, Sunrise Ridge
- French Immersion at Secondary level (Grades 8 – 12):
Earl Marriott, Lord Tweedsmuir, Kwantlen Park, Panorama Ridge

The demand continues to be very strong for French Immersion. Currently, there are over 150 students on the waiting list for Early Immersion in the schools located in the South, however, waiting lists for the North area schools are significantly smaller.

Feedback received from parents has shown that they are not happy with the current phone-in process of enrollment, so new options are being explored for the upcoming year's enrollment.

While the demand continues to be strong, recruiting and hiring qualified Immersion teachers and TOC's continues to be a challenge for the district.

The District and CPF continues to support and provide numerous projects, initiatives and events for French Immersion students:

- Carnival D'Hiver at Martha Currie Elementary
- Concours D'art Oratoire, as well as the provincial level Concours D'Art Oratoire held at SFU Surrey the first weekend of May. The winners at the provincial level will go on to compete at the nationals.
- French Essay contest now also open to Core French students in Gr. 12. The winners will receive bursaries to assist in their education.
- French programs at Surrey Children's Festival

Respectfully submitted by Susan Boyes

Innovation & Student Learning Committee

The Innovation & Student Learning Committee (formerly known as Improving Student Learning) consisting of district staff including Superintendent Jordan Tinney and representatives from CSP, STA and DPAC, met twice during this school year on September 24 and November 26. The third meeting scheduled for February 25 was cancelled and the fourth scheduled meeting on May 27 was also cancelled.

The September meeting started with briefly reviewing the Draft Policy on responsible use of technology and internet from last school year, then continued to discuss what 'innovation' means and 'why we are focusing on technology'. Looking ahead, the discussion then focused on Social Media (review of where the district is and its documentation) and Digital Citizenship/Social Responsibility. A draft pamphlet "Social Media in the Classroom" and a draft parent consent form were presented and reviewed upon.

The November meeting continued on the social media policy work. The committee was shown a demo of the district's new tool PlaceSpeak site, followed by discussion on how to distribute and timeline for distribution.

The committee members received a social media policy overview in December 2013 and an invitation to connect and provide input on the new PlaceSpeak and were asked to comment at the next meeting which did not materialize.

Respectfully Submitted by Bob Holmes and Yuko Denham

Intensive Fine Arts Advisory Committee

The Fine Arts Committee meets at least twice a year to discuss the program's goals, needs and progress. It is formed by the Director of Instruction, the principals, the STA reps from the two schools, a trustee, DPAC and parent representatives.

White Rock Elementary and David Brankin Elementary are excited with the new curriculum explained. Both principals and the teachers are finding the new curriculum helpful to them around their classrooms environment at both schools been fine. David Brankin Elementary although has an issue with the facility as they do not have a stage and sometimes they cannot use the gym since it is being used for gym classes. They discussed if they can use a close by church but unfortunately there are none. The Fine Arts Schools seem to adapt to the Communicating Student Learning Pilot.

Respectfully Submitted by Mervet Jbara

Inter-A District Advisory Committee

Inter-A Advisory committee met three times over this school year. It did take a bit of work just to co-ordinate all the stakeholders but the meetings gave an opportunity to understand the unique educational opportunities that Inter-A provides to District 36. Teachers, school administration and reps from the students, parents, DPAC, Surrey board and districts all play a huge part in the success of Inter-A program.

The student reps were able to help us understand Inter-A better. A term such as the common reference of "Organized Chaos" was explained. The projects that were introduced this year: Passion Projects, Genius Hours, Community Leadership Service, were explained. Day school at night and the annual Leadership retreat were explained. Examples of participation in school events and out in the community were, also, given. Leadership and passion and enthusiasm for learning were very evident!

Inter-A is involved in Kwantlen Park (KP). Inter-A students are involved in the Remembrance Day assemblies. They help out in the breakfast program and the Eco club with invasive plant removal. Many of the students volunteered at the Surrey Jazz festival. Inter-A students made the craft gifts for the visiting Japanese students. New storage space and cupboards were provided this year in the school. Destination Imagination Regional was hosted at KP. The after school band and theatre company are classes Inter-A students enroll in along with students in mainstream and French Immersion. KP's Ultimate team is led by an Inter-A teacher and has many Inter-A players.

Inter-A parents meet as a society with teacher and student reps from Inter-A. Some Inter-A parents are involved with KP PAC and Dry Grad committee.

The teachers explained how the program was promoted and the recruiting process. The teachers need to spend a certain amount of time on recruiting. Enrolment and staffing concerns were discussed. Staffing should be kept to at least 7 teachers. Current enrolment is 168 students. The new venue for the September retreat was discussed. Camp Rockridge is the new site and fundraising has begun as the students are hoping to

keep the cost for them as low as possible. Also, the next extended field study to Italy and Greece was discussed and the preparation in regards to the courses for the trip. The district will update the Inter-A profile on the district website. How the district can promote and sustain a program like Inter-A was also discussed.

The school board was able to share the challenges of the budget and their ongoing work to keep learners at the center of their decision-making. The trustee felt it was important to having programs such as Inter-A in the north area. The advisory group appreciated the input from the trustee.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Peirce

Integrated Studies Advisory Committee

This committee did not meet this year.

International Baccalaureate Advisory Committee

Meeting Dates: November 28, 2013 and April 16, 2014

Committee Members Nov. 28th: Reni Masi (Trustee), Christy Northway (Assistant Superintendent), Bea Hadikin (absent), Lorraine Pousett (DPAC Director), Bob Holmes (DPAC Director)

April 16, 2014 same members as above with Brad Bauman (Director of Instruction, Education Services)

Enrollment Update 2013/2014: Gr. 11 Diploma 87 and Grade 12 Diploma 57 (Diploma total 144); Course (Partial) Gr. 11 and 12 combined is 68; Total 212 for 2013/14
2014/2015: Gr. 11 Diploma 110 and Gr. 12 Diploma 79 (Diploma total 189)

Dept. Goals for 2013/2014: Ms. Guezalova to submit four documents for the self-study and accreditation process to be done every five years. Academic Honesty, Managing Process of Extended Essays, Assessment Policy and Special Needs Policy reports will be submitted in March.

Academic Success: Local universities give preference to IB students because of their research, critical thinking and note taking skills and time management. For the fourth year in a row a Semiahmoo IB Student, Anmol Jawandha won the prestigious Blyth Cambridge Scholarship to study engineering. Other prestigious awards are: full scholarship to St. Louis University Medical Research Centre, SFU Schulich Engineering Leadership and many admissions into premier universities in both Canada and the U.S.A. Diploma students are required to complete 150 hours of Creativity, Action and Service activities (CAS) to foster global citizenship and create a balance of academics and extracurricular. Students are leaders in many extracurricular clubs and competition, such as a Debate club and Model UN. Many students volunteer or start initiatives to benefit their community. It is a program known for its academic rigour, high expectations and unusual sleep patterns. Described as challenging, often grueling in high school, students

appreciate the preparation for the rigour of university! Some expect the students to be highly competitive within the program. As stated by parent guests and students, "some kids might start competitive, but they soon realize they can't do it on their own!" "IB becomes a family of different ethnic, religious, socioeconomic backgrounds (Guezalova, 2014)". The program is cooperative which involves students helping each other and sharing knowledge. Teachers are supportive of passionate about their field of study. They work to help the student succeed.

Requests to District:

- Teacher training for new curriculum in all Sciences and Arts for Sept. Curriculum changes every 5-7 years. Answer: To be discussed outside of this meeting in more depth for planning.
- Summer Access to university and college labs to conduct research for their Extended Essays in Science. Core requirement for Diploma students is the 4000 word extended research essay. Answer: Ms. Northway: district will check into this with partnerships at local universities.
- Would like opportunity for District to showcase the IB essays for teachers, students and Parents, even those not in IB, to view. A celebration of an achievement well done!
Answer: will be considered.
- Parents would like to see Semiahmoo with a Middle Years Program (MYP). Gap academically between Gr. 10 and IB is huge and there is a high attrition rate after Gr. 11. Some take Course or Partial instead of Diploma.
Answer: Brad Bauman is aware of this. Johnson Heights started the MYP and is going through external evaluation. A lot of effort and funding to start a program, eventually entire junior program will be ready to evolve into a Diploma Program. Ms. Northway expressed plans are underway to bring Johnson Heights and Semi IB programs together on a committee.

Respectfully Submitted by Lorraine Pousett

Montessori Advisory Committee

The Montessori program (K-7) is based on the principals of Dr. Maria Montessori (1870-1952) who was the first woman in Italy to receive a medical degree that worked in the fields of psychiatry, education and anthropology. The program is intended to develop self-directed students with a global vision. Students work together in multi-age classrooms to foster cooperation, community and leadership. Curriculum is addressed through an integrated theme-based, multi-sensory approach that emphasizes student independence and choice and acknowledged individual learning styles.

The committee met 3 times this school year and it consists of a Trustee (Reni Masi), Director of Instruction (Brad Bauman), school principals and teachers, school PAC representatives and executive members of the Surrey Montessori Society, a parent volunteer group who worked with the district to initiate the program in 1981.

Currently there are 3 programs in Surrey located at Mountainview Elementary (single track), Sunnyside Elementary (dual track) and Latimer Road (dual track) where the program had just started in September of 2013.

During the course of the year, a few concerns raised by the parents:

1. that for the first time in 2013-14 school year the parents of the Montessori program were asked to go and buy the school supply, which in the past has been purchased by the school with the pre-determined amount of money parents had paid; parents asked the district to bring back the 'old' system as it worked far better for everyone involved including the teachers,
2. and that Montessori Advisory Committee's meeting minutes were not delivered to the committee members, as well as the fact that some meetings lacked 'call for agenda items' prior to the meeting. DPAC was asked to about other district committees and was asked to request the district for more consistency amongst all advisory committees.

There are waiting lists at all 3 schools indicating its popularity and the committee continues to work on several on-going challenges including but not limited to:

- Hiring and securing of Montessori trained teachers
- Ongoing teacher training
- Meaningful reporting method
- Montessori helping teacher(s)
- Consistent and coordinated Montessori curriculum between the 3 schools

Respectfully submitted by Yuko Denham

Public Relations

This committee did not meet this year.

School Meal Program Advisory Committee

This committee did not meet this year.

Traditional School Advisory Committee

The traditional Schools Advisory Committee meets at least three times a year to discuss issues regarding:

- ~The goals for the program
- ~Policy and regulations relevant to the program
- ~Curriculum implementation plans
- ~Publicity and registration procedures
- ~Any special qualifications for teachers in the program within the parameter of the Human Resource department and the Surrey Teachers Association

On April 30, 2014 a first ever traditional schools parent forum was held. The purpose was to engage in a dialogue responding to the 4 key questions, intended to gather input and impressions regarding the current success, needs and future directions for the traditional

schools in Surrey.

~what did you see as the strengths of our traditional schools?

~what are the specific ways we could work to improve our traditional schools?

~what does it mean to be a "modern" traditional school?

~what is your vision of a "modern" traditional school?

Parents indicate their passion and commitment to well-rounded education experiences for their children. There will be another parent forum on May 26, 2014 at 6:30 to discuss the same matter.

Respectfully submitted by Mervet Jbara