



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

**General Meeting
Minutes**

**District Education Center
14033 92 Ave
January 28, 2015**

1. **Welcome and Call to Order - 7:07 pm**
2. **Adoption of Agenda** moved by Erma Stephenson, seconded by Surrey Traditional
3. **Approval of Minutes of November 26, 2014 General Meeting** - moved by Cloverdale Traditional, seconded by Crescent Park
4. **Welcome Trustee Tymoschuk (new Board liaison to DPAC)** Gary has served on the board before from 1996 to 1999. He was the Vice Chair of the Board then and also on Budget Committee, parent to three adult children. Will participate as an attendee for the DPAC meetings but unfortunately will miss February.
5. **Reports**
 - i. **President - As attached.** Also a reminder that schools in the North and West will be having their community forums January 29th, 2015.
 - ii. **Treasurer - As attached.** No changes from December to November. Surrey and Langley held a joint community forum and our share of the costs was \$400.
 - iii. **BCCPAC** - The presentation from BCCPAC rep will be deferred to next month's meeting. There have been many questions and concerns, DPAC would like to make sure that BCCPAC has an opportunity to present on how they are advocating on our behalf
 - iv. **District Committee Reports** - no reports
6. **Education**

Presented by: Catherine Sereda, Michelle Schmidt and Tybie Elenko - Gifted Learning Teacher

School Act and Ministry of Education Inclusion Policy- Mi150/89

- All students should have equitable access to learning and educated together

- compliance with Ministry standards is not optional for districts, and it is always imperative to see if a district's models and organizations are congruent Board of Education Beliefs and Values (Inclusive education in Surrey)
- although there is quite a bit of bureaucracy, the district endeavours to support students based on needs
- Neighbourhood schools are the basic unit of measure, and commitment to inclusion. Must balance prevention, early identification intervention and support
- Students and families are fully participating members
- the goal is to nurture independence in the child

Organizing for Diversity: Universal Design for Learning: all schools must be accessible for all students

- between 75 to 80 percent reach most students i.e.: school wide prevention programs, use of effective instructional techniques in the classroom
- 5.2 percent is targeted - strategic and targeted interventions to some students
- 2.5 percent is intensive- interventions targeted to intensive care students

Universal, Targeted, and Intensive

Tybie presented on the Gifted learner in the district - concepts and supports

- who is this student? students are great abstract and metaphorical learners. Our goal for each child is to provide the mechanism that will help the up the escalator, going from level A to B in an incline.
- Ministry's definition for gifted when he or she possesses demonstrated or potential abilities that give evidence of exceptionally high capability with respect to intellect, creativity, or the skills associated with specific disciplines. Sometimes, gifted students can be twice exceptional
- Renzulli's conception of Giftedness - Gifted behaviour comprised of above average ability, creativity, task commitment (passion)
- Many students have overexcitabilities- psychomotor, sensual, intellectual, imaginal or emotional
- Perfectionism
- Depression/Anxiety

Targeted and Intensive Support: Elementary and Secondary

- Meaningful consultation
- Must be careful and assess whether a student is bright or gifted.
- Gifted students do not need more, they need different.

Tier 1 services - Differentiated Instruction and Universal Design for Learning

Tier 2 services - G/LD program (Johnston Heights Secondary, gr 8), challenge program

Tier 3 - Multi-age Cluster Class (referral based, currently 4 sites in district), acceleration options

IEP's are universal in all tiers

Tybie also stressed the Importance of Growth Mindset by Carol Dweck

Michelle presented on Special Education: Targeted and Intensive Support

Elementary: intensive literacy programs (4 sites). auditory-oral programs

- Children's Day Treatment Outreach Program (CDTOP) involvement from CYMH, Multi-disciplinary at Woodward Hill
- FASTrack - FASD and related disorders, individualized support in developing learning environments for this student

Secondary options

BASES (iq< 70), LST (iq>70) LSB (high functioning BASES students)

-Connections for grades 8 - 10

- core academics
- intensive intervention and support programs
- FocusTrack- inability to manage in a regular program, typically students have been frequently absent/out of school for considerable time

LEE school - 13-16 years, anxious, depressed, extremely withdrawn, safe, supportive and nurturing environment

Foundations - grades 9-12 who have not experienced success in BASES program

-intensive behavioural and cognitive challenges

- employment and other skills that they can use to return an appropriate educational setting, other community program or gain employment experience

T.R.E.K - teamwork, respect, empathy, knowledge

-13-16 years

TREES

HOPE

Growing Together program

Waypoint and Daughters and Sisters (PLEA) 12-18 years

ADTP and APU 12/13-18 years, Surrey Memorial Hospital

Meaningful Consultation between parents and school district to accommodate depends on the requirements of the needs and intensity of the child. Meaningful consultation does not require agreement by either side - parents do not have a "veto" over placement or the IEP

Questions were then taken from the floor

Adjournment at 8:45 pm

NEXT MEETING:

FEBRUARY 25, 2015

REPORTING LEARNING OUTCOMES

President's Report

- Communication challenges continue with respect to updating our web site and sending out email notices on meeting topics etc. Thank you for your continued patience.
- DPAC executive from Delta will be meeting with us at our executive meeting in February. We will gauge their interest in co-hosting a regional conference this coming spring along with Langley. DPAC director Nancy Peirce has taken on chairing the organizing committee. Please see Nancy if you think there is a way you can be of assistance.
- Please join me in welcoming new DPAC Directors: Nicole Kaler, Ranjit Parmar and Arminster Sidhu
- A big thank you to Peter Johal who agreed to step up in a Co-President role with me. With Peter's help and that of the rest of the DPAC directors I will be able to finish up the year.
- I hope if you didn't get a chance to attend last week's district parent forum and are not attending tomorrow's that you go online and complete the District survey on Choice programs.