



SURREY DISTRICT (36) PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

General Meeting

Minutes

Sept. 26, 2018, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

14033 92 Ave., Surrey, BC, V3V 0B7

Present: 40 attendees (34 schools represented) and 7 guests

1. Welcome and introductions

The position of President is currently vacant, as both Co-Presidents have recently resigned. Vice President Jyotika Jasuja acted as Chair and provided a brief overview of DPAC. There are several vacancies on the DPAC Board of Directors; parents are asked to consider joining the Board.

2. Approval of agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

3. Approval of minutes of the previous General Meeting

Motion: To approve the minutes of the May 23, 2018 General Meeting as presented.

CARRIED

4. District speakers

Assistant Superintendents Lynda Reeve, Catherine Sereda, Andrew Holland, Ross Brennan, and Christy Northway attended to give an update and answer some questions.

Antonio Vendramin (District Principal, Education Services) presented information on digital resources that are available to support student learning, including Discovery Education, Scholastic Literacy Pro, Tumblebooks, EbscoHost, and World Book Online. Students also have access to Office 365, which includes a number of accessibility features for those with learning challenges. Parents can request their child's user ID and password to access digital resources from home. Parents can also contact DPAC for a link to the presentation (info@surreydpac.ca). This can be shared at PAC meetings.

Board of Education Trustee Garry Thind noted that the district now has 333 portables in use; the cost to eliminate portables in Surrey will be approximately \$1 billion. Parents are encouraged to contact their MLAs to advocate for more funding.

5. Forum

A parent forum was facilitated by Rina Diaz; it was noted that she was on leave from her position as DPAC Director, but was asked to take on this role by the Board. Parents were asked to contribute questions they would like to see answered at DPAC and/or in an eventual FAQ section on the website. Topics covered included safety and security, playground fundraising, grants, financial best practices, and population growth. In general, parents are encouraged to approach their PAC and school administration first with specific concerns.

6. Adjournment