



SURREY DISTRICT (36) PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

General Meeting Minutes

Feb. 27, 2019, 7:00 – 9:00 pm
14033 92 Ave., Surrey, BC, V3V 0B7

Present: 32 attendees (25 schools represented) and 4 guests

1. Welcome and introductions

President Dean McGee opened the meeting.

2. Adoption of agenda

As Trustee Garry Thind was unable to attend, the Board of Trustees update was removed from the agenda. The C&B Update was replaced with a discussion of BCCPAC Resolutions.

3. Adoption of minutes of the previous General Meeting

Motion: To adopt the minutes of the Jan. 30, 2019 General Meeting as presented.

CARRIED

4. YMCA mental wellness programs for teens

Lindsay Martin (YMCA) provided information on some of the free mental wellness programs that the YMCA offers for teens, the Mind Fit program (ages 13-19) and Mindfulness Groups (ages 13-17). Mind Fit is an 8-week physical and mental wellness program for groups of 8-12 teens with mild to moderate depression and/or anxiety. Mindfulness Groups meet for six weeks to help teens learn and practice healthy coping strategies for stress and anxiety. Sessions of both are offered on an on-going basis.

5. Tracking exclusion

Nicole Kaler of BCEdAccess presented an interim report on an Exclusion Tracker that the organization has created to collect data on how and when children with designations are being excluded from school and therefore not receiving equitable access to education. This report is available at <http://surreydpac.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/BCEdAccess-Interim-Report-on-Exclusion-Tracker-presentationVerNic.pdf>.

6. Advocating for your child

Kelly Shields and Michal Rozworski presented information from the BCTF focused on inclusion, advocating for your child, and education funding. A handout from this presentation about Parent/Teacher Communication is available at http://surreydpac.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Advocating-for-Your-Child_HOs.pdf. The BCTF also offers a number of other free parent workshops that are available to PACs; see <https://bctf.ca/parents/presentations.aspx> for a complete list.

7. Door prize draw

Three lucky attendees took home some treats. The DPAC Board thanked all who attended.

8. Update on correspondence and questions received

- **Food trucks:** The district has communicated the following message to DPAC regarding the use of food trucks on school property: "Staff are presently engaged in developing guidelines for PACs to set a right balance for providing fund raising opportunities, while honouring existing vendor contract obligations, respecting the provincial guidelines for food and nutrition for BC schools, and minimizing risk exposure. This work is to be completed within the month of March and early signals clearly indicate a

positive shift from the district's current position on this matter.”

- **Criminal Records Checks for volunteers:** Surrey Schools' Regulation #10310.1 (School Volunteers, https://www.surreyschools.ca/departments/SECT/PoliciesRegulations/section_10000/Documents/10310.1%20Regulation.pdf) provides information about when a Criminal Record Check is required. This is always required when a volunteer might have unsupervised access to students, but otherwise can be at the discretion of the school principal.
- **Robert's Rules of Order:** When it comes to questions about protocol, PACs should always first refer to their Constitution and Bylaws. However, if the C&B are silent, Robert's Rules should generally be followed. It is also advisable to have the C&B specifically state that Robert's Rules are followed in these cases, to eliminate any confusion. Some specific points of interest:
 - **Conflict of interest and voting on a motion:** Robert's Rules dictate that a member with a conflict of interest, particularly a monetary conflict, “should not” vote on the motion, but that “no member can be compelled to refrain from voting in such circumstances.” A conflict of interest section in the PAC's bylaws can be helpful in such cases.
 - **Special meetings:** It may be necessary at times to call a “special meeting”, such as to approve an unexpected large expense. According to Robert's Rules, a special meeting is called **only** if something important comes up that must be dealt with before the next regular meeting. Special meetings **always** require previous notice, which must include the date, time, place, location, and **all** the business that will be included in the meeting. Nothing can be considered in a special meeting that is not included in the notice. Bylaws should ideally include a section on special meetings that specifies how much notice should be given.
 - **Approving the minutes of a meeting you did not attend:** It is not necessary to have attended a meeting to approve the minutes from that meeting. As per Robert's Rules, “...a member's absence from the meeting for which minutes are being approved does not prevent the member from participating in their correction or approval.”

9. BCCPAC Resolutions

DPAC received some proposed resolutions for the BCCPAC AGM. These and additional resolutions were discussed and agreed to in principle. The DPAC Board will submit resolutions on the following topics:

- Creation of a regulatory body and post-secondary programming for Education Assistants
- Availability of menstrual products in schools
- Online maintenance of report cards
- Capital funding for portables
- Government funding of sufficient school construction for growing districts, including a special allotment to catch up on past shortfalls
- Individual Education Plans for students with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

10. Adjournment