



## SURREY DISTRICT (36) PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

### General Meeting

#### Minutes

September 25, 2019, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

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

Present: 40 attendees (31 schools represented), 2 guests

#### 1. Welcome and introductions

President Rina Diaz opened the meeting and briefly explained the format of DPAC meetings, including sign-in sheets and voting cards.

#### 2. Adoption of agenda

As Superintendent Tinney was delayed, the agenda order was adjusted accordingly.

#### 3. Adoption of minutes of the previous General Meeting

**Motion:** To adopt the minutes of the May 22, 2019 General Meeting as presented. CARRIED

#### 4. Approval of 2019/20 budget

Lakhbir Johal (DPAC Treasurer) presented the DPAC financial statement and proposed 2019-20 budget. The DPAC Board would also like to provide funds to subsidize the BCCPAC memberships of some PACs, which will be presented as a separate item.

**Motion:** To approve the 2019-20 DPAC budget as presented. CARRIED

#### 5. Proposal to subsidize BCCPAC membership fees

In order to have a stronger voice at the BCCPAC AGM, DPAC would like to increase the number of PACs who are members. An initial proposal to subsidize the BCCPAC membership fees for some PACs was presented and discussed. This will need to be further developed before it is voted on. Attendees were encouraged to send suggestions to the Directors at [info@surreydpac.ca](mailto:info@surreydpac.ca). All attendees were also encouraged to take information back to their PACs regarding the value of BCCPAC membership.

**Motion:** To table this discussion to the October meeting, to allow for development of a revised proposal. CARRIED

#### 6. District update

Superintendent Jordan Tinney presented some numbers regarding the current status of Surrey schools. He also recommended that parents ask the government to stop funding on a school-by-school basis, and instead provide the Board of Education a block amount and let them decide how it should be allocated.

- The district includes 101 elementary schools, 20 secondary schools, and several learning centres.
- Total number of students: 74,417.9, increased from 73,354.6 last year (partial numbers are due to part time students).
- Elementary students: 43,755 currently enrolled (238 over projected numbers).
- Secondary students: 28,529 currently enrolled (201 over projected numbers).
- Students in portables: 9,025 (increased from 8,325 last year).
- An additional 28 portables are in use this year, for a total of 361.

- 43 of the 60 school districts in BC have fewer total students than are in portables in Surrey.
- Cost of portables is \$4 million, but these funds must come out of operating budget, not capital.

## 7. DPAC 2019/20: Goals and vacancies

### a. DPAC Goals

The following DPAC goals have been identified for 2019/20, in support of Surrey DPAC's Mission and Constitution:

- Increase Surrey PAC membership in BCCPAC, and specifically proxy votes at the AGM.
- Advocate through BCCPAC for:
  - a. Not funding portables out of operating costs.
  - b. Building more schools (and associated issues such as land acquisition).
  - c. Special purpose grant/funding to address portables and growth.
  - d. Ensuring that financial literacy is part of the educational curriculum.
- Increase communication with the Board of Trustees regarding budget, policy, and other matters.
- Host an interactive evening with the Trustees, to discuss parent concerns and questions.
- Propose a revision to Policy #2400, School Board Meetings & Trustee In-Service Sessions, section 1.1 (Question Period), to include mechanism to make questions and responses publicly available and part of the official record.
- Advocate for the continuance of EAs working with specific students.
- Request that Naloxone kits be placed in all Surrey schools.
- Work toward placing Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in all Surrey schools.
- Advocate to support teachers, possibly by advocating for local bargaining.

### b. Vacancies

The DPAC Board should include 9-13 Directors; with only 7 current Directors, 2-6 positions were vacant. The following volunteered for these positions:

- Rajeshri Singh
- Tajinder Bhatti
- Jacqueline Izowski
- Megan Carbonetto
- Alexandria Villafane

**Motion:** To approve the appointment of these five new Directors.

CARRIED

*(Note: Jacqueline Izowski later noted that she is ineligible, due to employment with SD36.)*

## 8. Draft procedures for providing assistance to PACs

DPAC is often approached by PACs to provide assistance, either to resolve conflict or to help sort out governance issues. To provide a consistent approach, the DPAC Board will generally follow these steps:

1. Provide the appropriate section(s) of the BCCPAC Leadership Manual, as this includes a wealth of information that many are simply not aware of. (E.g. Tab 8 includes a process for resolving conflicts and code of ethics violations.)
2. Request the PAC's C&B from the district, in case a copy is not readily available at the school.
3. Invite parents to discuss their concerns directly with a DPAC Director by email, over the phone, or in person prior to (or following) a DPAC general meeting.
4. In some cases, a DPAC Director may be able to attend a PAC meeting.
5. Follow up with the parent or PAC to see if things have been resolved.

**6. Possible topics for future general meetings and special presentations**

Possible presentations for the upcoming year were discussed, and attendees were invited to give additional suggestions. Suggested topics included financial literacy, vaping, mental health, anxiety, disability tax credits, and first aid.

**7. Proposed C&B revisions: Parts I-III (Membership, Meetings of General Members, and Proceedings at General Meetings)**

This item was postponed to a future meeting due to time. Suggestions can be sent to [info@surreydpac.ca](mailto:info@surreydpac.ca).

**8. Board of Trustees update**

Trustee Garry Thind indicated that he will take the issues raised at DPAC back to the Board of Trustees.

**9. Adjournment**