

MINUTES



DPAC
DISTRICT PARENT
ADVISORY COUNCIL
ABBOTSFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: January 27, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Online Zoom video conference

Executives in Attendance: Shannon Rose, Chair
Michelle Bastien, Vice Chair
Tracey Lamoureux, Treasurer
Winsome Rauch, Secretary
Tanya Coghill, Director

Special Guests: Assistant Superintendent Nathan Ngieng, Trustee Phil Anderson

Additional Attendees: 8+

1. Call to Order

Chair Shannon Rose called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

2. Welcome & Introductions

Acknowledgement of Local Indigenous Community

3. Update on Learning in the Middle Schools

Assistant Superintendent Nathan Ngieng presented “Fostering Middle School Success”, discussing important findings from the MDI Grade 8 Middle School Survey. Key information was shared about belonging and connectedness at school compared with BC provincial averages. He shared the vision for middle schools (“a joyful inquiry-based learning experience that creates access to opportunities to develop agency, identity, and connection”) and the equity framework to cultivate the conditions for success. He talked about the challenges of the pandemic and focus on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). He ended with a short video, created at the end of 2021, talking about what was learned and achieved during the pandemic. Assistant Superintendent Ngieng’s slides will be shared on the DPAC Facebook page and the video will be uploaded to the Abbotsford District YouTube channel.

4. Question Period with Assistant Superintendent Nathan Ngieng and Trustee Phil Anderson

A question was asked about whether the MDI survey highlighted any groups that needed more support for connectedness and Social Emotional Learning. The response is that the information is not available for confidentiality reasons. The publicly available MDI report looks at the entire district, showing how certain schools might be impacted in different areas. For instance, after-school activities and facilities on the west side of Abbotsford are less than east or central areas. The survey points us in the direction of where we need to investigate further.

A question was asked about spots opening for online Kindergarten and up registrations. The suggestion was made to contact the Abbotsford Virtual School (AVS) Principal directly or look at their website to obtain registration information.

A question was asked and answered about support services for diverse learners. In addition to EA support, there are Learning Support Services, Youth Care Workers, and Specialist Teachers. Start the conversation with the classroom teacher about level of support needed and then talk to the principal about any further requirements. If you require more assistance, please call the board office.

5. Approval of the Minutes from November 2021

Secretary Winsome Rauch read the minutes of the November 25, 2021 meeting. It was MOVED by Shannon Rose and SECONDED by Director Tanya Coghill that the minutes of the November 25, 2021 General Meeting be approved as amended. CARRIED

6. Treasurer report

Treasurer Tracey Lamoureux provided Closing G/L Account balances as of January 27, 2021
General = \$332.26 (after 4 x\$75 cheques to reimburse schools for BCCPAC memberships)
Gaming = \$7069.72 (after \$150 BCCPAC membership and \$224 Zoom subscription)

7. International Baccalaureate (IB) Update

Shannon Rose shared the slides presented by Assistant Superintendent Gino Bondi and Abbotsford Senior Secondary Principal Phil Cookson to the January Education Committee meeting. Key points: admission to the program continues to begin in Grade 11, the three-course minimum applies only to out of catchment applications, administration would like to increase the average IB class size, and trustees would like to see Middle Years Program (MYP) extended to grade 9 and 10. Abbotsford Middle currently has district MYP grades 6-8 for all their students, but they are not taking any from out of catchment as the program and school are currently at capacity.

8. New Business

8.1 Ministry of Education Zoom subscriptions

The Ministry of Education has provided District #34 with 3 Zoom licenses for PACs to use. The Ministry negotiated to renew them until June 30, 2022. PACs can access one of the three Zoom accounts held by DPAC, free of charge, by emailing SD34zoom1@gmail.com.

8.2 BCCPAC Webinar

BCCPAC is offering a free webinar "Understanding PACs from A-Z and Why They Are Important for Families (February 10 at 7 PM). Register for the webinar in advance.

9. Open Floor and Question Period

9.1 BCCPAC Facebook Page

Vice-Chair Michelle Bastien recommended that parents follow the BCCPAC Facebook page where one can find information about free webinars, ministry of education updates, and provincial health orders

9.2 Nominations are open for BCCPAC executive members

9.3 Hot Lunch

A question was asked about whether Hot Lunch Days were still happening in elementary schools. The response was that the Provincial Health Orders do not currently allow this but that this restriction will be re-evaluated at the end of January. Uncertainty with flood, weather, functional closures, and changes to vendor cancellation policies have also been challenging for PACs to organize Hot Lunch.

9.4 Spectators at School Sports

Tanya Coghill reported that BC School Sport had a recent conversation about whether spectators are to be allowed in school buildings. The decision should be announced early next week [January 31].

10. Next Meeting

The next DPAC meeting will be held on February 24, 2022 at 7pm (Zoom)

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM