

# MINUTES



**DPAC**

DISTRICT PARENT  
ADVISORY COUNCIL  
ABBOTSFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Date:** September 23, 2021

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Online Zoom video conference

**Attendance:** DPAC Executives

**Special Guests:** Superintendent Dr. Kevin Godden, Trustee Rhonda Pauls

**Additional Attendees:** 20+

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## 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. Presentations

### 3.1 ThoughtExchange Presentation

Superintendent Godden presented the results of the May 2021 District ThoughtExchange. He explained the online platform as an engagement tool for parents and community where participants could offer thoughts and rate them while answering the question: *Reflecting on last year, what lessons have we learned and what worked well to support our young people? What supports do we need in the future?* Among key thoughts were: mental health, operations, instruction, transportation, and health and safety. The full presentation will be available on the DPAC Facebook page.

## 4. Question Period

Time was provided to ask questions of Superintendent Godden, Trustee Pauls, and the DPAC executive. Questions were asked and answered about volunteers, criminal record checks, dismissal times, covid protocols, trustee elections, school sports, long-term capital plans, Zoom licenses, BCCPAC fees, and emergency kits. The questions and responses are provided in the appended "September 23, 2021 Minutes Addendum" for information.

## 5. Approval of Minutes from May 2021

Shannon Rose read the minutes of the May 2021 meeting.

It was MOVED by Shannon Rose and SECONDED by Tasha that the minutes of the May 27, 2021 meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED

## 6. Old Business

### 6.1 Emergency kits

Some discussion of how schools prepare for emergencies besides comfort kits

#### 6.2 Gym and LLC time in elementary

Shannon Rose reported that not everyone had gym teachers last year because of the way the contracts were structured. LLC took over prep time.

### 7. New Business

#### 7.1 Vacant secretary position

Winsome Rauch was appointed as DPAC Secretary for 2021/22 school year.

#### 7.2 BCCPAC Memberships

Trustee Pauls announced that school board trustees have agreed to pay for BCCPAC memberships this year. Shannon Rose will post a procedure on how to apply.

#### 7.3 Elementary Education Night

Shannon Rose reported that this is a training meeting for PAC Chair and Treasurer positions done every fall. Discussions are underway for an October session, possibly using the entire October meeting for a PAC 101 night.

#### 7.4 Survey for guest speakers for upcoming meetings

Shannon Rose reported that before Covid, DPAC had community guest speakers. Michelle Bastien and Shannon Rose will send out a survey as to what members would like to see this year.

### 8. Question Period

A question was asked about the procedure for recording online meetings where there is a vote. Michelle Bastien advised that protocol is to let everyone know at the beginning of the meeting that it is being recorded.

A question was asked about when DPAC might return to in-person meetings. Shannon Rose replied that since there is a need to check vaccine passports, we will meet online until that changes.

DPAC Executive Introductions were made during Question Period as follows:

Shannon Rose, Chair

Michelle Bastien, Vice Chair

Winsome Rauch, Secretary

Tracey Lamoureux, Treasurer

Tanya Coghill, Director

Heidi Smit Vinois, Special Education Rep

Sharon Smit, Director (absent)

A question was asked if there will be an online option to join a live meeting if they are held at the Board Office. Shannon Rose replied that DPAC has a zoom license until September 2022 so it can be an option.

**9. Next Meeting**

The next DPAC meeting will be held on October 28, 2021 at 7pm (Zoom)

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM

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September 23, 2021 Addendum

Question Period with Superintendent Godden, Trustee Pauls, and DPAC executives

<b>A question was asked about:</b>	<b>Response</b>
Volunteers going into schools?	Yes. The district is open to that once everyone gets settled into a routine and we can figure out how to do this safely. There is no vaccination requirement to volunteer in the schools.
Changes in requesting Criminal Record Checks (CRC) for volunteers?	This procedure has not changed from what was established a few years ago. Apply at the Board office. CRC valid for 5 years but a confidentiality form and volunteer form must be completed at the school annually.
Whether Criminal Record Checks are only required if working with students?	CRCs are needed by any volunteer in the school, whether working directly with children or not.
Whether dismissal timing can be adjusted? For example, the Traditional elementary and high schools are both dismissed at 2:30 PM	Bring this to the principal. However, if the school is serviced by a school bus, the bell times are not set by the principal but by Transportation.
Stopping daytime custodial staff at elementary schools?	District provided daytime custodial services last year because the Ministry funded the District for that. With new regulations and funding cut, two hours of daytime custodial every other day until January is what can be afforded in the elementary schools.
Whether there are separate health and safety protocols from the District for grad cruises, on top of what's required from the cruise line?	Unless issues develop, there are no guidelines from the District in addition to the public health orders for the cruise lines. The cruise lines will have limits on capacity and requirements for vaccine passports and as patrons, students will need to follow the orders.
Whether vaccine passports will be required for spectators at school sporting events?	Our sector is exempt, which means vaccine passports are not required of spectators in a school building for school-based events. Event spaces are limited to 50% capacity. Spectators are still recommended to wear a mask and physically distance.
When can spectators start attending school sports events?	First season games were held without spectators to allow principals to organize themselves. Next games will allow 50% capacity by next Tuesday [September 28, 2021]
Whether Abbotsford School District has a plan in place if there is a Covid outbreak? What is considered an outbreak?	The district is ready. Outbreaks were declared last year when there are multiple cases at the school across different cohorts and Fraser Health was uncertain about causes.

The next election for trustees?	The next trustee elections are scheduled for October 2022, on the same schedule as city council.
Plans for funding new school infrastructure on the East side of Abbotsford?	The information is available online in the following Abbotsford School District documents: (1) Long Term Facilities Plan that maps the needs of the city, using demographic information looking out 15 years and (2) 5-year capital plan, which is more immediate. Both of these are based on enrollment projections. Secretary Treasurer Ray Velestuk is responsible for the 5-year capital plan and generally gives a annual presentation to DPAC
Can DPAC fund Zoom licenses for PACs?	No. The only funds available for DPAC is the gaming grant. Funding PACs is a prohibited expense with the grant.
Whether the District is willing to pay for Zoom licenses for PACs?	Because of IT security, the District has chosen to make investments in Microsoft Teams, which would be free for DPAC. For meetings generally less than 40 minutes, try a free Zoom account. Google Meets is also a great alternative.
Whether there is a fee to be part of DPAC?	PACS don't pay DPAC any fees
Paying for Zoom licenses with gaming money?	Not allowed. Use your general fund.
Whether DPAC paying for BCCPAC memberships?	DPAC will not be paying for BCCPAC memberships. The school District will pay for BCCPAC memberships this year. DPAC will post a procedure on how PACs can apply.
Who pays for Emergency Kits?	Most districts do not fund emergency kits, including Abbotsford. Participants exchanged ideas about Comfort Kits stored in a container on school grounds and funding the families that don't send in kits.