

DPAC General

September 21st, 2023 @ 7pm

Minutes

In Person – SD 35 Board Office

1. Call to Order: 7:03pm

2. Adoption of

- a. Agenda September 2023
 - a. Motion Jenn 1st, Blair 2nd
 - b. Amend #12: open forum Q&A - move to after Announcements
- b. Minutes from May 2023
 - a. Motion to adopt 1st, 2nd no changes, all agree

3. Special Presentation

- A. Zach Funk, Director Township of Langley Firefighters Charities (Snack Program) – postponed to another meeting.
- B. Clint Jackson, District Principal of Student Health & Equity (Feeding Futures)
 - i. Presentation on Feeding Futures school food program. Including guidelines from the Ministry. 3 year commitment that would reach approx. 20% of the students. \$2.67mm per year is approximately Langley share. This supports food programs that are within Langley SD. Approx 3,000 students in Langley show up at schools without access to food.
 - ii. Review of guiding committee who are responsible for consulting and making final decisions. There are also 2 school-based members who will provide a lens into the community.
 - iii. How is the funding spent in the first year – It can address immediate needs such as purchasing food that kids can access. It can also be used for staffing, hiring one FTE for school food program, kitchen staff, equipment and can assist with entering long term agreements with catering companies.
- C. Guiding principles ie a guiding lens: sustainability
 - i. Choices / culturally informed
 - ii. Access / stigma free
 - iii. Education / food literacy – programs are successful when there are connections between food programs and education
- D. 2023 /2024 goals – snack programs, enhanced staffing, community connections and partnership between volunteers, donors. Looking to develop a long-term plan. Gather feedback and comments. A link will be provided to schools. Feedback will be sought
 - i. What would you like to see us achieve around school food programs
 - ii. What would you like to see change in areas of:

1. Food literacy / education
2. School food environments
- iii. What other ideas do you have to help our students consistently access healthy food options?

Questions / comments

Q: How to communicate from kids to family? Parents don't seem to know what's happening with their kids or going on in their schools. Connect with parents, teachers and kids to communicate out.

A: these are open to families. Larger funding can go to community groups who provide food. They will continue to work with community groups to provide funding and ensure families are aware of what's going on in schools.

Q: Will kids be taught nutrition and education details on what they can prepare for themselves?

A:

Q: clarifying question around the program and who can have access?

A: any person who needs it can have access to food.

Q: What % is Langley's portion of the funding compared to other School Districts in the province?

A: Presenter did not have data points with respect to comparisons on other districts in the province.

Q: What do kids do on weekends, stats and breaks?

A: They are looking at how they can accomplish meeting these needs during breaks when schools are not in session. They will be working with community groups to ensure that the funds become seeded and ongoing and not just through the schools. The goal is to create a sustainable program throughout the district. To come up with a plan to move into the future.

Q: What was the program like pre-Covid?

A: in general there were programs across schools. It was varied. The idea is to expand and unify the program. Most schools have programs in place. The goal is to create access points.

Comment: Kids seem to be educated during the lunch hour, they don't seem to have enough time to eat and not be segregated from their friends. It should be more of a gathering point.

Q: Is this actually the first year? Or is this added to the funding from last year? What's the difference?

A: Last year was the affordability fund. Its scope of spending was much larger. This funding is more defined within its scope of spending. This one is specific to food.

Q: Is that per year for the 3 years? \$2.6 mm for food per year. With the annual commitment up to

A: yes

Q: when is this rolled out to schools

A: Ideally pushed out in October.

A: do you have a plan for evaluating feedback

Q: We do want to have a plan, we are underway with developing the plan and anticipate connecting to the community to develop this

Q: How are you connecting with groups and getting details.

A: Various groups are connected to the ministry and info is gathered from around the province. This is part of the guiding principles based on ministry feedback and building admin and needs of community.

Q: first slide noted equipment. Schools don't seem to have space to put these items in place.

A: There is information coming in from schools indicating they need stoves, refrigerators and storage areas for this type of thing.

The idea is to augment existing programs. PACs are involved, there is a backpack program. Firefighters have a charitable organization. They do clothing drives at schools. Check in with your administrator. They ask families to bring used clothing they are looking to discard. They then monetize those donations. They take the money and supply it back to the school snack programs.

4. Report: Joel Neufeld, Trustee Report

If you have questions, please email Joel direct jneufeld@sd35.bc.ca. On Tuesday there was a presentation on enhanced student learning. There is a team being created to help new teachers create plans around literacy and numeracy. If you wish to hear more about items on a School Board agenda, please email Joel questions direct.

Q: How do schools get access to funds when they believe funds should be placed

A: Continue to provide feedback to your members. Send emails.

Comment – we need to engage parents and decide where it's actually needed. Understand where the money could be used. Ensure there is education around nutrition. Reminder of fruit and veggie program.

Q: Staffing for equity report

A: yes, assistant director Calvin Lowe(sp) has been hired and is underway with this work. Schools are required to be at a standard and he is trying to assess, create priorities and please review the strat plan that has now been created. Some schools simply have items that others don't have. There are budgets and money is set aside and improvements are planned at the right time.

5. Superintendent Report - Mal Gill, SD 35 Superintendent

- A.** Budget consultation – There are DPAC presentations. You are encouraged to be a part of the discussions. Parents have a say in how funding can be spent, especially if there is surplus. A lot of energy needs to be spent on our kids and how the staff bring every child along.
- B.** Start up – growing community, almost every community had growth. Up about 1000 students (approx.) waiting on final numbers. Last 3 years has seen around 1,000 students a year. We can put additional funding in this way. Discussions are underway around space in our district seeking investments from MLA's, ministry, and those in and around the province.
- C.** Communications – Joe Abshire and team work to communicate out feedback@sd35.ca is the best way to get information to district.
- D.** Growth – not yet at full staffing. Continue to work on this. Meeting with the union to come up with some creative ways to staff. Seeking across the country and have postings out to fill the positions.
- E.** Budget - trying to deploy resources as quickly as possible to assist students with diverse needs. They are getting these funds out to schools so there are full supports in place.

Q: Langley has highest growing population 2nd to Kelowna. Does the township have plans in place to accommodate the growth?

A: This is the focus of Langley. We are aware the population is changing and this is daily work that is ongoing. We are looking for more space from the ministry. SD 35 is working collectively with TOL and City to plan for this growth. Priorities are created and when funding becomes available it gets acted upon. The focus is always the kids.

Q: We are aware teachers are not taking full time positions. Kids are at the door and no teacher to open it. This becomes an issue around safety if they don't get let in for 10 minutes or more.

A: they have heard of this and are working to get ahead of this. Uncertified teachers are TTOCs at the moment. It's a group of 20 who are ready to come out and work. They are underway getting their certification, but are willing to show up and work with SD35 to take the TTOC positions.

Q: TOL seems to be behind compared to other districts. There are 1300 new housing units planned in Willoughby. There doesn't seem to be schools planned.

A: There are conversations occurring and this is underway with planning. There is land set aside for SD 35. There is land being held back. SD 35 is trying to get the funds to buy

Q: Are we still 'bums in seats' funding?

A: That is still how they do their math at the ministry. We are underway making changes for the fast growing communities.

Q: Are teachers from other countries coming in may not have the certification needed

A: this is being looked at for teachers due to the shortage. If we have teachers that could do bridge learning. We are also needing a change at post-secondary level with respect to seats available. Why can't they get into the post secondary programs to become teachers and move forward

Q: If we want to change how the ministry does its funding. We would need to write a resolution to BCCPAC to make a request. If parents want a change, discuss with other district PAC to change how funds are distributed in high growth areas

A: If that is something. They need to be written and prepared around January of each year to ensure it gets to the AGM. Email info@langleydpac.ca to help with this.

6. Old Business

1. Update on the Noel Booth PAC Elementary Motion

DPAC Executed move to amend the previously adopted motion from April 20th2023

Noel Booth Elementary PAC proposed that the Langley DPAC draft a letter to the Langley School District, seeking clarity on:

- The statistical data and report detailing how funds received from the Ministry of Education and Jordan's Principle (if applicable) are allocated. Specifically, for students with designations/diagnoses or Neurodiverse Learners within the district, and how these funds are used for Education Assistants (EAs) and Resource Teachers. This includes any funds moved to contingency.

To

Wording from February 16, 2023 Langley DPAC General Meeting:

Noel Booth Elementary PAC proposes that the Langley DPAC draft a letter to the Langley School District, requesting clarity on:

1. The statistical data and report detailing the allocation and/or dispersion of funds received from the Ministry of Education and Jordan's Principle (if applicable) for students with designations/diagnoses or Neurodiverse Learners. This should cover how these funds are used for Education Assistants (EAs) and Resource Teachers, including any funds transferred to contingency.

2. The rationale or criteria determining the number of educational assistants that schools will receive, based on the number of designations within each school and the specific needs of the students.

Second

Discussions

Feb 16th presented a motion to be sent to the PACS to be deliberated. The following meeting was the April 20th meeting. Point Number 2 was missing and it wasn't included within.

There didn't seem to be too many issues with it.

Accept amendment: 17 for

No against
No abstention

2. DPAC Mal Positions (5)

With time commitments we had 2 members at large step down. Please contact us if you have interest. info@langleydpac.ca or anyone on the executive to ask questions if you have interest.

Q: does it have to be dpac reps

A: just has to be a parent / guardian of Langley SD student

7. New Business

A. BCCPAC Registration Explanation

- i. The PAC at your schools, then DPAC which is district, then BCCPAC is the voice of the parents at the province level. WE want PACs to be members to support the work that is done. WE get a voice as members when resolutions are brought forward and get a vote. Members can attend the annual conference. For secondary schools they have scholarships available. There are quite a few benefits.
- ii. Registration – on your tables is a QR code. (or see the newsletter) provide us your info and Langley DPAC will register you AND pay for you to get a membership. It's \$75 for each PAC in the district. If you have already registered, please submit your receipt with your cheque requisition form to treasurer@langleydpac.ca
- iii. BCCPAC Cut off time Dec 31 2023, ideally please have your DPAC Registration form submitted by December 15.

B. Zoom License

- i. Langley DPAC has purchased another zoom license for PACs to hold zoom meetings. zoomrequest@langleydpac.ca. We only have one license available, please email all your dates. Parents sign into a link and provide parents with the link. We just provide the opportunity to hold your meeting and don't provide the equipment.

8. President Report

A. PAC 101 / Treasurer 101 – October 12 ~ 7pm

- i. Thank you for your patience this evening! We are learning. Review of meeting with Mal Gill, SD 35 Superintendent. PAC 101 / Treasure 101 can be really full. We are moving them together to offer a bit more flexibility so your entire PAC Exec can attend tighter if you wish. Registration to follow the newsletter.
- ii. Address of yesterday's march across the country. DPAC received an email to join other district PAC (ie Vancouver, etc) As an executive we were able to sign off to support the letter issued in SOGI. We want to deal with other matters. [Link to the letter to be supplied here:](#) DPAC did not have time to put it out to

other parents and so signed as Executive only and not representing Langley DPAC as a whole.

- iii. The ministry manages and mandates the curriculum. When it comes to education, you can present a resolution to BCCPAC to make a change.

Motion to extend meeting

Secunder

Unanimous

Q: what is the plan this school district will take will made to feel included that their voices are heard. What are the plans to foster inclusivity?

A: The ministry has put this into place. While we understand the person's feelings. We wish to understand what the person is looking for. Please email president@langleydpac.ca

9. Treasurer Report

- i. Review of treasurer bank accounts and details of transactions going through the accounts.
- ii. Review of prepaid MasterCard for recurring expenses including BCCPAC fees.

B. Explain Parent Ed Funds & Food safe funds

- i. This has evolved over the last year. We have budgeted funds available for food safe certification. If you are running fruit and veggie, hot lunch, etc. We will reimburse your PAC for up to 2 people per year up to \$88.00 (BC Health Authority budget) register, pay, take the course and put in your receipt and cheque requisitions treasurer@langleydpac.ca
- ii. Parent Ed has a whole budget of \$5,200 for the district. This can be spent as \$50 per parent or \$100 per household. It's first come first serve. Keep an eye on funds available. The idea is to educate parents.

10. Announcements

- A. Next School Board Meeting: October 24th
- B. Next DPAC General Meeting: October 19th

11. Open Forum Q&A (15min)

Adjourn: 9:17pm