

**DPAC Meeting Minutes January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 held via Zoom**

**Meeting Commenced:** 7:01pm

**Meeting Facilitator:** Cheryl Blondin

**Attendees Present:** (See Bottom)

Acknowledgment by the chair that the meeting takes place within the traditional, ancestral, unceded Sto:lo territory. There are four first nations band within the boundaries of the Mission School District: the Leq'a:mel, Matheqwi, Qwo:ltl'el and Sq'ewlets peoples.

**Adoption of December minutes:**

Motion to accept December meeting minutes by Kathryn, Erin seconds.

**Adoption of Agenda:**

Motion to accept agenda as *amended* by Candace, Angela seconds.

[\*added item E under New Business (school software apps usage and approvals)]

**Correspondence: Cheryl Blondin**

Participation Community Better Grants Applications - Open Now (will discuss later)

BCCPAC - Open Positions for Board of Directors 2022

- *Looking for nominations; vote at AGM*

BCCPAC - January Membership Newsletter

University of Alberta - Campus Saint-Jean - Research Study on French Immersion (survey)

Month End Enrollment Report from BCCPAC

BCCPAC - Understanding PACs from A-Z - presentation online Feb 10th at 7pm

BCAA Child Passenger Safety Program Information

BCCPAC Membership awards - Call for Submission for great Parent Leaders - deadline Feb28

BCCPAC - Call For Resolutions for AGM

**Superintendent's Report: Angus Wilson**

*\*Couple of quick educational items then all covid related\**

1. Currently reviewing grad results – not spectacular; are areas of concern – trying to connect COVID, remote learning and attendance;
2. Spent last week working on communication processes for MS and SS (how improve?) – possible expansion to other schools;
3. Renewing crisis training (flights teams discussed in past);
4. Also discussing transition from elementary-MS-SS (issues around MS in particular)
5. Discussing boundary review (Albert McMahan/Stave Falls and Dewdney/Hatzic)
6. COTW review of policy coming to fruition – will be updated shortly.
7. COVID:

(a)Over Christmas break decision to delay start by 1wk; notable that at that time there were more principal and admin staff sick than ever before (in combination); set out to design plans for continuity of learning and functional closures.

*Functional Closure: Not same as medical closures which result from absenteeism – haven't had any clusters or breakouts as a result of the more infectious Omnicron as far as district is aware - have sent note to FH though re: areas the district is watching. District and school staff are reinforcing mask wearing and checking in with parents re: exemptions (to verify ongoing applicability) in an attempt to curb absenteeism.*

*Current student absenteeism in district averages between 3-9% – ticked up 1% Friday; 1 school has 25-30% away – imp to note again that not all absences are COVID related).*

*Functional closures (FC) somewhat rare - result from inability to safely staff buildings (require minimum of 1 teacher/classroom); shortages everywhere but no single school has really been acute. District is checking with schools re: shortage daily. As schools report being short staffed TTOCs and district staff are sent out to rectify issue.*

*HPMS FC: over ¼ of staff away (but only ~ ½ COVID related) so not enough staff to operate safely. Actual student attendance was good at HPMS. TTOCs are more difficult at find to cover middle schools so more vulnerable to FC. Smaller schools at an advantage because district staff could keep operational but not the case with MSS (for ex) due to sheer number of staff required in the building.*

(b)Effective tomorrow we will have RATS – rapid antigen tests – in schools. First shipment only for staff – if and when they arrive, second and third shipments destined for students. (Each staff member will be sent home with 2 tests).

(c)New PHO – no advance warning even for district staff – all heard about it via twitter etc. Misunderstood in large part by media and public incl phrase “indefinite”. Re: impact on schools and reporting vaccination status - phrase “as and when” which means reporting of vaccination status will be necessary only if and when chief medical officer in Health Region requests it – could in fact request it but in no way guaranteed– just gave them the authority/power to do so if deemed necessary in the future.

## **Chair's Report: Cheryl Blondin**

*COTW meeting: did HR update (since Sept 2021 – 26 teachers hired along with 43 EAs and 19 supervision assistants); virtual education recruiting fairs continuing across country.*

- *Update re: prep for possible FC (list of software available to teachers to pivot to if FC occurs)*
- *Childcare policies, school clothing policies, employee service recognition and financial planning and reporting policies – discussed – approved to Board meeting tomorrow for approval..*
- *Discussion re: social media derogatory and harassing comments towards teachers and staff has been happening online.*

*Special COTW meetings upcoming (@ bottom of agenda):*

*January 24 -Special COTW - Boundary Review Hatzic/Durieu/Dewdney*

*January 25 - Special COTW Budget*

*January 27 - Special COTW - Boundary Review AME/Stave Falls*

## **Treasurer's Report: Jacquelyn Wickham**

*No change; Chequing \$2412.20, Gaming \$688.41*

## **Old Business**

- a. *Teacher Shortages/ Supervision Levels - Ongoing – discussion*
  - a. *Still being worked on (ongoing conversation with district) – Cheryl and Angela met with Angus, Tracy and Rick (end of DEC) – are hiring as quickly as they can within policy and procedures. MS not popular with TTOCs – would like to do contract – issue is currently TOCs coming from small pool of people who already go to those schools.*

## **New Business**

- a. *Community Better Challenge - Participaction Grant Deadline*
  - a. *All done online; track active points in community; winner with most active points in time period have chance to win monetary prize for recreation in community. Mission won \$10k first year and in higher position (3<sup>rd</sup> maybe?) last year as well*
  - b. *DPAC applied for \$500 grant to launch event last year – application open for this year. Any interest in visiting this again? Cheryl will submit application for this years grant.*
- b. *Respectful social media for PACs and DPAC - discussion/action*
  - a. *Raised @ COTW – online harassment of teachers and staff specifically (on particular sites and direct messaging apps) – BCCPAC doesn't recommended changing bylaws or altering constitution but can create SM guideline as a PAC*

*and designate a social media representative. [Ideas: can turn commenting off; Also suggest leading by example.]*

- b. Cheryl has copy of example of SM guidelines from PAC in Surrey if anyone is interested.*
- c. Traditional Authentic Indigenous Content - information*
  - a. Concern about what is available in school district. Is a Siwal Si'wes, Indigenous Education library available that is composed of authentic and traditional materials (project underway to ensure this) – working to get new materials into schools. Goal: 6% of population is indigenous; goal to have equal 6% of traditional and authentic content reflected in libraries as well.*
- d. Committees/Executive Meetings – discussion*
  - a. Committees having difficulty meeting; proposing executive meeting in lieu of committee meetings (will meet once b/w each DPAC meeting). All welcome and encouraged to attend. First meeting will be – Monday January 31<sup>st</sup> @ 7pm. Invite and info to follow on website.*
- e. School software and apps*
  - a. Cheryl put in inquiry with district assistant superintendent for list of approved software and apps within district. If teacher wants to use app, do they have to vet app before they can use it? Own discretion? Angus – yes; broadly speaking as district there is a very small set of approved programs. [1 req is all data must be stored in Canada] Is a checklist to follow if teachers want to use a particular app to communicate/interact with students. [vetting begins with principal first and then forwarded to district office/employees]*

### **Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Candace, Erin seconds

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm

Next meeting is February 7<sup>th</sup>, 7pm via Zoom

### **Attendees:**

District: Angus Wilson; Board: Julia Renkema, Randy Cairns, Shelley Carter, Rick McKamey; MTU:; Albert McMahon: Ashley MacLean, Lana Vigurs, David Kun, Erin Albert; Christine Morrison: Raegan Heidt, Angela Walkey; ESR: Sheneal Anthony, Veronica; Hillside: Angela Manno; HPMS: Cheryl Blondin, Candace Koch, Alicia Hurd; Windebank: Pascale-Sara Frenette, Pavla; MEC - Kathryn Di Tommaso; West Heights:; Cherry Hill: Bunny Cocar; Dewdney: Lexie; MSS: Sheneal Anthony; Stave Falls: Michelle Clayton; School Unknown/Guests: Jaime Mantle, Jillian's iphone and BC

