

DPAC Minutes September 28, 2015

Attendance: Nikki Hawes (DPAC Co-Chair, HTA, MSS), Jenn Cherry (C.H.), Trustee Randy Cairns, Lori McComish (ESR, MSS), Dionne Hairsine (Hatzic Middle), Ilona Schmidt (West Heights), Tamara Bridal (Past President, HP), Laura Wilson (Communications coordinator, MSS rep), Jessica Weismiller HTA, Erin Osterberg (HTA), Cyndi Polovina (HTA) & DPAC Co-Chair, Bill Fletcher (Superintendent), Larry Jepsen (Director of Instruction), Trustee Shelley Carter, Raymond Kwong (ESR), Sheneal Anthony (ESR), Brenna Maag (MC), Katy Brookes (Co-Chair Hatzic E), Mary Sloan (McM), Kristine Matthysen (McM), Line Maruca (McM), Karen Marshall (HP), Destiny Cunningham (Dewdney), Claire Seeley (HM, MSS), Scott Young (MSS, HP, ESR).

Welcome, Meeting commenced at 7:05pm

Adoption of Minutes – Tamara motioned, Jenn Cherry seconded.

Adoption of Agenda – Laura Wilson motioned, Cyndi Polovina seconded

Correspondence – bank statement, advertisement

Laura Wilson regarding upcoming Workshop: 4th Annual Pulling together for Children and Families – “Resilience and the Middle Years” October 23rd 8:30 - 3pm \$10 registration fee, parents, \$30 for staff; lunch included; for more information contact Katy Brookes (katy@katyjohnson.ca); cheques payable to MPSD.

Visiting Presentations:

- **School Champions Group** – French Immersion reconfiguration – parents from Mission Central and Christine Morrison working collaboratively to come up with ideas on a vision that they would like for their schools: Safe, thriving, diverse, inclusive, and offering quality education. Parents learned about an inequality between the two schools as far as the quality of the french immersion program being offered (i.e. 3-grade splits due to low enrollment at MC or French Immersion); Learned about concerns over safety issues regarding Mission Central – One parent, Mrs. Chapman began an initiative in cleaning up the forest around MC and bringing the issue to the attention of Fraser Health. Brush clearing has been done around Mission Central. The group organized two events on the stairs next to Mission Museum because they belong to everybody and they need to be “taken back.” There is another event happening at October 6th at 7pm at Mission Central and community members are invited to bring their energy and ideas.
- **Larry Jepsen (MPSD Director of Instruction) presents new K-9 curriculum;** The students need to learn to think critically, not just memorize material, and to work collaboratively. New curriculum will allow flexibility in choice while maintaining focus on reading, writing and numeracy. Strong emphasis on competences; outcomes built around big ideas; aboriginal content and perspectives will be included in materials.

Election of Treasurer, Vice Chair – Jessica Weismiller was elected for treasurer by acclamation. Raymond Kwong was elected by acclamation for Vice-Chair.

Reports:

Superintendent's Report: School openings were successful. There is lots of positive energy and excitement at the new high school and the new middle schools. Our debt has been retired so we will be able to focus our budget on more student successes.

Chair's Report: Presentations will be encouraged and possibly locations of DPAC meetings rotating. We will be drawing for an attendance prize at each meeting. Lori McComish won the attendance draw for tonight – congratulations Lori!

Treasurer's Report: chq \$2,643.20, gaming \$2,237.38

Education Committee Report: 6 items were on the agenda. Riverside college has 90 students, superintendent's opening report, school curriculum, DPAC advisory. Discussion about closed versus open campuses at middle schools (they are closed campuses).

Ongoing items:

Middle/Secondary Reconfiguration: Enrollment is up this year and can be attributed to the expanded course offerings and the lacrosse academy, among other factors. Robotics, 3D printing are two new course offerings and courses that some other districts don't have. Parents are feeling very good about the middle school environments. There is good balance in numbers of enrollment between the two middle schools.

New Business

Movie licenses - ESR has a movie license coming due in November; wondering if other schools are willing to share a license. ACF \$600 per year per school versus a different supplier who charges \$0.55 per student (minimum of \$230) and may allow cost sharing.

Communications – DPAC reps please ensure that your email addresses are given to our communications officer, Laura Wilson

Request for MPSD Enforcement officers – No Dogs on school grounds; fire lanes; The only person currently in a position to enforce these bylaws is the principal. Could the District have someone who enforces these items, as right now there is no enforcement? School District Property is private property and RCMP will not attend for these minor infractions. Parents want the administrators to be free to be able to deal with matters that are more directly important to student learning.

Meeting adjournment: 8:50 pm

Upcoming events:

School Board Meeting: October 20, 6:30 pm at Albert McMahon Elementary

Next DPAC: October 26, 2015 7:00 at School Board Office (back entrance)