

DPAC Minutes April 25, 2016

Held at Hatzic Middle School

Attendance: Nikki Hawes (Co-Chair DPAC), Jessica Weismiller (Treasurer DPAC, HTA), Marisa Kerr (Secretary DPAC, HTA), Cyndi Polovina (Co-Chair DPAC, HTA), Laura Wilson (Communications DPAC, MSS), Tisha Hansen-Bell (Ecole Mission Central), Jennifer Cherry (C.H), Dionne Hairsine (Hatzic Middle), Patty Ernest (West Heights), Randy Cairns (School Board Trustee), Shelley Carter (School Board Trustee), Emma Johnston (HPMS, MSS), Lori McComish (ESR, MSS), Sheneal Anothony (ESR), Erin Osterberg (HTA), Shirley Gibson (Principal Hatzic Middle), Wayne Chow (Vice-Principal Hatzic Middle), Joe Heslip (Principal Aboriginal Department), Larry Jepsen (Director of Instruction MPS) **Regrets:** Raymond Kwong (Vice Chair DPAC, ESR)

Meeting commenced at 7:05pm

Welcome: Nikki welcomed everyone to today's meeting

Adoption of Agenda: Laura motioned and Emma seconded

Adoption of previous minutes: Emma motioned and Cyndi seconded

Guest Speakers:

Joeseph Heslip (Principal of Aboriginal Department)

Joeseph presented an overview of Siwal Si'wes Aboriginal Department and shared some of the exciting opportunities available to all students. The program offers: advocacy, education, support, and empowerment. A 2014/2015 report revealed there are 1034 students of Aboriginal ancestry within Mission school district and that the graduation rate for this group has been improving.

Shirley Gibson (Principal Hatzic Middle) and Wayne Chow (Vice Principal Hatzic Middle)

Shirley and Wayne reported that the transition to Middle School has been quite smooth and the students are very energetic. A review of school events was provided and a tour of the Aboriginal garden (created by teachers and students) was given to DPAC attendees.

Reports:

School District Report:

Larry Jepsen (Director of Instruction) provided an update on behalf of the Superintendent. He began by thanking all staff for their work with the transition to middle schools. He then announced the hiring of Angus Wilson as Superintendent and explained a new Secretary Treasurer will also be hired very soon. Regarding 2016/2017 school year the Board is estimating an increase of 110 students which will bring more funding to the District.

Chair's Report: Nikki discussed DPAC's role as a partner group in being part of the interviews for the new Superintendent. She expressed excitement about the new hire, Angus Wilson, and the knowledge he brings to the District. A retirement party for Bill Fletcher, former Superintendent, was well attended and a good opportunity to provide appreciation for all his dedicated work.

Nikki encouraged middle school PACs to explore grants for funding of playground equipment.

Upcoming DPAC elections in May! Nikki encouraged members to let their local PAC's know to come out and vote, as well as considering volunteering for an executive position.

Treasurer's Report: \$2,648.16 in organization chequing account. \$4737.83 in gaming account. The May 5th parent education night will cost approximately \$1000.

Communications Report: Please ensure that DPAC has the most current contact information for you or your PAC, and please remember this after elections.

Education Committee Report: School preservation program ensures that repairs to schools are made in a timely manner. The hiring of the new Superintendent and interviewing for Secretary Treasurer were discussed. Reminder that the May 5th education night for parents has free child minding.

Ongoing Business:

Movie License: Deferred as Raymond absent from tonight's meeting.

New Business:

Community Events: Laura provided an overview of some local community events and handed out flyers to DPAC attendees.

Draw winner: Emma

Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm

Upcoming Events:

DPAC meeting: AGM with elections May 16 at 6:30pm held at School Board office

School Board meeting May 17, 6:30pm at Fraserview