

**District Parents Advisory Council (DPAC) School District No.46 (Sunshine Coast)
at CHATALECH SECONDARY
DPAC Minutes
Thursday, January 28th 2016**

Call to order: 7:10pm

Introductions around the room

Regrets: Allen Stevenson

APPROVALS

Motion to adopt November meeting minutes with amendments. Marilyn Baines (1st motion), Jo Thomson (2nd motion) passed

Motion to adopt Jan 2016 agenda with an addition under spending approvals. Sarah Bradley (first motion), Haida Bolton (second motion), Passed.

Spending approvals: Ted Chisolm with Sechelt Community School has requested \$950 to support Safe on Line parent evenings that tie in with grade 6&7 workshops across the coast. We decided to take this request back to our PAC's and gain further info before we decide. It was also asked if Pender Harbour students would be having the same workshops.

REGULAR REPORTS

CHAIR'S REPORT - Allyson Fawcus

Marilyn Baines and Allyson Fawcus are trying to connect with Michele Kambolis regarding a Mental Health workshop. We have left messages and sent emails but no response yet. Hoping for a Spring parent workshop. We'll continue to try and book a workshop. We asked if anyone else was interested in joining the planning group. Jenn Hoile and Haida Bolton have asked to be added to the email group and would like to be involved in the planning.

DPAC is still in need of a secretary, Marilyn Baines suggested that we take turns taking minutes until we have someone in the position. Marilyn offered to take minutes for the Feb meeting and Haida Bolton will take minutes at the March meeting.

A reminder that Kinder registration in Feb 22-26

Thank you to all the staff, parents and admin that made Literacy week possible and so much fun.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Allen Stevenson

No report available at this time

BOARD'S REPORT – Dave Mewhort

Please see attached

HEATH PROMOTING SCHOOLS COMMITTEE – Marilyn Baines

The committee met on Jan 19th. There was discussion about one of the regulations that the SD has put forward for revision. The Student Health Regulation was discussed regarding the wording about mature minors, Patrick offered to clarify the process and answer any question during his reports. This committee also discussed some of the work that's being done on the district website and Vanessa White would like to refer parents to SD46 site for links that will help connect parents with resources for mindfulness, social emotional and mental health.

Also discussion about children and youth mental health substance use steering committee (part of the provincial collaborative) has been doing panel presentations on cannabis and the adolescent brain to grade 7's in all the schools. These panels have experts from many fields, physicians, RCMP, representative from children and youth mental health, Vancouver coastal health, aboriginal outreach wellness, and Vanessa White. Parents are invited to these presentations for information and can ask questions. This group has also discussed doing a presentation for parents on both ends of the coast at a more convenient time.

The Ministry of Children and Families has new mental health intake clinics in Gibson's and in Sechelt. The report from them is that they are finding them quite successful as they are better able to triage the and more adequately treat patients.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Patrick Bocking

Mental health work that's going on is quite phenomenal and the partnership is quite exciting. The SD has a great partnership with them.

Libraries are an important partnership [as well. SD is meeting with librarians from Gibson's to Sechelt to see how SD can deliver more of the message of literacy in schools. In the Spring they are developing a program which would ensure a library card in every child's hands and ever parents hands.

Patrick invites everyone to visit the website, facebook and twitter to stay informed.

Celebration for AC-It Pro Cook One. The Pro cook, Auto Mechanics and Carpentry programs have been running for 3 years now and they are doing well.

A partnership initiative regarding women and employability. SD is working on improving options for women and what can Sd do to support them as they move toward graduation.

Fresh Grade: There are 5 schools in our district that have join together and applied for a grant that will help them have more time to work together on what it will look like as we move into the future. We will still have report cards that we have now but the SD is looking into having 'see Fresh Grade' in the comment field. With Fresh Grade, we need to set up standards to make sure those comments are accountable and that we do report on an appropriate number of comments regarding all subjects. More conversation continued and very positive reaction.

Rules and Regulations. Patrick explained the process when it comes to revising a regulation or policy. Policies need consistency across the board. Regarding the regulation on vaccines in schools, it never intended to override the parent signed consent. They will contact parents in elementary schools and its more geared toward high school. SD has re-written a section so it's more clear and parents can have input until Feb 8th. A comment form is on the SD website or contact Patrick directly about concerns.

STACIA LEECH, ROBERTS CREEK COMMUNITY SCHOOL SOCIETY – Stacia Leech from Roberts Creek Community School gave a presentation on Mind the Gap. We gave this program some funds and she wanted to report back. Her presentation gave a clear picture of what this program does for families and answered lots of questions.

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Meeting adjourned 8:30 pm