



DPAC

District Parent Advisory Council
School District 46 - Sunshine Coast

January Meeting **DRAFT** Minutes

Date: January 23rd, 2025 | Time: 7pm

Location: Chatelech Secondary Conference Room + Microsoft Teams

In Attendance: Rachael Eastman (Chair, PHSS), Miyuki Shinkai (Secretary/BCCPAC rep, ESS), Jessica Wollen (CSS), Jana Curll (CSS), Ayren Drebbett (KES), Kristen Deasey (District Principal of Learning, Innovation and Childcare), Marissa Fisher (Director, CGE), Jennifer Sumner (Treasurer, MPE), Ewa Kusmierk (WSE), Michelle (HMB), Scott Davis (Director/ Past Chair), Brair Teal (DBE), Alison Liddicot (SCTA), Sharon MacKenzie (CUPE 801), Stacia Leech (Trustee Rep), Jennifer Roberts (Assistant Superintendent)

Regrets: Tamara Hedden (Vice Chair, CGE), Rep (RCCE), Rep (SCAS), Rep (GES)

7:10 PM Greetings, Introductions + Land Acknowledgement

7:15 PM PAC Updates, Questions, Comments

- Portable issues, no running water, no washroom brought by DBE DPAC Rep, seeking a solution with facility and operational department. If your PAC has any resolution around this topic, please contact to BrairTeal@gmail.com.
- Following up with playground bullying and racist comments among kids, inquiries on special policies and communication procedures were brought up by MDPE DPAC rep. Link to the district's Communication Protocol: <https://sd46.bc.ca/families-and-students/engagement/> Anti-Racism Policy and Resources - <https://sd46.bc.ca/schools-and-services/inclusive-education/anti-racism/>
- PAC-funded and hosted events were shared. For more info: check out FB SD46 DPAC page.
- Secondary schools' attendance challenges
- Budget consultation feedback time – bring it up at your PAC meeting to consult with the principal about the site budget and school growth plan.
- SCTA president welcomes DPAC reps to attend the SCTA hosting Pro D workshops “2025 SC Educators’ Day” on February 7, 2025, 9-3 pm (poster attached)

7:30 PM Approvals:

- November 28, 2024, Meeting minutes available on (SD46 website) m/s/c
- January 23, 2025, Agenda m/s/c

7:32 PM Guest Presenter – ‘Childcare’ by Kirsten Deasey, Principal of Learning, Innovation and Childcare (PP Presentation will be shared by email)

- Seamless care program, The Early Years Growth Plan, Before & After School Care, Childcare Action Plan 2025 – more special needs Inclusion PD, \$10/day

now in 16 programs, attendance rate picked up, collaboration with Shishalh Nation and Squamish Nation.

New Early Year's Growth Plan here: <https://early-learning.sd46.bc.ca/>
<https://sd46.bc.ca/programs/child-care/>

8:15 PM Regular reports:

- Chair report by Rachael Eastman

Letter to the board requesting endorsement

I sent an email to all On Wednesday 22nd January, with a letter we sent to Chair Amaral in December, requesting the board's endorsement of Parent Advocacy Training. The letter was rejected as official correspondence due to it not being visible in our meeting minutes, I would like it known that it was circulated and approved by all DPAC executives.

I motion to send the letter again to the board Chair so that it will be official correspondence. Rachael moved, the motion was seconded and defeated after the discussion. Trustee and Assistant Superintendent commented that there is no need of sending this letter to the board. Operational request could be dealt with the staff. (For PAC/DPAC's reference, the letter is attached here) Rachael will continue to have a communication with Superintendent Kerr on this item.

Updates

- i. Attended the BCCPAC Summit on November 30th. Heard from the new minister of Education and Child Care, Lisa Beare. Her background includes serving as a School Trustee and Minister of Post-secondary education and future skills. We have access to the presentation slides presented by Susan Wilson and Vea Coronado plus the written Q&A with Minister Beare. I will include the Summit Resources links, for you to look over and share with your Pacs. <https://bccpac.bc.ca/index.php/events/summit/summit-resources>
- ii. Tamara and Jen arranged to be signatories of DPAC accounts, along with me.
- iii. Superintendent Kerr and I met to discuss future guests at DPAC Meetings. If no one has any further input on the list I emailed out, I will let Kate know to arrange those speakers.
- iv. Next Thursday is the 2nd DPAC sponsored and this time, Kinnikinnick Elementary organized, the "Understanding Dopamine" presentation by Matty Devenish at Sechelt Early Learning Centre from 5:30 – 8:30
- v. Community Gaming Grants are transitioning to a new online grant system. We are now to register to use BCeID. https://www.bceid.ca/register/business/getting_started/getting_started.aspx
There is an online presentation available to join on Feb 4th. I will hyperlink that event on my report also.

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/8590ba30-4678-4df8-a078-c3aeaa62dfcf@6fdb5200-3d0d-4a8a-b036-d3685e359adc>

REGULATIONS IN CIRCULATION

Administrative Regulations circulating to February 19th, 2025 are Honoraria and Health and Safety. I will include the link to this on the district web, in my report. To provide feedback from your PACs to the board, regarding these circulations, SD46 ask that we use the online of the Draft regulation response or the fillable version and send to questions@sd46.bc.ca

No regulations were received or circulated after the Jan 8th regular board meeting. <https://sd46.bc.ca/district-information/board-of-education-and-governance/policies-bylaws-and-regulations/regulations/>

Letter of Request

Rachael Eastman DPAC Chair
Miyuki Shinkai DPAC Secretary

On behalf of the SD46 DPAC
December 6, 2024

TO: Chair Amaral

School District 46 Trustee Chair

Dear Chair Amaral,

On behalf of the School District 46 District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC), I would like to express our sincere thanks for your efforts in organizing the recent DPAC/PAC Compassionate System Leadership Forum in October. The event provided valuable insight and inspiration for our executive members to work collaboratively with the Board of Education and school-based leadership teams. We are excited about the potential for this collaboration to enhance the quality of education and foster lifelong learning experiences for our children and youth.

DPAC is reaching out to request your endorsement for a Parent Advocacy Training program. This initiative is in line with our ongoing commitment to strengthening the engagement and voice of families in our district. Recently, during the BCCPAC Summit, we had the opportunity to attend a session led by Ms. Susan Wilson on *Starting a DPAC Advocacy Program*. Her extensive experience in advocacy within BCCPAC and various districts deeply resonated with us. Following the session, we contacted Ms. Wilson to explore the possibility of bringing her *Advocacy Training 101* to our district's families and caregivers.

Although our district has an updated "How to Communicate with Us" framework, which has been helpful in guiding families in their communications with the district, DPAC board believes there is an opportunity to further promote and improve this engagement process. By providing advocacy training, we believe we can empower parents and

caregivers to engage more effectively and strategically in the educational process, enhancing the partnership between families, schools, and the district.

In alignment with the district's new *Strategic Plan 2024-2029*, which emphasizes the core values of Learning, Belonging, Integrity, and Equity, we believe that offering this training will support the goal of creating inclusive, diverse learning environments that foster the development of the Core Competencies for all students. As the Strategic Plan notes, when we create authentic and inclusive learning environments, we enhance each student's personal and academic growth over time.

We respectfully seek your advice on how we can move forward with this advocacy training for parents and caregivers. We would greatly appreciate your endorsement and collaboration in this process to help bring this valuable opportunity to our community. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to working together on this important initiative.

Sincerely,
 Rachael Eastman, SD46 DPAC Chair
 Miyuki Shinkai, SD46 DPAC Secretary
 SD46 District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC)

Reference:

<https://bccpac.bc.ca/index.php/events/summit/summit-schedule>

Starting a DPAC Advocacy Program - Susan Wilson



This session provides an overview of the BCCPAC Advocacy Project and guidance on getting started in your district.

Susan Wilson has over 20 years of advocacy experience and was previously part of the BCCPAC Advocate Project back in the early 2000's and since that time has been a tireless advocate for BC Public education and making sure all of the youth in the BC Public education system get what they need. Susan was given the honour of lifetime member of BCCPAC in 2016. Having helped her children succeed and graduate she has gone on to assist many districts and families in advocating for the needs of their children.

- Treasurer report by Jennifer Sumner

January 23, 2025

- Gaming Account Balance \$1,203.44 (after \$1500 for the Matty's workshops)
- Operating Account Balance \$227.70

8:25 PM Board reports

- Trustee report by Trustee Vice-Chair Stacia Leech – (attached)

- Feeding future updates, joint use agreements, etc.
- Superintendent's Report (attached) by Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Roberts, Foundry Outreach Presentation at secondary, etc.

- 8:35 PM** Committee reports:
- Healthy Schools by Jessica Wollen (attached)
 - Family Engagement by Miyuki Shinkai
 - BCCPAC by-election was completed, and our endorsed candidates won their positions.
 - BCCPAC Conference & AGM will be in Prince George from May 23 – 25, 2025. More information about travel subsidies, registration fees, and hybrid availability will be released soon.
 - Ombudsperson Investigating Exclusion of Students from BC Public Schools – background info and survey link will be shared.
 - Miyuki moved SD46 DPAC to write a budget consultation feedback letter to the SD46 Board and Secretary-Treasurer. m/s/c
 - Vancouver DPAC Health & Safety Committee held the Clean Air at School - helping kids with asthma, allergies and health on January 21, 7pm via zoom.
 - Miyuki moved SD46 DPAC to send an Air Quality inquiry to the board.
 - Active School Travel by Miyuki Shinkai / Rachael Eastman
 - VCH AT meeting was held on January 9th, 2025 via Zoom. Some updates on traffic counts and data analysis around CGE and LES areas.
 - Education, Operations, Committee of the whole - 4th Tues of the month
 - The next meeting is on January 28th from 9-3 pm each committee has a 1-1.5 hour meeting. Currently, DPAC seeks a representative to reflect on parents' voice. If you can attend, please contact Rachael and Miyuki for more info.

8:49 PM Meeting to Adjourn

Next meeting: 7pm February 27, 2025– Elphinstone Secondary Library/Teams

REPORT TO DPAC SUNSHINE COAST SCHOOL DISTRICT 46

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Submitted by Superintendent Kate Kerr
January 23, 2024

This report highlights the past month's updates and events, all grounded in our core values of **learning, belonging, integrity, and equity**.

Winter Concerts, Traditions, and a Season of Giving

Throughout the district, schools embraced the holiday season with concerts and special events that brought together staff, students, and families, strengthening connections across our school communities. In the spirit of giving, schools also organized holiday fundraisers, supporting both local initiatives and broader community causes, while fostering students' 'Social Awareness and Responsibility' (Core Competency).

Nutcracker Experience

On December 13th, the district funded a special opportunity for two classes to attend the Waldorf Ballet's performance of *The Nutcracker* at Raven's Cry Theatre. A district-wide lottery determined this year's fortunate winners: Halfmoon Bay Elementary and Davis Bay Elementary.

North vs. South Hockey Game

The North vs. South Hockey Game at the GACC was a resounding success, with the South Team securing a 6-2 victory! Beyond the excitement on the ice, the event served a meaningful purpose, raising \$1,166 for the local Food Bank through the duck toss, 50-50 draw, and door donations, with concession proceeds still to be tallied.

Special recognition goes to Principal Mr. Sauer and all the student and staff volunteers from the secondary schools who helped make this happen. In addition, thank you to Student Trustee Alexis Proust for her outstanding performance of *O Canada*, Lauryn Bychkowsky for introducing the District Student Leadership Team (DSLTL) and to Trustee Ruth for officially launching the game.

Zoom Fest Success for Film & Television Production Students

Congratulations to our talented Film & Television Production students—Mervy Mingo, Atala Herrera, Nathan Perrins, Garnet Janyk, Morris Emmerson, and Hana Fraser—who showcased their creativity and teamwork in the BC-wide *Zoom Fest* 48-Hour Student Film Competition, organized by Mulgrave Secondary School.

Given a theme (*Fortune Favours the Bold*) and a prop (a button), the team wrote, filmed, and edited an impressive short film titled *Benjamin's Buttons*. The film earned *Best*

Performance (Supporting) for Morris Emmerson's outstanding work, which also awarded him a \$2,500 scholarship to New Image College's Acting Program.

This accomplishment highlights the dedication and creativity of our students, and we are incredibly proud of their success. Their film, *Benjamin's Buttons*, will also be featured at our very own Elphi Film Fest in the new year.

Foundry Outreach Presentations at Secondary Schools

On December 10th and 11th, Lisa Weitendorf from the Sunshine Coast Foundry engaged students at Elphinstone Secondary. Grades 8 and 9 were addressed on the first day, followed by Grades 10 to 12 on the subsequent day. The purpose of these presentations was to inform students about the services presently offered by Foundry, both virtually and at other Foundry locations. Additionally, these sessions aimed to capture the perspectives of youth on the desired services from our local Foundry, ultimately helping to shape its future vision and planning.

Students participated in a post-presentation survey to express their feedback, and also entered a raffle draw. Although our community is still waiting for our physical Foundry center, the Foundry Virtual App provides young individuals aged 12 to 24 and their caregivers access to immediate virtual services. These include virtual counseling, peer support, primary healthcare, employment assistance, as well as various groups and workshops.

Upcoming visits are scheduled in January at Chatelech Secondary and Pender Harbour Elementary-Secondary to continue this informative initiative.

PreVenture Program Update: Year Two of Pilot Implementation

We are currently in the second year of piloting the PreVenture Program, an evidence-based initiative designed to bolster mental health and delay substance use among adolescents aged 12 to 18 years. This academic year, the program is integrated at the grade 8 level across our schools.

PreVenture is a strengths-based, skill-building program that focuses on promoting self-efficacy and cognitive-behavioral skills. It is tailored to equip youth with the necessary tools to navigate developmental challenges such as academic stress, peer pressure, interpersonal conflicts, and identity formation. The program accommodates individual variability by addressing how youth perceive and tackle these challenges, helping them to develop adaptive coping skills, set and pursue long-term goals, and utilize their personality traits positively.

Implementation involves certified PreVenture facilitators, who are school counselors, delivering two 90-minute workshops targeting four personality dimensions: two internalizing (anxiety sensitivity and negative thinking) and two externalizing (impulsivity and sensation seeking). Workshops are designed for groups of 6-12 voluntarily participating students.

This December, all grade 8 students at Elphinstone Secondary were screened, with workshops commencing in January. Similar screenings and subsequent workshops are scheduled for grade 8 students at Chatelech Secondary and Pender Harbour Elementary-Secondary in the upcoming year. Additionally, SCAS is exploring potential implementation strategies.

This focused approach aims to empower our youth in making informed decisions and successfully pursuing their long-term goals.

Participation in CHART Lab-YDI Research Project

Inclusion Support Services is excited to announce our partnership with CHART Labs on the research project, titled "Activating Youth Engagement to Promote Social Connection and Belonging in School Communities." Alongside three other school districts, this initiative will focus on enhancing youth well-being by fostering greater social connectivity in our schools.

The project commits to a multi-year learning cycle to develop and evaluate a comprehensive registry of evidence-based tools and approaches aimed at fostering social connections. Activities include integrating youth voices in decision-making, enhancing the skills of adults to collaborate effectively with young people, and building capacities among youth leaders to engage in governance processes. This will not only help in implementing these strategies but also in evaluating and scaling the successes to broader contexts.

Our participation aligns with our strategic goals of deepening connections and fostering a sense of belonging within our school communities, particularly focusing on supporting equity-deserving groups such as Indigenous youth, gender-diverse students, those with pre-existing mental health issues, and newcomer youth.

We are honored to contribute to this significant research, understanding its potential to transform our educational environments and outcomes.

Career Department Update

On Friday December 6, District Career Coordinator Cheryl Wilson travelled to BCIT's Annacis Island Campus located in Delta, as part of the Lower Mainland Steering Committee bi-monthly meeting. The 142,000-square-foot facility is home to their motive power programs. These programs train heavy-duty mechanics, transport trailer mechanics, diesel mechanics, commercial transportation mechanics, railway conductors and forklift operators. We were given a tour of the facility, including outside on the Rail lines to discuss their Railway Conductor Program.

Collaborative Literacy Strategy Sparks Engagement and Learning in Science 10!

Teachers Jane Ostashek, Michael Sopow and Laura Clarke, recently collaborated to develop a series of science lessons which utilized a dynamic literacy strategy that can be applied to any subject area. This work showcased the power of co-teaching and creative

planning! Using infographics, the lessons provided choice and multiple entry points for students, ensuring inclusivity and fostering engagement.

Students made exciting connections, including how Core Competencies, like Communication, extend beyond English and emerge across various strands of learning. It was inspiring to see how these concepts came to life in the classroom.

The success of these lessons was highlighted during a Lunch & Learn session, where teachers shared strategies and supported each other's work. These Lunch & Learn sessions continue to be an invaluable resource for professional growth and enhancing student learning experiences.



SCTA

SUNSHINE COAST
TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH, 2025

SUNSHINE COAST EDUCATORS' DAY

"THE RESPONSIVE EDUCATOR"

@ Elphinstone Secondary

8:00 AM: Doors, light breakfast selections

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Keynote
books for
sale - get
yours
signed!

9:00 AM: Opening Remarks

9:30 AM: Session I

10:45 AM: Break

11:00 AM: Session II

12:15 PM: Lunch

1:15 PM: Session III

2:30 PM: Closing and Door Prizes

12:15 Lunch
by Chef
Krissy & her
team

REGISTER here
until Jan. 31st!



SCHEDULED SESSION SELECTIONS #1

1 *Keynote: Re-Storying & Reimagining Education*

Presented by: Carolyn Roberts

Re-Storying education focuses on integrating Indigenous narratives and perspectives into the curriculum of our current education system. By dismantling old narratives and using story to create new narratives, this approach emphasizes the importance of using a critical lens, truth telling, and stories as methods for teaching and learning. By recognizing the value of Indigenous knowledge and teacher practice in how we can reimagine education, Carolyn aims to create a more inclusive and culturally relevant curriculum that honours Indigenous people, histories and knowledges. Re-Storying promotes a deeper understanding among all students and seeks to empower Indigenous voices within educational spaces by fostering a deeper connection to the land, the people of the land, and the true shared history of this place known as Canada today. Join her as she speaks to how we can create spaces for Indigenous voices to flourish in the education system today.

2 *Emotion and Defense: Reading the Need and Taking the Lead* (K-12)

Presented by: Tamara Strijack

Our children are often entering our classrooms in survival mode and bringing with them the behaviours that make it challenging for us to take the lead and build relationships with them. And often behavioural problems are framed as disciplinary issues that must be “fixed,” rather than understanding them as an indication that a child has an emotional need that needs to be filled. In this session we will explore some of the common roots of troubling behaviour, including aggression and anxiety. Walking through various scenarios, we will practice together the art of reading and responding to our students’ needs, in order for them to be emotionally healthy and receptive to learning.

3 *Executive Dysfunction: Living With and Teaching To*

Presented by: Andrew Gasson

Participants will learn the basics of executive dysfunction – what it is, how it affects teachers and learners and how we can deal with it when it appears.

4 *Empowering Educators with AI: Enhancing Teaching and Learning*

Presented by: Pam Kaatz

Discover how artificial intelligence can support your teaching practice in this interactive session. Learn practical ways to use AI tools to streamline lesson planning, personalize instruction, foster student engagement, and enhance assessment strategies. Through hands-on activities and collaborative discussions, participants will explore real-world applications of AI in education, empowering them to begin to integrate these innovative tools into their classrooms. All levels of experience are welcome – if you have a district laptop please bring it to the session or you can partner up with another participant!

5 *Teaching Climate Change with Hope* (4-11)

Presented by: Johan Stroman, Peter Metcalfe, Cassandra Parker, Simon Hocking

Join our team of Sunshine Coast teachers and gain perspectives on codesigned cross curricular units centred on climate change: encouraging students' authentic voice, centred on place-based learning, climate solutions, community partners, indigenous teachings and grounded in active hope. Through a combination of story-telling, dialogue, direct outdoor learning experiences, sharing data and examples we will weave a rich session that speaks to the power of co-teaching. Come away with links to vetted quality resources, unit outlines and lived tales of authentic and transformative student engagement to support your own class explorations.

**REGISTER here
until Jan 31st!**



SCHEDULED SESSION SELECTIONS #2

1 **Keynote: Reclaiming our Students' Emotional Wellbeing**

Presented by: Tamara Strijack

Children are more anxious, aggressive, and shut down than ever. Faced with this epidemic of emotional health crises and behavioral problems, teachers are asking themselves what went wrong. Why have we lost our students? More importantly: how can we get them back? Based on the book [co-written by the presenter], *Reclaiming Our Students*, this session will support educators with insights and strategies for how to build, nurture, and protect the student-teacher relationship in order to create the emotional safety needed for our students to thrive.

2 **Moving from Performative to Accomplice** (K-12)

Presented by: Carolyn Roberts

This workshop will engage how you can support the reconciliation process within the school district. It will allow for opportunities to take a deep dive into what is needed to be an accomplice in the work of unlearning and relearning how we can work together for reconciliation. Carolyn will support your learning with opportunities to practice, discuss, and ask questions about the tools and knowledge needed to move away from performative practices, to being an accomplice with Indigenous people in rebuilding and restoring the relationship with each other, the land, the waterways, and the community.

3 **What? So What? Now What? Teaching Human Rights** (K-12)

Presented by: Lindsay Bengler, Marie Jean, Chelsie Koberwitz, Jacquie Shields

This workshop equips educators with the tools and strategies to effectively teach human rights using the wealth of practical, vetted resources available through the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR). Participants will briefly look at the *What?* of human rights, highlighting relevant issues in modern Canadian society, the *So What?* by discussing why teaching human rights is important for building students' critical thinking, empathy, and sense of citizenship. The main focus of this hands-on workshop will focus on *Now What?* by sharing easy ways to use CMHR resources in the classroom, so teachers leave ready and confident to inspire their students. This session offers tools and prizes to help you use these resources your class right away.

4 **Gen AI: The Teaching Assistant You Always Wanted!** (5-12)

Presented by: Cari Wilson

Whether you teach Kindie or AP History or Learning Support, AI can make life easier for you and your students. In this session we'll dive into the crossroads of education and Generative AI. I'll go over tools, tips and techniques for using Gen AI to help you with all kinds of classroom tasks. We'll take a look at what works well, what to watch out for and what might need to change. Bring your curiosity and questions and we'll have some fun!

5 **Unlocking Creativity with Book Creator: Empowering Learning** (K-7)

Presented by: TETT Committee (Teachers Empowering Teachers Through Technology) & Jon Smith, Book Creator

Dive into the dynamic world of digital book creation with Book Creator, a versatile tool that fosters creativity, accessibility and engagement in the classroom. In this workshop, you'll learn how to design interactive eBooks, integrate multimedia elements, and provide students with a platform to showcase their voices and learning. Explore practical applications across subjects, from creating collaborative class projects to showcasing personalized learning, while mastering features that support accessibility, ELL, and differentiated instruction. Leave equipped with ideas and skills to inspire your students and transform learning through digital creation. **SD 46 now has a district-wide license for all staff and students.**

6 **Different Ways of Knowing - Truth Telling, Resistance, Resilience, & Reconciliation** (4-7)

Presented by: Colleen Hourigan & Desiree Harris

This workshop will give an in-depth introduction to a cross-curricular ELA and Social Studies unit plan designed for intermediate students. Colleen and Desiree co-planned this unit together and co-developed the materials for teaching it. Colleen taught this unit in a grade 5-6 classroom, so she can speak to those experiences. Through the examination of primary and secondary sources, participation in a novel-based literature circle, and the creation of a two-page spread, students will gain a deeper understanding of the Indian Act, Residential Schools, Resistance, Resilience, and Reconciliation. Colleen & Desiree will provide participants with all the resources required to teach this unit (except for the novels, which can be borrowed easily through inter-library loans). They will also advise teachers on ways to adapt for older and younger students. This unit is suitable for Grades 4-7, especially 5-7. Materials for teachers will include all lesson plans, learning goals, rubrics, all materials and activities for students, as well as sample student work.



REGISTER here
until Jan. 31st!

SCHEDULED SESSION SELECTIONS #3

1 **Keynote: Invite Artificial Intelligence Into Your Classroom** (K-12)

Presented by: Cari Wilson

From chess-playing robots to autonomous cars to the singularity, artificial intelligence is everywhere, and it seems to be moving at the speed of light. What does this mean for education? This keynote will explore the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education, examining how this rapidly evolving technology is reshaping the learning landscape. We'll delve into the possibilities and pitfalls of Gen AI, discuss the ethical considerations, and equip educators with strategies to effectively integrate AI into their teaching practices while fostering human connection and critical thinking in the digital age.

2 **Culturally Responsive Education with an Indigenous Lens** (K-12)

Presented by: Carolyn Roberts

Together in conversation with Carolyn Roberts we will be talking about culturally responsive teaching practices (CRP) to create equitable learning environments where all students can thrive. We will explore CRP with an Indigenous lens and learn practical strategies for the implementation of this practice. We will be developing skills to create inclusive and equitable learning environments that recognize and celebrate the diverse backgrounds of all students. We will also talk about how to design and teach a culturally inclusive curriculum that reflects diverse perspectives. This conversation is suitable for K-12 educators, administrators, and anyone involved in teaching or educational leadership who is interested in fostering an inclusive and responsive educational environment. Carolyn's hope for this work is to empower educators to create classrooms where all students feel valued, respected, and capable.

3 **Let's Move: PE Activities for Elementary teachers** (K-7)

Presented by: Darren Causon

Come prepared to move around, participating in the activities! I'll show you lots of games and activities to bring back to your classes.



**REGISTER here
until Jan. 31st!**

4 **Emotion and Defense: Reading the Need and Taking the Lead** (K-12)

Presented by: Tamara Strijack

Our children are often entering our classrooms in survival mode and bringing with them the behaviours that make it challenging for us to take the lead and build relationships with them. And often behavioural problems are framed as disciplinary issues that must be "fixed," rather than understanding them as an indication that a child has an emotional need that needs to be filled. In this session we will explore some of the common roots of troubling behaviour, including aggression and anxiety. Walking through various scenarios, we will practice together the art of reading and responding to our students' needs, in order for them to be emotionally healthy and receptive to learning.

Neurodiversity Mini Education Series

5 **Communication and Insight that Empowers, Repairs and Connects**

Presented by: Karys Foley RSW

The way we talk about and to our students matters. The words and the language we use to name and describe challenging behaviour is often laden with shame and blame and that leads to wounding. Hurt kids will develop emotional defenses such as resistance, shut down and defiance. In this session we will focus on language that encourages and empowers our students to do their best. This session will provide insight into the underlying causes of behavioural symptoms and the importance of using strategies that are devoid of shame and blame. Three key strategies are outlined and explored.

6 **Feeding Children at School and Creating Inclusive Food Environments** (K-12)

Presented by: Meghan Molnar, Public Health Dietitian & Feeding Futures Manager for SD46, Andrea Potter

An interactive workshop on feeding children in school food programs and nurturing healthy eaters in school. This workshop includes:

- How to create inclusive food environments
- The responsibilities of adults and of children around what and how much to eat
- Healthy ways to talk to and around kids about food
- Hands-on: making (and sampling!) some kid and adult-approved snacks

Kinnikinnick Elementary & DPAC presents:

Understanding Dopamine:

Exploring problematic screen use in a dopamine saturated society



Workshop facilitated by:
Matty Devenish | RSW, MSW

For parents, caregivers, and educators

January 30, 2025 | 5:30 - 8:30PM

Sechelt Early Learning Centre

5538 Shorncliffe Ave

Childcare Available

Refreshments and snacks will be provided.

Please RSVP or reach out to adrebett@msn.com for more information.



DPAC

District Parent Advisory Council
Sunshine Coast School District 46





SCHOOL DISTRICT 46 SUNSHINE COAST

Healthy Schools Committee Meeting

Date: December 3rd, 2024 | **Inclusion Support Services, Kinnikinnick Elementary**

Present: Christa Rive, Sue Bailey, Kate Turner, Meghan Molnar, Laurie Chiasson, Stephen Armitage, Carol McGuire, Jessy Wollen, Eva MacKenzie

Regrets:

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. 2nd Collaborative Care Conference: A Connected Community for Children and Youth for Mental Health and Substance Use Follow-up
4. YDI/MDI Update
5. Narcan Kits/Spray
6. Regulations:
 - a. Regulation 3220 - Medical Alerts
 - b. Regulation 3010 - Accidents and Illness
7. District Regulations in Circulation:
 - a. [Reg. 1080 - District and School Student Codes of Conduct](#)
8. Roundtable Updates | All

Minutes:

Quote: Christa shared powerful words from Commissioner Justice Murray Sinclair during the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: “We have described for you a mountain; we have shown you the path to the top. We call upon you to do the climbing.”

3. Collaborative Care Conference

- Attendees provided positive feedback regarding the event.
- The venue at Sechelt Nation Community Hall was well-received.
- The conference inspired many attendees, emphasizing the importance of holding children and youth at the center.
- Noted progress in child and youth mental health resources developed over the past few years.
- Significant changes were observed since the last conference, enhancing networking opportunities and fostering connections among agencies.
- Many appreciated the collaborative organization involving multiple community organizations.
- A small planning team will meet later today to debrief and share key highlights with the community.
- Discussions included collective community growth and the desire for terms of reference for future conferences.
- Emphasized the importance of presuming goodwill, creating safe spaces, and supporting families in accessing appropriate services.
- Inquiry about the availability of a flowchart to guide families in accessing services.
- Need to understand youths' networks, including school counselors and sexual health clinics, for effective support.

- Resources like Fetch and Pathways were highlighted as valuable tools for accessing support, classified by paid and free services.
- Vancouver Coastal Health Public Health primarily focuses on sexual health.
- Important to report disclosures to school counselors for student support.

4. YDI/MDI Updates

- The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) will be administered between January 14 and March 14, 2025.
- Information about MDI and YDI presented; YDI is currently on hold for research and data mobilization.
- YDI team intends to work closely with schools, public health, youth, and community partners to enhance student well-being.
- Collaboration with CHART Lab to utilize data findings for partnerships and evaluations of well-being initiatives.
- Potential collaboration opportunities include program evaluations, sharing success stories, and custom analyses for specific student populations.
- Link to MDI/YDI reports:
 - MDI- <https://earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi-2024-provincial-summary/>
 - YDI- https://chartlab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/YDI-2024-Provincial-Report_Nov-13-2024.pdf
- Strengths identified include connection and belonging within the district.

5. Review of Administrative Regulations

- No changes to Regulation 3220 (Medical Alerts).
- Regulation 3010 (Accident and Illness) updates:
 - Vancouver Coastal Health no longer requires reporting of unusual clusters of illness.
 - Schools are not obligated to report general absenteeism exceeding 10%.
 - Eva will review best practices for public health and provide suggestions for changes.

6. Code of Conduct

- New inclusion of a cell phone policy allowing students to access technology inclusively.

7. Naloxone Kits

- Discussion with paramedics revealed challenges in outreach at house parties due to access and RCMP escorts.
- Narcan kits are available at youth clinics, alongside educational videos on usage.
- Jennifer Roberts is collaborating with secondary principals to implement training in schools: <https://towardtheheart.com/naloxone-training>
- Sue will review best practices for secondary PE training.
- ACTION: Add to the agenda for the next meeting.

8. Roundtable Updates

- **Laurie Chiasson-VCH:**
 - Noted anecdotal evidence related to cell phone policy reducing vaping incidents.
 - Involvement with McCreary to change questions around nicotine usage.
- **Stephen Armitage-SCRD**
 - LIFE Pass applications for 2025 are available for individuals and families. Feedback highlighted concerns regarding access and administrative costs.
 - Winter programming registration starts tomorrow.

- Need for lifeguards ongoing, with information to be shared.
- Winter Holiday Hours: https://letstalk.scrd.ca/myrecreation/widgets/101020/key_dates
- **Sue Bailey-SD46:**
 - Preventure program will extend to Grade 8 students who missed it in Grade 7.
- **Public Health:**
 - Successful youth clinic initiatives, largest immunization year recorded at CSS
 - Have not done immunizations at ESS (grade 9's) yet- scheduled for new year
 - Long-lasting contraceptives, such as IUDs, are now province-funded.
 - Back in Pender Harbour- working at the high school youth clinic
 - Youth Clinic posters have helped bring in lots of youth into the schools
 - Looking forward to an upcoming day in West Van, where PHN's will be learning about the sexual health kits.
 - CSS Public Health Nurse has shared the health kit with CSS staff.
- **DPAC:**
 - Youth enjoying S-PASS and Gym Pass through SCR.D.
- **Meghan Molnar VCH (Dietician):**
 - Successful community event at Davis Bay greenhouse focused on school gardens and environmental education.
 - Monthly LSA meetings to collaborate on mental health and sustainability benefits.
 - Presentation to the school board planned to increase recognition of district initiatives.
 - Andrea Potter and Meghan are going to present at the February Pro-D-Day about food education
 - School Active Travel week in October went well- safety blitzes.

ACTIONS:

- Add Sally McBride to future meeting invites.
- Invite Andrea Potter to the next HSC meeting and include a food agenda item.

Next Meeting Dates

- Tuesday, February 4, 2025 | 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
- Tuesday, April 1, 2025 | 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
- Tuesday, June 3, 2025 | 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM



Elphinstone Parents Advisory Council

Presents

Parents helping Parents

Monthly meetings in Gibsons

The 101 - 1009 Gibsons Way

Tuesday, Jan 28 6pm – 7:30pm

Feb 25, April 15, May 20, June 10

Come connect, hear about resources, and share ideas!

For information contact

Sandy Buck 604 375 3453

Elphinstonepac@gmail.com



TRUSTEE MONTHLY REPORT JANUARY 2025

SUBMITTED BY VICE-CHAIR STACIA LEECH



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FOR THE BOARD EDUCATION

As part of the Board’s ongoing commitment to professional growth, we are placing a strong emphasis on governance this year. In November, the Board participated in two learning sessions focused on key areas of effective governance, including the roles and responsibilities of trustees, the code of conduct, and strategies for running effective meetings. These topics will be integrated into the work of the Board’s committees over the coming year.

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

We recently celebrated the Sechelt Hospital’s 60th anniversary, made possible by the shíshálh Nation’s historic gift of land. The highlight was a community Salish weaving project, which included contributions from hospital staff and the public as part of a reconciliation effort. The weaving can be viewed in the hospital’s foyer.

SUNSHINE COAST SCHOOL DISTRICT 46 2025-2026 BUDGET UPDATE

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick and Superintendent Kerr provided an overview of the Preliminary Budget considerations to the Board. The budget is guided by our strategic and operational plans to ensure alignment with funding for key initiatives.

Current Strategic Priorities

- ✔ Supporting mental health and well-being of students and staff.
- ✔ Improving equity and inclusion, “universal design” for learning, to ensure every student can access quality education regardless of their individual needs.
- ✔ Supporting system competency with the curriculum and implementing changes to assessment and reporting of student learning to provide parents with a clearer and more comprehensive picture of their child’s progress.
- ✔ Human resources review and implementation to ensure we attract, retain, and support the very best educators and staff.

Upcoming Strategic Priorities

- ✔ Inclusion Support Services structural review.
- ✔ Attendance & Engagement programs and addressing barriers that prevent students from fully participating in school.
- ✔ Investing in technology infrastructure, tools, and training that enhance both teaching and learning experiences.



It was also noted that in the current economic climate there will be cost pressures for the coming year. Some of these challenges may result from:

Inflationary pressures without any anticipated increase in funding.

Technology support and cyber security requirements increasing as a result of the increasing risk of data breaches due to hacking.

Student transportation cost increases.



SD 46 AND SCRD JOINT USE AGREEMENT (JUA)

This agreement is intended to maximize opportunities to increase use of resources for community benefit and recognizing that these are all public assets.

The JUA is a formal agreement between the Sunshine Coast Regional District and the Board of Education School District No. 46 that allows shared use of each organization's facilities. The intention of this agreement is to increase healthy activity options for children, families and the community.

The JUA is governed by a Steering Committee comprised of three Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) directors appointed by the SCRD, and three School District No. 46 (SD46) trustees, appointed by the School District. SCRD and School District staff serve in a liaison capacity and to provide professional advice.

In 2023 the SCRD swimming pools were used by hundreds of students for over 336 hours, community halls for 84 hours, and the ice arenas for 90 hours.

FEEDING FUTURES UPDATE

The Board of Education has long recognized the importance of addressing student hunger. Local and national surveys show that two out of five students come to school hungry, which can lead to an increase in disregulation and be a barrier to learning. At the last Operations Committee meeting of 2024, Kirsten Deasey, District Principal, and Andrea Potter, Manager of Feeding Futures, provided an update to the Board on the Feeding Futures initiative that is now supporting a systems approach and staffing to provide food for students across the district through the Central Kitchen.

In 2024, the Central Kitchen:



Delivered over 49,000 servings of food.



Prepared meals, reduced costs and increased efficiency through direct, volume purchasing for schools.

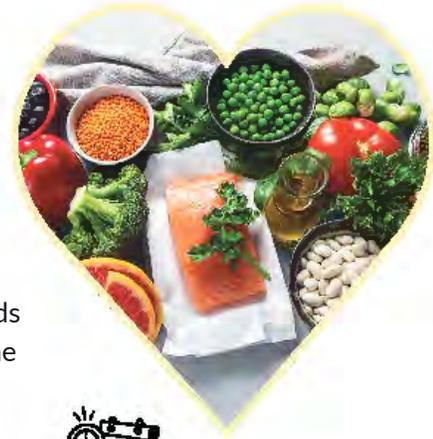


Increased healthy options for children by providing made-from-scratch meals, packaged snacks, such as milk and bread, and fresh produce.

The program is supported by collaborations with Parent Advisory Committees (PACs), Community Schools, School Gardens, Farm to Schools, and Vancouver Coastal Health. In 2024, SD46 applied to the Ministry of Education and Childcare for funding to purchase two electric vans to support the delivery of food to schools. The funding request was approved and the vans arrived in November 2024.

The Feeding Futures program has transitioned to ongoing Ministry funding, ensuring sustainability and enabling long-term systems-based planning.

The Sunshine Coast Board of Education is part of a network of sixty (60) school boards that make up the membership of the BC School Trustees Association. The advocacy and lobbying power of this group is responsible for the Ministry allocating significant funds to the Feeding Futures program that has embraced the understanding that "learning includes nutrition".



BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC MEETINGS

Parents are invited to attend the Board of Education meetings: the next public Board Meeting is February 12th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held in person at the School Board Office, 494 South Fletcher Road, Gibsons.

- Board meeting schedule: [Schedule of Meetings](#)
- SD 46 YouTube Channel meeting live stream: [SD46 YouTube](#)

Board Committee meetings are scheduled January 28th at the School Board Office. Public Board meetings and Committee meetings are live-streamed to YouTube, whenever possible.