



# DPAC

District Parent Advisory Council  
School District 46 - Sunshine Coast

## January 2022 DPAC Minutes

**Date: January 27, 2022 | Time: 7pm**

**Location: Zoom meeting ID: 696 5586 5641 passcode: 566556**

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### 7:00 PM Greetings and Introductions

In Attendance: Scott Davis (Chair), Ewa Kusmierrek(VP/KES), Tracey McClelland(Treasurer / MPE), Miyuki Shinkai(Secretary & BCCPAC Rep/ ESS), Lisa Patterson(CGE), Melanie Behrner(RCE), Karla Shields(LES), Emily Doyle(GES), Jen Boulton(DBE), Kater Kerr(Superintendent), Rachael Eastman (MPE) Christa Rive(SD46 Director of Instruction for Inclusive Education), Stacia Leech(Trustee Rep)

Regrets: Andrea Glickman(Director-at-large/ RCE), Jane Van Klinken(CSS), Nicole Andreassen(HMBE), Aspen Wing(WSE), Cherie Stone(PHSS), Udo Rosenberg(SCAS)

### 7:15 PM Approvals:

- November 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes (SD46 website)- Amendment made by Karla to add a copy of revised letter of draft to VCH which was edited on December 2, 2021 after the meeting, moved by Miyuki, Seconded by Karla. m/s/c
- January 27, 2022 Agenda - moved by Rachael, seconded by Tracey. m/s/c

### 7:20 PM Guest Presenter - Christa Rive, SD46 Director of Instruction for Inclusive Education

MDI/YDI (Power Point Presentation attached) – Presentation about the result of the Middle Years Development Instrument conducted by UBC. The survey is designed to learn about the social and emotional development; health, and well being of children ages 9-13 (grade 4-8). YDI is Youth Development Instrument conducted by SFU.

### 7:45 PM Regular reports:

- Chair report: Scott Davis

DPAC Chair Report January 27, 2022 Scott Davis - sdavisarch@gmail.com I want to start the new year with offering thanks to Miyuki Shinkai for her help running the November 2021 Zoom meeting. I had technical issues and could not access my computer files or manage the zoom from my cell phone. The DPAC is very well supported by members like Miyuki that are ready to step up when the need arises. Over the two winter months with holidays my chair duties were primarily communicating and receiving email, newsletters and updates on eleven topics.

- 1) District Family Engagement Committee Meetings. A DPAC representative is requested to attend. Mondays, every other month 1 pm – 3:30 pm at the SBO in-person. (School Board Office is on 494 South Fletcher, near Gibsons Public Library, a former VCH building) [Dates: January 24th, March 7th and May 16th. The January meeting was cancelled.
- 2) Administrative Regulations – SD46. Regulations [3120 – Health and Safety, 1017 – Art in Schools, 4160 – Transportation of Students] was shared with DPAC and uploaded to our resources section of the website.

### Administrative Regulation in Circulation until March 9, 2022

Details regarding the administrative regulations in circulation can be found in the committee notes. New and revised regulations will circulate for a ten (10) week period.

1017 – Art in Schools

4160 – Transportation of Students

**Please share this information with your staff, PACs and any other interested parties. The regulations and *response form for draft regulations* are attached, and available both [online](#) and on Engage: [Lists and Forms](#)**

- 3) BCCPAC December Newsletter. Vice President and Secretary BCCPAC Board positions need to be filled at the 2022 AGM. Topics of the newsletter included: [Gaming Grant Use Survey, Youth Dialogue series Grades 7 – 12, Input to Budget 2022, Be an Active Participant in Truth and Reconciliation, Covid 19 – Education Update, Letter from First Nations Council regarding FSAs, Ministry of Education Anti-Racism Strategy Job Descriptions for Educational Assistants, Child Poverty Report Card, Speech Development Research Study and Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Resources]
- 4) Covid Concerns Letter. DPAC representatives Karla Shields and Andrea Glickman communicated with me about an updated letter regarding SD46 Covid Concerns. The letter was circulated at January PAC meetings to test support or critique. The letter is on the DPAC January agenda.
- 5) PAC Survey. DPAC representative Emily communicated with me regarding a PAC survey that she wanted to propose. I reviewed the template and added it on the January DPAC meeting.
- 6) VanDPAC Concerns about communication between VCH and parents. VanDPAC chair Gord Lau sent an email asking if SD46 DPAC wanted to communicate with them regarding parents / DPAC communication with VCH.
- 7) BCCPAC January Newsletter. Topics of the newsletter included: [Member Recognition - Member Awards Submissions, Nominations Now Open for the Board of Directors, Resolutions Submissions, Knowledge Sharing from Board Representation, Early Learning and Child Care Engagement, Scholarships for Students Covid 19 –

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Education Update, Funding From Community Gaming Grants and K-12 Student Progress Reporting Feedback Report].

8) High School Transition inquiry. Sheila Wilson coordinator of Roberts Creek Community School Society sent information on the program to support grade 7 students to transition to high school.

9) Gibsons Pool Needs Community Support. Donna McMahon, Area E Representative sent an email asking for input from the community about weekend operating hours.

10) SD46 DPAC Webinar with Dr. Harding - Thursday, January 27th at 6 pm Stephanie of SD46 sent information to attend the zoom meeting.

11) Cap U's Education Assistant Program starting July 2022 Debbie Mah of Calilano University sent an announcement that the next intake of Capilano University's Education Assistant program starts July 2022.

- Correspondence: Miyuki Shinkai

1) Treasurer 101 was held on January 13 via zoom. Tracey and Miyuki attended. Once recording link is available, we will share with DPAC members.

BCCPAC will confirm about recommended bursary payment procedures, which includes more strict regulations.

BCCPAC is hosting PAC/DPAC101 on February 10 at 7pm.

<https://bccpac.bc.ca/index.php/conferences/webinar-220210>

Tracey suggested PAC 101 is on BCCPAC website is a good resources.

<https://bccpac.bc.ca/index.php/resources/16-dpac-pac/523-leadership-manual>

2) VCH Vaccine Presentation on January 27 cancelled in last minutes. - Dr. Hardings cannot attend and had to cancel this event. Due to the increased workload as a result of the Omicron variant, he and the other MHOs do not have the capacity to attend at this time.

3) **Kim Bathel's Presentation Registration Information – Online event on February 10<sup>th</sup> at 7-8:30pm. Trauma-Sensitive Education- DPAC Presents Free to SD46Community!**

(Poster attached) – Kim Barthel is an award-winning occupational therapist, multi-disciplinary teacher and best-selling author who is active in supporting people in many contexts internationally. A pioneer in reinforcing the importance of relationships, Kim is passionate about understanding complex behaviour, neurobiology, trauma-informed practice, attachment, mental health and learning. Kim's mission is to support the conscious evolution of the human spirit. [www.kimbarthel.ca](http://www.kimbarthel.ca)

**Registration:**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYucu2uqzgvHtaCL2k07nRMtiO\\_qI7dkxwS](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYucu2uqzgvHtaCL2k07nRMtiO_qI7dkxwS)

Kim's office sent us 10 copies of her book to circulate among our district's leaders and parents. The books will be sent to your location upon your request. Contact Miyuki.

4) Sheila Wilson from the Roberts Creek Community School shared the information about: - United Way Schools Out for Grade 7 students to high school transition. Arts and Sports programs, 5 programs offered in Elementary Schools.

- Parents Workshop by Sarah Joseph, SD46 Family Support Navigator- April 25 – May 16.

- Treasurer's report: Tracey McClelland (Financial Statement attached)
- Tracey suggested parents' learning opportunity such as Roberts Rules course, which would be beneficial to all. She will be looking into some options and cost.
- Food Safe Certification online course is still available to 2 PAC members per site. Registration cost is \$125 per person. DPAC will be reimbursing your registration fee upon certification completion.

SD46 DPAC, January 27, 2022

**Gaming Account**

Opening Balance \$3,923.92

Gaming Grant received \$2,500.00

Expenses Paid #143 Kevin Lamoureux \$2,000.00

Bank Fees - Oct \$2.50

Cheque #144 Foodsafe x 2 MPES \$250.00

Bank Fees - Nov \$1.25

#145 Tracey - BCCPAC Yearly Fees 2022 \$150.00

Bank Fees - December \$1.25

Spent funds to date \$2,405.00

Reconciled balance as of today's date \$4,018.92

Committed Funds Kim Barthel Anticipated February Expense \$2,500.00

Total committed funds (unspent) \$2,500.00

Balance to Spend \$1,518.92

New unapproved expense requests

**Balance Remaining (after requests) \$1,518.92**

**Operating account**

Opening Balance \$980.44

Expenses Paid

Bank Fees (July - December) \$15

Flowers for Jo \$57.12

**Balance \$908.32**

**8:00 PM** Board's report

- Superintendent's report: Kate Kerr
  - Students are happy to be back to school.
  - Family Literacy Week this week lead by Kirsten Deasey, SD46 District Principal, Learning and Innovation.
  - January 14 – Black History, Black Lives, Black Excellences Month
  - Restart Plan and Emergency Closures
- <https://sd46.bc.ca/families-and-students/covid-19/>

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- VCH Vaccine Info Session was cancelled. 20 people registered. Possibly planning the event again if DPAC/PACs have enough interests.
  - Update on Contact Tracing – following students' attendance closely, illness vs parents excused, referencing public threshold. Our district's attendance is increasing. Parents calling in school office to inform student's absence are very important.
  - Currently, no vaccine mandatory order to district staff. VCH region has the highest vaccine rate in Canada. Mandatory is not recommended by VCH at this point. The board will make a decision accordingly with the public health passive order.

<https://sd46.bc.ca/superintendents-report-to-the-board-january-2022/>  
<https://sd46.bc.ca/families-and-students/covid-19/>

- Trustee report: Stacia Leech
- Trustee St Marie has been appointed to the Provincial BC School Trustee Association Climate Change Working Group – representing our district as one of seven trustees across the province to focus on climate change actions in BC school districts.
- Chair Amaral has been selected to participate in the Provincial BC School Trustees Association Elections Committee. 2022 is an election year so this is very timely and good for our district to have a representative on the committee.
- The Board has asked staff to work with the Sechelt and Squamish Nations regarding acknowledgement of traditional place names for district sites. We have also asked staff to determine interest in a process for graduation for residential school survivors who attended the Sechelt Nation School.
- Two administrative regulations in circulation: Art in Schools and Transportation of students.
  - Art in Schools is a new regulation was developed in consultation with the District Fine Arts Committee.
  - Transportation of Students has been revised to include support for active travel, new language around guest seats, and revisions to the prioritization of cross boundary students. You can view the regulations here:  
<https://sd46.bc.ca/district-information/board-of-education-and-governance/policies-bylaws-and-regulations/>

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- Our student trustee, Matthew Douglas reports that the District Student Leadership Team is reviewing the MDI (middle years development instrument) and YDI (youth development instrument) data as well as responses to the survey created by the DSLT. We are looking forward to hearing the results.
  - The Board approved the West Sechelt Elementary Catchment area adjustment - you can see the changes recorded in the November 2021 Operations Cttee minutes here:  
<https://sd46.communitybydiligent.com/document/11d1c21f-d86c-44fa-a96f-ceedfd424bf61>
  - We have two new Ad Hoc committees. One to review trustee's participation on internal & external committees. We want to ensure good use of trustee's time.  
The second Ad Hoc is to review the new trustee orientation materials. The current board faced a firehose of information after the 2018 election, as six of the seven were new and it was a bit daunting.
  - At the January Operations committee we approved the amended 2021/2022 budget.  
We also reviewed early plans for community engagement regarding possible development of the Holland Lands in downtown Gibsons - the School Board office is located on these lands. The planning and consultation are in the early stages, check the Town of Gibsons website in March and April for opportunities to comment on the plans.
  - And for an overview of our work during 2021 check out the new Trustee Blog here; <https://sd46.bc.ca/trustee-blog-what-a-year/>

PARENTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ATTEND THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS

**Next public board meeting: February 9th 2022 7pm,**

**Next committee meeting day is February 22nd 2022 10 am to 4pm**

<https://sd46.bc.ca/district-information/board-of-education-and-governance/board-meeting-schedule/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SD46Schools>

- 8:20 PM** Committee reports:
- Healthy Schools: Ewa Kusmierk

**Brief summary**

“Food in Schools” committee is working on planning & creating a “terms of reference”

- Looking to the New West model as an example but also realizing that coast is unique, and each school on the coast has specific needs

Many events postponed due to provincial fuel restrictions/unable to meet in person

**“Vaccine Regulation”**

At elementary schools vaccines only occur with parental consent

- “Infant act” would allow any mature minor to consent to vaccination – should this be added to the current policy when it is under review? Mixed opinions.
- Concern parents may be uncomfortable with this at an elementary school level vs. Canada wide “Infant act” application
- This regulation would have to go through formal review process before it could be amended

**Next meeting:** Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 9-10am via zoom

- Family Engagement: No report. January meeting was cancelled. Next meeting is on March 7, Monday from 1:00-3:30pm at the SBO. Looking for a rep from DPAC/PAC. If you are interested in, please contact to Scott and Miyuki. (December Meeting Minutes attached) Alternative meeting time such as after school hours was suggested. Miyuki will bring the suggestion to Stephanie, the chair of this committee.
- Education, Operations, Committee of the whole - 4<sup>th</sup> Tues of month: no report. Parents are welcome to attend. Currently, no DPAC representation, yet this year. Check out SD46 YouTube Channel and website for their recorded minutes and zoom meeting footages.

**8:30 PM** Old Business

- PAC Survey – Emily GES (Survey is attached) PACs are encouraged to submit your survey back to Emily by February 17. She will compile feedbacks and share the result with DPAC reps. Kate will share the survey and result with Family Engagement Committee.

Emily, Gibsons DPAC rep, would like to start some information sharing about that other PACS are doing on the Coast. This way we can learn from one another. Please send your PACs responses to [gibsonsPAC@gmail.com](mailto:gibsonsPAC@gmail.com) with **Attention: Emily Doyle** in the subject header by Feb 17<sup>t</sup> 2022.

Emily will collate the responses and share with DPAC at the Feb 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Thank you!



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**Sunshine Coast PAC Survey Jan 2022:**

Name of School:

1. What projects/initiatives is your PAC working on this year?
2. Do you have any multi-year or major projects or goals lined up?
3. Approximately how many people come to your meetings, on average?
4. What helps with parent engagement at your school?
5. Are you meeting in person, on Zoom, or other?
6. How do you communicate to parents/caregivers and with school staff?
7. What are your best fundraisers? Are there any you tried that you'd not do again?
8. What are the challenges your PAC faces?
9. Is there anything else you'd like to share?

- Discussion around Revised Letter drafted by Karla and Andrea to VCH - DPAC Reps shared each PAC's response to the letter from November. Majority of PACs had mixed feedbacks. Since the current Covid tracking protocol has changed, the content of this letter from last fall is out-dated and does not fully reflect on SD46 voice as a whole. Scott and DPAC Reps concluded to recommend this letter to be sent personally by writers to Dr. Harding of VCH but not sent by the DPAC. Voting did not take in place. No motion to support it at this time. (Revised Letter from Dec 2 attached)

**8:40 PM** New Business - Active Transportation –Miyuki (The Letter of Request from Trac attached)

- The letter of Request in regards to Gibsons Way/ School Road / North Road Active Travel Upgrade to Gibsons Mayor Beamish's Office was presented by Kylie Hutchinson and Jody Schicck from SC TraC.



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Miyuki entertained the motion for SD46 DPAC to support Trac's request. Moved by Scott. Seconded by Emily. m/s/c

<http://transportationchoices.ca/wp/>

If you want to know more about TraC: Kylie Hutchinson [kylieh@communitysolutions.ca](mailto:kylieh@communitysolutions.ca)  
- Kate is arranging AT Presentation to DPAC with Nic on April 28. Miyuki suggested that Lianne Carley from VCH would be a good guest to have. To be confirmed.



January 21, 2022

Mayor Beamish,  
Town of Gibsons,  
474 South Fletcher Road,  
PO Box 340,  
Gibsons, BC  
V0N 1V0

Dear Mayor Beamish,

**Re: Gibsons Way/School Road/North Road Active Travel Upgrades**

It is our pleasure to provide the following letter of support for the Town of Gibsons regarding the following proposed upgrades around Gibsons Elementary School:

- GibsonsWay/North Road/School Rd active transportation infrastructure
- Southbound on North Rd between Hillcrest multi-use path

Transportation Choices Sunshine Coast (TraC) is a member-based organization that works to support healthy communities and a reduced carbon footprint on the coast by promoting more active and sustainable transportation alternatives for all ages.

In our work with schools, we regularly hear from Parent Advisory Councils and parents about their reluctance to let children walk or cycle to school because of safety concerns. Our participation over the past two years on Vancouver Coastal Health's cross-sectoral Active Travel for Kids committee has made it abundantly clear there is an urgent need for these upgrades to improve the physical and mental health of our children.

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TraC fully supports the creation of a safe and attractive cycling and pedestrian route that connects Gibsons Elementary to the neighbourhoods on either side of North Road. This includes All Ages and Ability (AAA) level improvements at both the North Road/School Road/Gibsons Way intersection and North Road. While the addition of buffered bike lanes last year is an improvement, more is needed for this to be a highly used and safe travel corridor for school-aged children.

Sincerely,

Alun Woolliams  
President

Cc: Nicholas Westwick, SD46 Treasurer  
Miyuki Shinkai, SD46 DPAC

**9:09 PM** Meeting to Adjourn

**Next meeting:** February 24<sup>th</sup>, 7pm | Zoom  
Geust Speaker – Nic Weswick – Presentation about the SD46 Facilities

Reference~

December 2, 2021 VCH Open Letter Covid Protocols  
Revised Version written by Andrea and Karla.

**Date**

Dr. Bonnie Henry, BC Provincial Health Officer  
Via email only: [bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca)  
Vivian Eliopoulos, CEO VCH  
Via email only: [vivian.eliopoulos@vch.ca](mailto:vivian.eliopoulos@vch.ca)

Penny Ballem, Board Chair VCH  
Via email only: [penny.ballem@vch.ca](mailto:penny.ballem@vch.ca)

Dr. Patty Daly, VP Public Health and CMHO, VCH  
Via email only: [patty.daly@vch.ca](mailto:patty.daly@vch.ca)

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Dr. John Harding, MHO VCH  
Via email only: [John.Harding@vch.ca](mailto:John.Harding@vch.ca)

### **OPEN LETTER: Urgent Parent Concerns with Current Provincial and VCH COVID Protocols Impacting Schools**

Dear Dr. Henry, Vivian Eliopoulos, Penny Ballem, Dr. Daly, and Dr. Harding:

We are writing to urgently identify parent concerns with the current COVID protocols that VCH is operating under and that school districts must follow.

We are writing as the [District Parent Advisory Council for School District 46](#). At the district level, the DPAC (District Parent Advisory Council) is an opportunity for parents, principals, senior administration, and trustees to learn together about how we can support our schools right across the district to be as effective as possible. We have presentations on curriculum issues, operational issues (budget, staffing, facilities), and conversations about parent and guardian perspectives of where we should be focusing our efforts in our district. Each school has a PAC (Parent Advisory Council), and each school is encouraged to send a delegate or two (or more!) to the DPAC meeting.

We are writing to you following recent cases of COVID-19 at elementary and secondary schools in School District 46 (SD46). Parents in our district are concerned they have not had all of the information needed to make informed decisions on how to best protect their families, due to the lack of clear, transparent, and timely communication to families about confirmed COVID cases in the respective school communities.

From October 24-31, at least 6 cases of COVID were reported in schools in our district. Five cases were self-reported to the BC School Covid Tracker, a citizen initiative that uses crowdsourcing to provide data on schools affected by COVID. Only one case was reported by VCH as a letter to Chatelech Secondary community.

The lack of official communication resulted in word of mouth, which is both exclusionary to families not “in the know” and creates rumors open to error. The presence of COVID exposures in our schools is information all families require so that they can take the precautionary steps their personal situations require to protect higher-risk students, family members, or the elderly they may come into contact with.

This lack of communication causes further delays in people becoming aware of exposures and leads to delays in isolation, testing, and acquiring results. Students experiencing mild symptoms are more likely to book testing sooner if their family knows of a school exposure. Delays in VCH contact tracing and the absence of formal notification of covid cases to the broader school community can lead to students delaying or not accessing testing and increases the potential for spreading of the virus in both our schools and the broader community.

Schools are not using the cohort system this year, which has a lot of advantages for students; however, the ramifications in regards to COVID are that kids are engaging with each other across grades and classes and in all school spaces. Therefore, notifications should not be limited to only those who VCH identifies as close contacts from interviewing

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COVID positive students, or even the full class of a confirmed case because that does not cover the scope of interactions kids are having.

The other concern we have in this district is the impact the current local testing capacity and location is having on families and could have on future clusters and outbreaks. Currently, during peak times on the coast, the wait for a test can be up to 4 days, plus 24-72 hours for results. With the increase in the amount of regular illness circulation in schools this year, many families have had to take extended amounts of time off work as illness cycles through a family and each family member waits to be tested. This is having a financial impact on many families without access to sick days that will only increase as the school year continues.

For families without a vehicle accessing the testing center in Sechelt by transit with a sick child can be lengthy and difficult for families at either end of the coast. This consideration, plus the extended amount of time off work may leave families to abandon getting a test, putting our community at further risk.

We have compiled recommendations for Dr. Henry and VCH to address these parental concerns: :

- Provide immediate and transparent notification to the full school when there are any COVID cases in a school so that parents do not have to rely on word of mouth or delayed communications.
- Increase the speed and scope of contact tracing, keeping in mind the increased mixing of students with the removal of the cohort system and recognizing unmasked indoor lunch and gym times.
- Increase Sunshine Coast testing capacity
  - Expand testing locations and testing times.
  - Create access to take home PCR gargle tests so students can test at home and someone else can take it to the testing centre, which increases accessibility.
  - Provide school families with rapid tests, especially when COVID-positive cases are identified in a school.
- Provide science-based, non-political, public health education on COVID-vaccines specifically to the school community including students, parents, and staff so families are prepared. Increased community vaccination rates are directly connected to reduced risk of COVID transmission in schools.

In order to prevent COVID transmission in SD46 and empower our families who have varying risk factors for COVID to take appropriate actions to protect their loved one's health, we must address continuing parental concerns that are outstanding in the Province and VCH's approach on the Sunshine Coast. We request an immediate response to the concerns we've identified.

Sincerely,

[signatures]

CC: Superintendent Kate Kerr, SD46

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SD46 School Trustees, Board Chair Amanda Amaral  
BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils  
Hon. Jennifer Whiteside, Minister of Education  
Fraser Health Authority  
Vancouver Island Health Authority  
Northern Health Authority  
Interior Health Authority  
First Nations Health Authority  
First Nations Education Steering Committee