



Langley District Parent Advisory Council

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Langley DPAC 29 November 2007 General Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Elementary: Alice Brown, Belmont, Langley Meadows, Murrayville, Noel Booth, Parkside Centennial, Shortreed Community, Simonds, Topham, Wix Brown.

Secondary: Aldergrove Community, Brookwood Secondary, H. D. Stafford, Langley Fundamental Middle Secondary, Langley Secondary, Walnut Grove Secondary

Total: 16 – Quorum met

Guests: parents from Walnut Grove, Alice Brown, H.D. Stafford

Trustee: Alison McVeigh

Superintendent: Cheryle Beaumont

Executive: Diana MacNeil-President, Tracy Wright-VP1, Kari Medos-VP2, Craig Wright-Treasurer, Barb Chu-Secretary, Member-at-large: Tracey Olley

1. 7:10 p.m. Welcome and introductions of the executive and of the attending DPAC representatives
2. **Presentation** by Gina Illsey regarding parental responsibility vs the legal rights of children. While children remain the responsibility of the parents, including the responsibility to pay for such things as ambulance services, food and shelter, in B.C. at this time, parents have no right to see the medical or legal (police) records of children over age 12, without the child's written consent, and no legal avenues to try to help children involved in with drugs and/or prostitution. Gina is lobbying the provincial government to enact laws similar to the "Protection of Children Addicted to Drugs" and "Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution" laws currently in force in Alberta. She is requesting our help by sending letters to our MLAs. (Full details and contact information available on DPAC website soon.)
3. **Call to order**
4. **Approval of the agenda**
Moved: HD Stafford, Seconded: Alice Brown, **CARRIED**
5. **Approval of the minutes** of 20 September 2007 – deferred until later in the meeting when the president of Alice Brown is expected to arrive due to clarification on budget item sought.
6. **Superintendents Report:**
Our Langley FSA's are in, and are above provincial average.
Parkside is site of new Strong Start program – reaching out to daycare, preschools, and families to provide a 'strong start' for children in the Aldergrove area.
Langley will be starting the introduction to school with a letter from the district in the new baby package given to families in the Langley Memorial Hospital maternity ward.
The Aboriginal Enhancement agreement is up for review and renewal. Langley is proud of the achievement of its aboriginal students, and we (they) are well above the provincial average.
Nikomekl Elementary will be starting a new Aboriginal (full day) kindergarten.

Healthy Schools Forum will be held January 31, 2008 at Willoughby Elementary. More details will be forwarded via the schools soon.

7. Executive Reports

President – written report, (part of meeting package)

VP1: Attended meetings: School Board, BCCPAC, Senior Management/DPAC exec, HD Stafford transition.

From BCCPAC: highly recommend www.learnnowbc.gov.bc.ca - a source of tutoring, courses, and library references online.

Will need the PEN # to access full services (child's education identification number – is on all report cards)

Legislation (section 11) pending which will enable people to appeal a decision of the school board to the ministry – information attached.

VP2: PICI would like to know what subjects are of interest to the parents of Langley (for speakers, workshops)

Treasurer: Balance sheet to November 29, 2007 presented (part of meeting package). Request was made by Walnut Grove to have the income statement provided via email. Treasurer will send to president for forwarding to reps.

Secretary: written report (part of meeting package).

8. Old Business

a) Policy 2007.2 Mileage reimbursement rates

Be it resolved that: Langley DPAC will reimburse members for any meetings attended outside of the district on DPAC business; mileage will be reimbursed to/from the member's residence at the following rates:

[http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tax/individuals/topics/income-tax/return/completing/deductions/lines248-260/255/rates-e.html/](http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tax/individuals/topics/income-tax/return/completing/deductions/lines248-260/255/rates-e.html) (This is the current Revenue Canada web page for mileage rates in BC used in income tax figuring.)

Moved: Executive **CARRIED**.

b) Policy 2007.3 Email voting by executive

Be it resolved that:

Langley DPAC executive be empowered to conduct the day to day operations of the organization including financial decision making via email. Moved: Executive **CARRIED**.

c) Re: Current Policy 2005.6 Membership to BCCPAC – Langley DPAC will be a voting member of BCCPAC

Change to: Be it resolved that:

6.1 Langley DPAC be a voting member of BCCPAC and that a duly appointed representative may be designated to carry a proxy at a BCCPAC AGM provided member PACs have had the opportunity, at a regular Langley DPAC general meeting (14 days notice), to vote on any and all BCCPAC resolutions to be voted on by such proxy.

6.2 Any Langley DPAC vote by proxy at any BCCPAC AHM will require 75% approval of those members in attendance "in favour of", "against", or "to leave open, with or without instructions", at a regular Langley DPAC general meeting.

6.3 The designate (proxy holder) will abstain from voting by proxy on each and every resolution at a BCCPAC AHM where member PACs have not had an opportunity to vote on the resolution at a regular Langley DPAC general meeting, or where such 75% approval "in favour of", "against", or "to leave open, with or without instructions" has not been achieved.

6.4 Any proxy to the BCCPAC AGM is to be signed by executive members other than the designated proxy carrier.

Moved: Walnut Grove Secondary; Seconded: Noel Booth; Motion **DEFEATED**.

9. Alice Brown President arrived - approval of minutes moved by: Langley Fundamental Middle Secondary; Seconded: Langley Secondary. **CARRIED**

10. New Business

a. Moved by Walnut Grove Secondary, Seconded by Brookwood Secondary:

That executive prepare a simple policy with respect to consultation with the DPAC membership regarding the DPAC vote at the AGM of BCCPAC, and present this policy at the next DPAC meeting. **CARRIED**.

b. Moved by Langley Fundamental Middle Secondary, seconded by Langley Secondary School that a letter be sent to Shirley Bond, Minister of Education speaking against the recent cuts in funding to secondary schools. (Draft of letter read by Langley Fundamental Middle Secondary and approved – copy to be sent to secretary) **CARRIED** unanimously.

c. A request was made to Superintendent Beaumont for a map showing the proposed boundary changes in the James Hill Elementary and Peterson Road areas.

- d. The date of the January DPAC meeting conflicts with the first of the consultations for the North Langley / Willoughby areas. After discussion, Wednesday January 23, 2008 was chosen as the alternate date
- e. Letter to board re: PAC/DPAC presentations to the board – unfortunately the draft of this letter was omitted from the meeting packages. Advised by Walnut Grove that it is possible to request to present to the trustees at a board planning meeting, and such presentations have been made in the past. Further discussion deferred to a later meeting.
- f. Follow up on RC Garnett's gaming grants from Victoria with changing enrolments Diana had phoned them and talked with their office and they had discussed the inequities of a growing school versus a declining school (as in most situations in the province) where most receive more than they should because the "count date" for students is September 30th of the previous year. It's unfortunate that they cannot set a date that would be fair to all; but it is unlikely that they will change process for the few schools that are in a growth position as it may have a detrimental effect on many other schools at this point.
- g. Notice of motion for January 23, 2008 meeting - notice of motion received from Craig Wright, Treasurer re: Meal allowance policy for reimbursement at conferences attended on behalf of DPAC.
- h. Alice Brown presented a letter stating that they are uncomfortable with the recent budget allowing DPAC to spend part of the contingency funds, asking for copies of receipts for BCCPAC AGM attendees and itemized expenses for the past 2 years, and disappointment with the process of the recent South Central consultations and DPAC's role therein. They have been promised a written response.

What's new and exciting at your school? (Remember meeting date is 29 November)

Noel Booth is hosting a 'Christmas Store' for their students

Noel Booth also pleased to announce first and second place finishes in the Elementary Volleyball League

Topham Elementary Choir will be performing at Willowbrook Mall December 5, 2007 at 1 p.m.

LSS is presenting "Career Possibilities" 3 to 6 p.m. November 30th

Alice Brown is hosting "Breakfast with Santa" December 8, 2007, 8 to 11 a.m.

Alice Brown has invited Tara McIntosh to speak on "Being a Team member with your Child", January 30, 2008 (free)

Murrayville School asks for the support of other parents as they fight the proposed closure of their school.

Langley Fundamental Middle Secondary School will be presenting "Disney's High School Musical" starting February 28, 2008.

Moved by Belmont, seconded by Noel Booth that the next meeting, December 13, 2007 be a Christmas Social meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00pm.

Note: After the meeting regret was expressed that a discussion of Gina Illsey's presentation, and a motion to support her efforts with a letter to the appropriate parties was not made. This will be brought back for discussion in January.