



District Parent Advisory Council

DPAC Pulse

April 28, 2021

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Executive Updates	1
President's Corner	2
Why You Want To Join DPAC for SD433	3
DPAC Election	4
PAC Fundraising	5
Bike to School Week	6

DPAC Executive Updates

- ◆ BCCPAC AGM will be held virtually on May 1, 2021
- ◆ DPAC Parent Ed Night: BC Transit & Technology
May 13 7:00-9:00pm via Zoom
- ◆ DPAC AGM will be held virtually on May 26, 2021
- ◆ BCCPAC Conference held virtually on May 28-29, 2021
- ◆ **The DPAC is only as strong as the people who volunteer their time. We encourage all those who want to make a difference in our District to consider running for a position on the DPAC Executive on May 26, 2021.**

Your school events on Social Media and DPAC Website

"The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet"
— Aristotle

If your school has a community event and you would like DPAC to share it on its social media channels or website, please send a .jpg and a short description to our Communication Coordinator and Newsletter/Website Editor:

communication@dpac43.ca

newsletter@dpac43.ca

Follow us on Facebook (DPAC 43 - District Parent Advisory Council) and on Twitter (@dpac43)

CONTACT US:

Do you have any questions, comments, or suggestions?

Please contact the DPAC at:

Ph: 604.939.3690 || Email: office@dpac43.ca || Web: www.dpac43.ca || 1100B Winslow Avenue, Coquitlam V3J 2G3



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DPAC Pulse

April 28, 2021

Page 2

President's Corner, a Message from DPAC President Marvin Klassen

In our last newsletter I noted that April presents one of the busiest months of the year for school board with the district budget meetings taking place. Understandably, this is not an easy topic for many to follow. However, the budget determines where the funds will be focused over the next school year. Of course, the majority of the budget is related to the cost of employing our teachers and staff. But within the budget there are a number of priorities that also need to be addressed.

This year DPAC43 has participated in the budget process in three meetings. The first took place early in February when we met with the Board to discuss parent concerns for the budget. The next was in mid February when we provided a written submission and oral presentation regarding our budget priorities. Finally, last week we provided a written response to the proposed 2021-22 budget followed with another oral submission and questions during the Zoom consultation meeting.

Among the issues that we've brought forth to the Board are, prioritizing timely school maintenance particularly related to classrooms that are looking dated and functioning washroom facilities, encouraging a continuation of high-level cleaning protocols into the future beyond COVID-19, training for supervising staff with respect to recognition and prevention of bullying outside the classroom and assuring PACs will not be turned to for Emergency Preparedness supplies. In addition, we've taken the position that budget cuts due to the grant funding shortfall and more than fifty percent drop in International Education revenues should not be felt within the classroom environment.

As with any budget, there are unknowns and contingencies that need to be planned for in order to meet all needs. My concern with the proposed budget for 2021-22 is not the spending for the current year, but rather the assumptions and projections respecting a quick return to normal comfort levels. The District expects that within a few years the international education revenues will return to their pre-COVID state. Given that this assumes parents around the world will be ready and willing to send their children abroad for a K-12 education after experiencing a pandemic, I would be less optimistic.

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District Parent Advisory Council

DPAC Pulse

April 28, 2021

Page 3

Why YOU want to join DPAC for SD43!

I joined DPAC43 last year as Treasurer. Now, I had been going to PAC meetings for 11 years. I knew there was a DPAC but I really had no clue what they did. I figured I could just read the notes or listen to the DPAC rep for my children's schools at the monthly meeting. I've been on the executive for two schools at the same time for the last 6 years. That means 3-4 meetings per month. I'm sure you're asking yourself why would I ever want to add 1-2 more meetings to my full plate by joining DPAC?

Well, I can tell you from my experience that it has been absolutely hands down the best decision I ever made. As a member of a school PAC you get to have a say for what goes on with your school. Now as a DPAC Executive member you get to do that for the ENTIRE district! You have a say in what speakers are going to be at meetings. You get to give input on the school budget discussions and speak directly to school trustees and so much more. You can even choose to be on a committee if you want, where you get to give parent feedback directly to people that make decisions for the district. A great example is the Equity, diversity and Inclusion committee this year that launched a successful racial equity challenge. Personally, this event alone challenged me to speak more with my kids about events happening in the world.

There is so much more to DPAC than a few extra hours of my time every month. My point is you get to be a voice, you get to be heard and you get to start the change to inspire others to do the same. Seriously, take a moment and think about how you want to enhance your child's school experience and get your voice heard. Join DPAC via our elections next meeting, I promise it's worth it.

Jamie Manchester

Treasurer DPAC43

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2021 DPAC AGM ELECTIONS

DPAC43 is composed of 12 elected positions. The President role is a two year term while the other 11 positions are for one year. The 2021-22 year is the second year for the President's term. All other positions are up for election. Due to personal commitments and life changes, many of the positions will require new volunteers. There are plenty of opportunities to take on a task with the DPAC if you are interested. As Jamie said, "you get to be a voice, you get to be heard and you get to start the change to inspire others to do the same." If interested, contact office@dpac43.ca for a nomination form.

Vice President

Assists the President, Acts as Chair When Necessary

Secretary

Takes notes at General and Executive Meetings

Treasurer

Tracks finances, prepares reports, pays bills, administers payroll and CRA filings

Newsletter Editor

Prepares and Coordinates Monthly Newsletter and Updates Website

Parent Education Coordinator

Coordinates Speakers for Meetings and Parent Education Events

Health & Safety Coordinator

Monitors PAC Student Safety Concerns and Liaise with District, ICBC, Fraser Health

PAC Communications Liaison

Manages Social Media Postings, Assists with Website, Communication Lines with PACs

Members at Large (4 Positions)

Assist and Support Executive



Youth Empowering Youth (YEY)

YEY provides programs for your youth ages 13-18 and one open program for Children ages 8 -12. YEY is a nine-session accelerated program, run by two trained Facilitators who are passionate about helping youth. The program is offered in an online class setting that encourages student participation. Each class shares a new principle which builds upon the previous principle; ultimately helping students take accountability for their thoughts, feelings and actions; thus, moving them into a place of confidence, security and self-assurance. Upon completion of this program, youth are offered an opportunity to take on a leadership role and co-facilitate future courses to help empower more youth within their school or community. To register <https://linktr.ee/youthempoweringyouth>



District Parent Advisory Council

DPAC Pulse

April 28, 2021

Page 5

PAC FUNDRAISING

By Corrie Noble

School Fundraising plays a big part in all of our schools in SD43. Here are some ways to raise funds year round:

Mabel Labels, COB's Bread Dough Raiser Program, Thrifty Foods Smile Card Program, Port Moody Liquor Store (St. John's Street) and Express Bottle Return

Other vendors / businesses that schools use in our district are:

Growing Smiles Fundraising - Poinsettia Sales, Hanging Baskets and Bedding Plants

Make it Sow - Plant Seed Fundraiser

Global Coffee Fundraising - Whole Bean Coffee

Purdy's Chocolate - Christmas & Easter are the popular times, they have their Fundraiser Bar

Neufeld Farms, TCBY Yogurt, ECO Living Club, Kernels Popcorn

Gift Cards from Local Merchants - **Panago Pizza, Meridian Meats, Gabi & Jules, Rocky Point Ice Cream**

Something new this year that a number of schools have done is to approach a local restaurant (**Me & Ed's, That Place Pasta, Finnati Pizzeria** to name a few) and set up a night for parents to place an order and the business gives 15 - 20% of sales back to the PAC. This is a great opportunity for our parent community to help and support a local business and build a great community relationship. There are other ideas like **First Aid Kits, Home Safety Equipment, Arts** just to name a few. One thing to remember when planning a fundraiser is to let the community know the reason for raising funds. Whether it's going towards Technology, Sports Equipment, Arts, etc, parents always like to know. If your school has an idea that is not listed or would like more information please reach out to me at member2@dpac43.ca

Corrie Noble

Member at Large

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Bike to School Week

Registration for HUB Cycling's annual [Bike to School Week](#) is now open!

Bike to School Week is an annual celebration where students of all ages are encouraged to bike, roll, or walk to school. The event includes the third annual [Bike Reels](#) student video contest, where students are encouraged to film a 60-90 second film. It is taking place from **May 31st to June 4th, 2021**. Over 120 schools take part in a typical year across Metro Vancouver, with over 11,000 riders, 33,000 bike trips, and 16,000 other active travel trips. We receive 20+ creative, thoughtful Bike Reels submissions.

Why do schools register?

- We provide the tools for the schools to run the event.
- Our [Bike to School Week Guide](#) provides lesson plans for schools, activity ideas, and strategies for inclusion.
- Access to our third annual [Bike Reels student video contest](#).
- Incentives for schools such as prizes for top number of trips and top number of riders.
- Increased active travel to and from school is associated with positive environmental, social, and safety benefits for students of all ages. Find out more information on our [website](#).



The banner features the text "BIKE to school WEEK" in large, bold letters. "BIKE" is purple, "to" is small and blue, "school" is pink, and "WEEK" is blue. Below this, it says "MAY 31 ▶ JUNE 4" in purple. On the left, there is a white bicycle icon on a pink background with a dotted border. On the right, there is a pink circular icon with a white school bag and the text "REGISTER NOW!" in purple. The background is light blue.

Next DPAC Meeting is our Annual General Meeting

May 26th, 2021

*"A person who won't read
has no advantage over one who can't read"*
— **Mark Twain**



Make your child's Future Bright

with up to **\$3,200** in
FREE education funding

Future Bright is a free program from EFry Vancouver that helps you claim the \$2,000 Canada Learning Bond and \$1,200 BC Training and Education Savings Grant for your child's education after high school.



Who Qualifies?

Canada Learning Bond

Your child must:

- Be up to age 15.
- Live in Canada.
- Have a family after-tax income of \$48,535 or less, for up to 3 children (the cap is higher for larger families).

BC Training and Education Savings Grant

Your child must:

- Be 6–8 years old.
- Live in BC.

How We Help

Both grants are deposited into your child's Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP). At no cost to you, Future Bright will help you:

- Get any needed ID, such as a birth certificate or Social Insurance Number.
- Open a no-cost RESP for your child. No contribution needed.
- Apply for the grants.

Claim Your Child's Grants Now!

- Visit myfuturebright.ca for more info and step by step video tutorials or
- Contact EFry's Future Bright team for personalized support:

Phone:

604-520-1166 in the Lower Mainland

Toll-Free:

1-888-879-9593

Email:

futurebright@elizabethfry.com