



**School District 19**  
(Revelstoke)

## District Parent Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

12:00 p.m.

School Board Office

Upstairs Meeting Room

Britt Hunchak (RSS)  
Erica Fairley (RSS)  
Sheena Wells (CPE)  
Colette Poirier (CPE)  
Amy McGiven (AHE)  
Courtney Beruschi (AHE)  
Austin Luciow (BVE)  
Stacey Lamont (BVE)  
Sasha-Emily Walsh, Trustee  
Roberta Kubik, Superintendent  
Angela Korsa (CSF)  
Mireille Dufour (CSF)

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### A G E N D A

1. Call to order and recognition of traditional territories.

*We would like to respectfully honour the four nations on whose land we live and learn: The Sinixt, the Secwepemc, the Ktunxa, and the Syilx Okanagan.*

2. Attendance

3. Agenda Additions

4. A review of the minutes of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

5. Correspondence

6. Treasurer's Report

- Funds in Regular Account \_\_\_\_\_
- Funds in Gaming Account \_\_\_\_\_

7. Board of Trustees / District Administration News

- 7.1 Communications Board at Columbia Park Elementary School
- 7.2 Website Refresh Feedback
- 7.3 Strategic Plan Feedback

8. Old Business

9. New Business

10. PAC News

Agenda sent on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## 11. Adjournment

**Next meeting dates:** All meetings will be held at the school board office upstairs meeting room at noon

- February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024
- June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024



**School District 19**  
(Revelstoke)

## Revelstoke Board of Education

### District Parent Advisory Council Meeting November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

#### Minutes

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1. **Call to Order and Acknowledgement**

Call to order 12 pm

*We would like to respectfully honour the four nations on whose land we live and learn: The Sinixt, the Secwepemc, the Ktunxa, and the Syilx Okanagan.*

2. **Attendance**

Britt Hunchak (RSS), Erica Fairley (RSS), Sheena Wells (CPE), Colette Poirier (CPE), Stacey Lamont (BVE), Austin Luciw (BVE), Amy McGiven (AHE), Courtney Beruschi, Sasha-Emily Walsh (School Board Trustee), Roberta Kubik (Superintendent), Mireille Dufour (CSF) and Angela Korska (CSF)

Regrets: None

3. **Agenda Additions**

- None

4. **Review of Minutes of Last Meeting – October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

- Accepted as presented – no errors or omissions

5. **Annual Reports from Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer for 2022-2023**

- Report from Chair – Attached
- Report from Vice Chair – Attached
- Report from Secretary – None provided as the previous Secretary stepped down.
- Treasurer's Report
  - The gaming grant application was submitted and was approved.
  - The report on last year's gaming grant has been submitted.
  - DPAC supported the Women's Shelter educational programs.
  - DPAC donating \$150 to each school for sports equipment.
  - DPAC provided funding to ArtStarts and the Revelstoke Museum and Archives.
  - The gaming grant application for 2023-2024 has been submitted.
  - The BCCPAC membership fees have been paid

6. **Elections (Elections were held and the following positions were filled)**

- Chair – Britt Huchak (by acclamation)
- Vice Chair – Stacey Lamont (by acclamation)
- Secretary – Austin Luciw (by acclamation)
- Treasurer – Amy McGiven (by acclamation)

7. **Signing of Code of Ethics by DPAC members**
- Each member signed a Code of Ethics form for the 2023-2024 school year.
8. **Correspondence**
- None
9. **Treasurer's Report**
- Funds in the Regular Account total \$2,036.62
  - Funds in the Gaming Account total \$2,693.18 (\$2,500 grant came in)
10. **Board of Trustees/District Administration News**  
**Framework for Enhanced Student Learning Pathway**
- Superintendent Kubik organized small group activities for DPAC to highlight top priorities in the Strategic Plan.
11. **Old Business**  
**Request for \$700 for Nordic equipment (was moved from October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting)**
- Motion: Stacey Lamont/Sheena Wells*  
*DPAC to contribute \$700 for Nordic ski equipment.*
- CARRIED
12. **New Business**
- Grade 3 Soccer at Begbie View Elementary School on Fridays
    - Looking for parent coaches and hoping to have the program at the other two elementary schools
  - Hot Lunch
    - Squash Mac & Cheese (no butter noodles)
    - A lunch for RSS is being discussed
  - Communication
    - Ecole des Glacier noted that there needs to be better communication between the Principals of Ecole des Glacier and Arrow Heights Elementary School to ensure that activities can be organized so both schools can attend.
    - The Women's Shelter is organizing with Columbia Park Elementary School and Revelstoke Secondary School to get programs going.
13. **PAC News**
- AHE**
- See attached
- BVE**
- An update was not provided.
- CPE**
- Scholastic book fair was held.
  - A calendar and Purdy's fundraiser will be held.
  - A family photo fundraiser is being discussed.
  - There will be a pizza lunch.
  - Foundation Skills Assessments for grade 4 and 7 students are being done.
  - As of yet there is no yearbook coordinator.
  - Neighbourhood kitchen lunches are every third Tuesday.

RSS

- See attached

EDG

- Outdoor tents for learning outdoors.
- A Christmas Potluck for the Community will be held.
- A gift card fundraiser will be held.
- Hot lunches are taking place twice a month.
- New Jerseys have been purchased, same style but a different colour.

14. Adjourned: 1:06 pm

**Next meeting dates:**

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- December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024
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## **2023 DPAC Annual Chair Report SD19 – Britt Hunchak**

We had another great year at DPAC. It is always a pleasure working with a great group of people. This year, we were able to invite 2 representatives, Caroline Quirion and Mirielle Dufour, from École des Glaciers to join us as non-voting members. It has been an awesome opportunity to be more informed and connected within our school communities. Hearing updates on each school is always a highlight in our meetings. It was also our first full year with our District Superintendent, Roberta Kubik. We have appreciated her many updates on District Administration and School Board Trustee news. The district started the website refresh for our district and schools. DPAC was kept updated on the process and was asked for feedback. We also had School Board Trustee, Sasha Walsh, join our meetings. She was another great addition to our team. The Province introduced the Student and Family Affordability Fund to provide support to the most vulnerable students and their families. This funding was given directly to the school district to help them expand school meal programs, make sure students had the school supplies they needed and covered any additional fees so that students in need could take part in activities. In November, we were able to send one of our members, Austin Luciow, to the BCCPAC DPAC Summit in Richmond. Austin brought back lots of information (and cool samples) to share with us. The DPAC voted to give gaming funds to the Revelstoke Museum, ArtStarts, Women's Shelter Initiative and to each school for equipment. In conclusion, I would like to say a big thank you to the entire DPAC team for making last year both productive and fun.

## 2023 DPAC Annual Vice-Chair Report SD19 - Stacey Lamont

In addition to Britt's beautiful summary, I would like to add that I personally really enjoyed having école des Glaciers at the table with us. It feels much more like a community team supporting all Revelstoke students when all schools are present, even those not in our district.

I'm honoured to be represented SD19 at this month's BCCPAC DPAC Summit. I will do my best to represent our community.

I'm excited for the new school websites and continuing to be part of DPAC. Roberta and Britt have done a phenomenal job of ensure our meetings are informative, welcoming and enjoyable.

Arrow Heights Elementary

October 3, 2023

- Holding pie day for thanksgiving on Friday Oct 6<sup>th</sup> pies and whip cream donated by Save On Foods and served by PAC parents
- Hot lunch in November some time – date tbd – sushi is planned
- Book fair to be held the same days as early dismissal days (goal setting conferences). Holding some contests to win gift certificates to book fair to get kids excited about it. PAC supported five \$10 gift certificates
- New facebook and Instagram coordinator
- New fundraising ideas – the art cards for holiday cards. Will chat with teachers and see if it possible.
- Gaming grant was approved, still waiting on the money
- Tetherballs were installed on the property
- New slides were installed
- New bike racks
- Photos were much nicer this year
- Gr.7 holding annual haunted house to raise money for Sunnybrae Trip Oct 27th



## RSS PAC October Update

1. AGM – All voted in by acclimation
  - Chair: Melonie Jensen
  - Vice-Chair: Shelley Bird
  - Co-Secretaries: Gina Goldie and Louise Pedersen
  - Treasurer: Vanessa Morrow
  - District PAC reps:
    - Britt Hunchak
    - Erica Fairley
2. Wendy Rota (School Board Trustee) — meeting on Nov 14th. @ 3:30 Board office. re screen smart.
  - Screen Smart – need more people to help, hoping to have something in place by March
  - International Students – host families needed (respite, 3month, 6months)
  - Ono Cho Exchange – 5-6 day hosting arrangement
3. Orange Shirt Day was September 29<sup>th</sup> the school supported the memory of the residential schools as well as the search for truth and reconciliation and recognized this day. A wonderful art project, the Reconciliation Tree, was completed and was displayed in the Common Area. Students were encouraged to fill out their wish for reconciliation.
4. Early dismissal days were October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Student Learning Conferences were held on the afternoon and during the evening of the 18<sup>th</sup>. Increased participation by parents.
5. RSS sports teams have been practicing and competing this fall. X-Country team is going to Provincials, and the Swim Team is sending several athletes to Provincials. Volleyball is entering its competitive season over the next few weeks. Soccer did not qualify.
6. Barry Rourke continued to run the famous RSS Last Spike Volleyball tournaments. In fact, this was his 28<sup>th</sup> and last year. They are known province-wide for their fun aspects.
7. Cell Phone Update
  - Going forward phones will be used solely for educational purposes and the possibility of using phone hotels to hold student phones during classes is being reviewed
  - More laptops are being purchased but the cost of replacement as well as cost and time for maintaining these devices limits the overall numbers
8. Funding Requests
  - Travel subsidies of \$750 have been approved to each of the swimming team and the x-country running team who are both traveling to provincial meets.

# Playground Communication Board at CPE



## Playgrounds

Playgrounds are important for children's physical and mental health. They let kids explore their surroundings, run around, blow off steam, and practice social and play skills. For children who have difficulty communicating and engaging with others, or are non-verbal, practicing these skills can be challenging if communication tools are not readily available. One way to make sure playgrounds are inclusive to all children is by using a designated playground communication board.



## Introduction

On playgrounds, communities around the country are helping to grow a culture of inclusivity. Communication boards display symbols and words for selection by users with speech disabilities (and others) to convey needs, feelings, wants, and ideas. These outdoor symbol-based boards support equity, raise awareness, and make it easier for people of all abilities to interact with one another.



## Columbia Park Elementary School

At Columbia Park Elementary School in Revelstoke, Learning Support Teacher, Victoria Strange, and Speech Language Pathologist, Monica Parmer, spearheaded the school's first outdoor communication board. The idea was born from a previous school-wide project delivered by Victoria and Monica which focused on AAC (Alternative Augmentative Communication) and culminated with the creation of student-made communication boards for all areas and classrooms within the school.



# The Process

- 01 Designing the communication board
- 02 Decide which core and fringe words to include
- 03 Create associated images.
- 04 The images needed to communicate the intended messages without the help of the printed words below them.

# The Process

- 05 Habitat Systems provided a mock-up of our board
- 06 We had students do some test conversations. The images needed to communicate the intended messages without the help of the printed words below them.
- 07 The placement and colour coding of the vocabulary was then considered.
- 08 After several more revisions, we were finally ready to sign off on the draft.

# The Process

- 09 The design of our playground communication board was completed. It was manufactured, delivered, and installed at CPE.
- 10 This project was generously supported by the Variety Schools Grant Program, CPE's PAC, and District School Board #19.



# Communication Board Benefits Include:

Communication, awareness, socialization, inclusion, learning, and social-emotional growth.

## Communication:

Children who don't speak verbal have the same rights to be included in activities as verbal children. We must provide equal access and opportunities, including communication access and communication opportunities.



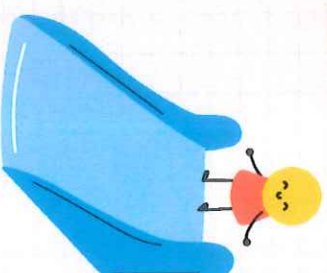
## Inclusion:

Children can strengthen their friendships and develop stronger bonds. Having the ability to communicate helps children feel more connected to the people around them. These boards augment a child's ability to be part of playground activities.



## Public Awareness:

These boards promote speech-language and special education services and raise awareness by bringing accommodation to the forefront. They can help all kids and adults understand that children with disabilities can play just like us.



## Socialization:

Socialization is an important aspect of child development. Providing a communication board takes away one of the barriers for interaction. It also provides a structured approach to communication for other children who may need it.



## Reduced Stress:

Meeting kids where they are at without putting unrealistic expectations on them to communicate verbally in order to have their needs met helps them feel comfortable asking questions or sharing what they want to do next.



## Learning:

Boards are not just for non-verbal children. A multitude of skills can be learned, such as practicing reading skills, building picture/object relationships, and learning acceptance. Communication boards promote language and development of all children.



Thank you  
very much!



## **DPAC Review of Strategic Plan**

### **Goal 1 We believe that engaged learners will achieve successes that reflect their passions and interests in safe, equitable learning environments**

- Low enrolled course at RSS, off timetable courses – good, effective
- Elder visits – ties into lower goal
- Support enhance Indigenous programs and services – this ties into community and global importance
- Liaise with and, when possible, partner with post secondary education institutions for advanced and transfer credits – intermediate & high school importance
- Support the use of technology with educational relevance – sustainable
- Enhanced counselling time at secondary level – now have 2 FTE
- Links into social websites for students and parents – need improvement, ties into social – community interactions

### **Goal 2 We optimize the sustainability of our school system**

- Maintain and improve technological capabilities that support student learning and access to quality instructional tools – up to date learning tools in tech

### **Goal 3 We believe in communication strategies that foster school and community engagement**

- Board of education will – include EDG in planning, not just being told what is happening
- Maintain an annual plan for communication including liaison with, and presentations to, community groups, our MLA, City Council and EDG
- Engage with appropriate stakeholders and EDG through committee membership and support
- Create a plan for effective communication with EDG
- Encourage parent and volunteer engagement in schools – we would like to see more opportunities to volunteer and engage at the high school level, parents want to be involved

### **Goal 4 We acknowledge the responsibility of our school community to learn the truth about, and honour, indigenous cultures, languages, and histories, and our responsibility to work through the Reconciliation process**

- Ensure that all members our school community understand the role they play in Reconciliation
- Support our strong local advocates and allies for Indigenous learners – best worded and supported by outside SD 19 organizations
- Increase awareness and knowledge in our school community of Indigenous cultures, languages, and histories to further enhance the success of all students