

Moscrop PAC General Meeting – April 18, 2016

1. Welcome and Introductions - Nicole Geyer (PAC Co-Chair)

- Meeting started at 7:00 pm.
- All executive members were in attendance (excluding Herman Louie). Nicole welcomed all parents that were in attendance.

2. Principal's Report – Victoria Lee

- See attached Principal's report
- School enrollment will be approximately 1200 instead of 1400
- The school sign is in production and will be installed before the end of the school year
- SUCCESS is in the 2nd year. Free tutoring after school. Moscrop teacher are the tutors.
- In replacement of the school planning council, schools are now asked by Ministry of Education to focus on two goals. Moscrop has two goals. The second goal is about mentoring struggling students. Victoria Lee has mentored 2 students previously.
- Mosclub is a much active participation because it is a one on one program.

3. DPAC Report – Bettina Charpentier

- See attached

4. Treasurer's Report – Vera Dermanschi

The following activities took place since our last meeting in February:

- 1. Request was received from a former Moscrop student regarding a scholarship cheque that was not cashed. Records for the appropriate fiscal year were checked, and a copy of a cashed cheque was provided to the former student. Matter is considered to be closed.
- 2. In March 2016 funds in the amount of \$2,923 were deposited to the Moscrop Gaming Account by BCLC. The funds represent Moscrop's share of distribution of unallocated 2015/16 grant funds.
- 3. Memo #2016 - 01 was adjusted to \$1,381.64, Music Council purchases that are not part of PAC budget were removed.
- 4. Memo #2016 - 02 in the amount of \$3,635.56 and #2016 -03 in the amount \$3,773.63 of were received from Moscrop.

5. PAC Executive vacancies

- We have openings for one DPAC rep, one co-chair, and one member at large positions.

6. Scholarship Update – Nicole Geyer

Deadline was last week – Apr 15, 2016

- Environment awards – 2 x \$500
- Moscropian awards – 2 x \$500
- Resiliency awards – 2 x \$500 (overcome major obstacles and successful in graduating)

7. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Next Executive Meeting – May 16th at 6 pm

Next General Meeting – May 16th at 7 pm

DPAC Report on February 29, 2016 and April 4, 2016 meetings

February 29, 2016

1. Vancouver Island Parent Conference

Organized as Parent Information Events (PIEs) over the course of one day. Speakers included:

Yong Zhao – “World Class Learners”

- Moving from a deficiency based (traditional) system to a strength based system.
- Deficiency based system looks at where students should be and whether they are meeting expectations.
- Strength based systems provide personalized learning and adjust the system to meet the needs of the students rather than vice versa
- To be successful students need: uniqueness; they have to be great; creativity is critical; and entrepreneurial skills.

Shelly Moore – “Inclusive Education

- All students attend and are supported; harness the strength of students.
- To be successful students need purpose within their community: personal purpose (physical community); social purpose (social emotional community) and intellectual purpose (learning community).

2. Amended 2015 – 2016 Burnaby School District Budget

Projected shortfall of \$2.7 million compared to budgeted shortfall of \$4.3 million. Primary difference in the reduced shortfall is the increase in international students (188 more than anticipated) resulting in additional net revenue of \$1.5 million. Shortfall will be covered with Burnaby’s surplus carry forward. Expect a deficit budget for 2016 – 2017 that will have to be covered by budget cuts/surpluses.

3. MyEdBC Parent Portal

MyEdBC includes a parent portal that will provide parents with attendance information via mobile app. Teachers may also choose to post marks and assignment information, etc. Once the portal is ready it will be gradually rolled out and involve an initial training piece for teacher and parent users. Functionality expected to be increased over time.

4. LGTBQ committee update

- There will be a third Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) breakfast on International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia in May. GSAs are school based clubs for students at Burnaby High schools.
- The committee has struck a subcommittee to consider inclusive washrooms. In the US there have been court cases where school districts have been mandated to provide inclusive washrooms for students.
- Some school districts in BC have successfully implemented gender neutral washrooms. The focus of the parents on the subcommittee is to ensure that the washrooms, however implemented, are safe for students. Single stall washrooms that lock from the inside are being considered. A draft

recommendation will be made to the School District. At this point, a final decision has not been made.

5. Youth and Community Services

- The School District's Code of Conduct has undergone edits and has been circulated to schools.

6. BCCPAC Spring Conference & AGM

- Jen Mezei (Burnaby DPAC Chair) is running for election as 2nd Vice President and Director.

April 4, 2016

1. Budget presentation – Greg Frank

<http://www.sd41.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Public-Budget-Presentation-April-6-2016.pdf>

- The province has committed a funding lift relative to current funding to cover the salary commitments in staff union collective agreements. The 2016-2017 student base allocation will be \$7,218 (for FTE regular, continuing education and alternate school students). The provincial operating grant also provides school districts with funds to supplement: teacher salary differentials between districts; unique student needs (such ELL, aboriginal education, and special education); vulnerable students; unique geographic factors (e.g. climate considerations or isolated areas BC where costs will be higher for services or resources); summer learning programs; the BC Education Plan; and enrolment decline and funding protection.
- Burnaby is seeing some enrolment growth, particularly at the elementary level. Across the District, Burnaby is up by 111 elementary-aged students, and the District is in its second consecutive year of growth. At the secondary level there has been some decline. There has also been some decline in Special Education Levels 1 (most need) and 3 (least need) students, but there is anticipated growth in Level 2 students next year and beyond. That growth will drive a fairly large increase in needs and resources for Special Education students. See projected enrolment details attached.
- The District is anticipating a further increase in International Education program fees and enrolment, totaling an additional \$2M. Part of the increased revenue will be due to some additional program enrolments, but is largely the result of increased program fees. 57% of the program fees cover the cost of running the program, marketing and recruitment, and providing direct instruction, etc. The other 43% of the revenue supports the entire school district. The Burnaby schools receive \$400 for each international student enrolled in their school to cover the fees or expenses that regular students pay (e.g. field trips, supplies).
- The budget includes a 13% reduction for the Teachers' Pension Plan (TPP) as it is now fully funded. This equates to a savings of \$2.3M in the 2016-2017 budget.
- There is no provincial funding from the Ministry for exempt staff salary increases. Increases have to be funded locally by the District. This year, principals and vice principals received two increases, which equated to a 3% increase for the year.
- As with the 2015-2016 operating budget, the Ministry has mandated that school districts find administrative savings to offset the \$62M in labour settlement funding. Provincially, school districts must recover \$54M in administrative savings; Burnaby's share is \$2.2M. In the current school year Burnaby was able to find administrative savings of \$1.2M. An additional \$1M needs to be found in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Ministry.

- The Next Generation Network (NGN) has a provincial annual service cost of \$24M; Burnaby's share is \$1.1M. The District has upgraded much of internal network to facilitate the NGN, but the wireless infrastructure still requires some work, which has been factored into next year's budget. Once complete, this will allow the District to better manage the redesigned curriculum and "Bring Your Own Device" (BYOD) capability for students.
- Next year school districts in BC will also be required to pay a new service fee to the BC Public School Employers' Association to cover the cost of legal services. Burnaby's annual fee will be \$107,000.
- Burnaby's projected deficit is \$3.5M for the 2016-2017 school year. Burnaby anticipates applying surplus funds carried forward to offset this deficit. This will leave an anticipated balance of \$2.9M in the reserve surplus for future operating budgets. No new budget reductions are anticipated in next year's budget. See excerpts from District budget attached.
- The School District relies heavily on revenues from international education program fees. The District will need to reserve funds to soften any impact if international enrolment drops. There is a concern regarding the current international market, particularly in China. With secondary enrolment flattening (rather than declining in previous years) there are also capacity concerns: the School District cannot displace local students for international students, which may result in reduced revenue potential. Nonetheless, Burnaby is looking to help support its international education program with the addition of a 1.0 FTE (exempt) program coordinator who will look after program marketing and administration. That position will provide the level of support required by the program and allow for further growth.

2. DPAC Budget Priorities

While the 2016-2017 budget does not rely on any budget reductions, in the last five years, there have been a number of cumulative cuts totalling about \$10 million:

2015-2016 School Year - \$2.23M in budget reductions
 2014-2015 School Year - \$2.853M in budget reductions
 2013-2014 School Year - \$1.813M in budget reductions
 2012-2013 School Year - \$977,000 in budget reductions
 2011-2012 School Year - \$2.246M in budget reductions

Parents have raised concerns regarding the level of special needs and learning support services available to students and cuts to custodial services. PACs are also concerned about the amount of money they have contributed to technology and equipment acquisitions and that it appears that schools continue to look to PACs and parents to supplement funding for their resource needs.

A motion was moved, duly seconded and carried that Burnaby DPAC issue a media release regarding the negative impact of operating budget cuts in Burnaby over last five years. See copy of media release attached.

3. BCCPAC Resolutions

BCCPAC Conference & AGM is taking place from April 30 to May 1 and PACs are encouraged to review the resolutions and have their proxies submitted (in the event they're sending a delegate or if they will be assigning their proxy to the DPAC Executive members attending).

Jen Mezei reviewed some of the resolutions that align with Burnaby DPAC priorities.

Resolution 2016.10 Proper Funding for Quality Public Education

This resolution speaks to a resolution that was debated at the 2015 BCCPAC AGM, and calls for it to be further pursued and reaffirmed. Specifically, Resolution 2016.10 directs BCCPAC to insist that the Government increase the grants to BC school districts to carry out the five recommendations for K-12 Public Education in BC drafted by the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services in 2014:

- Provide stable, predictable, and adequate funding to enable school districts to fulfill their responsibility to provide continued equitable access to quality education, and to meet required repair and maintenance needs.
- Provide adequate capital funding to school districts for facility improvements, seismic upgrades, and additional schools in rapidly growing communities.
- Provide support for proposed new K-12 initiatives such as personalized learning and enhanced trades and technology training.
- Provide resources to identify and address the growing number of students with special needs and those with minimal English language skills.
- Restore the separate library line item in the Ministry of Education budget for public libraries, and to commit to stable, ongoing funding.

Because Resolution 2016.10 mirrors many of the discussions Burnaby DPAC has had over the last couple years and aligns with our position for increased funding for quality public education, perhaps this is a resolution Burnaby DPAC can officially endorse. A motion was moved, duly seconded and unanimously carried that Burnaby DPAC officially endorse BCCPAC Resolution 2016.10.

Resolution 2016.9 Economic Stability Mandate - calls for BCCPAC to advocate for wage increases to be fully funded in addition to current operating funds.

Resolution 2016.7 Resources for Teachers - calls for adequate operating funds for teachers to access requisite resources and tools to teach the BC Education Plan and report student outcomes to parents. In its rationale, the resolution acknowledges that PACs have used their funds to supplement teacher resources through the purchase of technology equipment. It becomes a matter of equity when some PACs are able to provide funds for needed resources and others are not.

BCCPAC has not addressed privacy concerns for student records on MyEdBC. The Burnaby DPAC Executive are recommending a resolution to call on BCCPAC to strike a committee tasked with drafting minimum privacy standards for the student and personal data captured on MyEdBC. A motion was moved, duly seconded and carried that Burnaby DPAC write a resolution for the 2016 BCCPAC AGM calling on BCCPAC to appoint a committee to look at privacy concerns from a provincial perspective and draft minimum privacy standards for the BC Ministry of Education and BC School Boards regarding student and family data

Resolution 2016.1 – adds a definition of “Official Delegate” to the BCCPAC Bylaws.

While it makes sense to limit delegate status to “a Parent in a school district who is duly authorized by a Regular Member”, it may not be necessary to require that the Parent be from the same School District as the Regular Member. Small school districts or school districts in isolated geographic areas in the provincial may not have the ability to send any delegates to the AGM and would thereby have their voting rights unintentionally suppressed.

PACs should consider that when signing over their proxies and preparing voting instructions that the PAC can list “it depends” rather than a straight forward “yes” or “no” vote. Moreover, PACs can ask that the individual holding their proxy ask specific questions on the resolutions.

BCCPAC Travel Subsidies - the Burnaby School District is eligible for three BCCPAC travel subsidies based on its current BCCPAC memberships. One subsidy will be reserved for the DPAC representative attending who will be holding the proxies for other Burnaby member PACs not attending. The other two travel subsidies will be divided evenly among all Burnaby BCCPAC member PACs sending a delegate to the AGM. The subsidies do not cover meals, hotel accommodations or any lost wages incurred to attend the AGM; the travel subsidy is specific to transportation costs to get to the AGM.