



## **\VANCOUVER DPAC • EXECUTIVE MEETING • MINUTES**

March 12, 2020 • 7-9:30pm  
Britannia Secondary • Staffroom

### **EXECUTIVE**

Chair:	Shaun Kalley	At-Large:	Alan Patola Moosmann	Sandra Bell
Vice-Chair:	Amanda Hillis		Karen Tsang	Skye Richards
Treasurer:	Peter Couch (regrets)		Paula Temrick	Vik Khanna
Secretary:	Gord Lau			

### **GUESTS**

Carmen Cho, Trustee Liaison

### **ATTENDEES**

Jen Brummit (Tyee), Alison Morris (Seymour), Celena Benndorf (LEB), Iona Munk (Brittania), Karen (Brittania), Denise Lee (Tillicum)

Call to order 7:07PM

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### **AGENDA**

#### **1. Standing Items**

- 1.1. Welcome and Acknowledgement
- 1.2. Introductions
- 1.3. Approve Agenda (moved by Amanda, seconded by Gord -- unanimous)
- 1.4. Approve Minutes (moved by Amanda, seconded by Vik -- unanimous)
  - 1.4.1. February 13, 2020 ([link](#)) (add Denise to attendees)
- 1.5. Britannia Secondary
  - Britannia PAC welcomes DPAC
  - Comments on the community
  - Comments on enrolment challenges
    - possibly due to social stigma, concerns regarding closure (LRFP related)
    - IB program draws students to the school but currently has staffing challenges.
    - Feeder program (Venture) may have some challenges, did not receive many kids apply for the mini school
    - No update regarding Britannia community centre and community master plan. The Britannia site is unique because it involves the

school board, city, library all in one. The plan is phased in some way because the VSB funding comes from the MoE (vs the other partners)

## 1.6. District Update (Carmen)

### 1.6.1. COVID

- In constant communication with VCH
- All sites will be deep cleaned over the break, dispensers, taps, hand dryers checked.
- Unable to source hand sanitizer, will keep looking
- What is the flow of communication re: maintenance issues -- to trustees or DI
  - Question re: maintenance at schools, think in general we should do better -- what is the process?? Ideally through trustees or local admin
- Comment - there is a recipe for hand sanitizer
- Comment - there are vulnerable students that would be impacted by a prolonged closure

### 1.6.2. Engagement survey - Facilities

- Phase 2 will be in person sessions
- Trustees lead the engagement not staff (re: topics they needed to hear about, LRFP and beyond)
- Language level target of survey was Grade 6

### 1.6.3. Budget

- Budget work underway, CoW had six delegations, another CoW meeting coming

### 1.6.4. Advocacy committee - DPAC represented by Amanda

- Objectives for this committee being developed
- Three trustees on the committee
- Question - re: ToR for representation on the committee. Previous committee all trustees were invited.

## 1.7. Officer Reports

### 1.7.1. Chair Report (Shaun)

- Relationship building meeting with Suzanne and Carmen
- Attended a Second PAC meeting
- Supporting school through internal issue
- Conversations around facilities and LRFP (Olympic Village)

### 1.7.2. Treasurer Report (Peter) (regrets)

## 1.8. Other Reports ([link to reports](#))

### 1.8.1. VSB Standing Committees

1.8.1.1. Finance (February 19 | Peter | [agenda](#))

1.8.1.2. Finance (March 4 | Peter | [agenda](#))

1.8.1.3. Facilities & Planning (March 4 | Amanda | [agenda](#))

- 1.8.1.3.1. Chair encourages DPAC members to challenge facts and achievements at committee
- 1.8.2. VSB Advisory Committees and Working Groups
  - 1.8.2.1. Diversity (January 28 | Celena Benndorf)
  - 1.8.2.2. SEAC (Dec 9, Kathryn)
  - 1.8.2.3. Emergency Committee Meeting (Feb 10 | Dawn Ursuliak, Nancy Cameron)
  - 1.8.2.4. School Renaming Working Group (March 4 | Karen)
  - 1.8.2.5. Preferred School Size (March 9 | Amanda & Skye)
  - 1.8.2.6. Advocacy Committee (March 10 | Amanda)
    - 1.8.2.6.1. Stakeholders Advocacy Campaign - DPAC (Add as action item for next agenda)
- 1.8.3. DPAC Committee
  - 1.8.3.1. Facilities Committee (February 18 | Vik)
  - 1.8.3.2. Food Framework Committee (not yet established, shadows the VSB committee ) --- Add as action item for next agenda.

## **2. Old Business**

- 2.1. February General Meeting – review (5 min)
  - ACTION ITEM --- Provide Paula video file for review
- 2.2. Long Range Facilities Plan
  - DPAC positions (DEFERRED, discuss at DPAC facilities committee, next meeting Apr 9th)
- 2.3. Topic for April General Meeting
  - LRFP topic - Visioning work DPAC (MOTION needed for \$\$ at April exec meeting)
- 2.4. Succession planning

## **3. New Business**

- 3.1. BCCPAC:
  - 3.1.1. Budget motion for registration \$1550 to send people to BCCPAC (moved by Karen, seconded by Skye) - unanimous
  - 3.1.2. Proxies -- we will hold proxies at their request
- 3.2. Facilities Survey

## **4. AoB?**

## **5. Announcements**

- 5.1. Friday, Mar 13 – last day of classes before Spring Break
- 5.2. Monday, Mar 30 – school back in session
- 5.3. Monday, Mar 30, 7pm – [Committee of the Whole/Special Board Meeting](#) (draft Budget 2020-21 presented)
- 5.4. Thursday, Apr 2, 7pm – [DPAC Executive Meeting](#)
- 5.5. Monday, Apr 6, 6:30pm – [DPAC Special Meeting: VSB Budget 2020/21](#)

5.6. Thursday, Apr 23, 7pm – [DPAC General Meeting: LRF](#)



## VSB Committee Report Summaries for March 12, 2020 Executive Meeting

### **VSB STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Finance (February 19 | Peter | [agenda](#))

1. Financial Update – December 2019 Year-to-Date Shehzad Somji, Assistant Secretary Treasurer
  - a. While there are 3 different funds (Operating, Capital and Special purpose) for the financial activities incurred by the VSB, this financial report focuses on the Operating Fund
  - b. This fund contains grants from MoE and other sources and includes expenses “related to the provisional of education”.
  - c. District was in a surplus position \$0.4 million, \$3.3 million lower than 2018 as a result of an increase of \$10.8 million in expenses and \$0.2 million in capital purchases and leases.
  - d. VSB has received 41.2% of the budgeted annual revenue ending Dec 31
  - e. Expenses are detailed in the agenda items package
2. Budget 2020/2021 (Information to be provided at the meeting) J. David Green, Secretary Treasurer
  - a. See agenda for responses to questions raised at the first Committee of the Whole
3. 2019/2020 Amended Annual Budget Shehzad Somji, Assistant Secretary Treasurer
  - a. Amended budget includes enrollment changes, the recalculated Operating Grant and other changes known or projected.
  - b. \$2,389,671 appropriated from previous year’s surplus to balance the Amended budget. Analysis included in package.
  - c. Generally speaking funding has increased to from usual revenue centers to balance the increase in expenses.
  - d. Recommendation for adoption of the Amended Annual Budget Bill passed in 3 readings: passed.

Finance (March 4 | Peter | [agenda](#))

1. Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Project Update Chris Allen, Director of Enterprise Risk and Privacy Compliance
  - a. This was an update and slide show on current status of the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Project.
  - b. Chris Allen went through the steps that is moving the VSB to ERM which shows addressing risk “as a continuous, enterprise wide activity that aggregates and integrates risk management activities across all types of risk to support the achievement of defined objectives and to improve an organization’s decision making capability.”
  - c. ERM is meant to not only identify hazards but also identify potential opportunities to “create value” during the process.
  - d. The ERM program for the VSB is to provide a comprehensive and consistent view of the significant risks faced, how to evaluate, mitigate and monitor over time.

- e. **Note:** suspect this processes is on hold as the next steps involve heavy participation by SMT.
- 2. Preparing for Asset Retirement Obligations J. David Green, Secretary Treasurer
  - a. Presentation on KPMG's report on VSB's readiness to adopt the new Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) reporting standards for Asset Retirement Obligations. Coded as PS3280
  - b. The methodology is about recognizing ongoing obligations into the future (buildings) and applying a discount rate to the future cashflows in successive budgets -exciting.
  - c. There was to be a meeting prior to Spring Break to develop a plan for implementation but no update has been made available.
- 3. February 19, 2020 Finance Committee Meeting Follow-up Information Shehzad Somji, Assistant Secretary Treasurer
  - a. This agenda item was answering questions brought up at the last meeting.
- 4. Budget 2020-2021 – Stakeholder Feedback and Further Discussion
  - a. SPECIAL NEEDS
    - i. Stakeholder Priorities: • DPAC (Vulnerable student support) • VEPVA/VASSA (Mental health support, SEA staffing) • CUPE 15 (Continue UIP, continue peer to peer intensive response position) • VESTA (TTOC replacement on 1st day, DRT support, increase non-enrolling staff) Stakeholders: DPAC, VEPVA/VASSA, CUPE 15, VESTA
    - ii. Trustee Comments: • More efficient support for our most vulnerable students – food, counselling, Sp Ed aids. • SSW's • UDL – staff to meet needs of our most vulnerable students.
  - b. FINE ARTS
    - i. Stakeholder Priorities: • DPAC (Equity for all students (ie. Elementary music programs offered district wide) Stakeholders: DPAC
    - ii. Trustee Comments: • Music • Music programs in Elementary • Elementary fine arts (Music, Choir)
  - c. INDIGENOUS RESOURCES
    - i. Stakeholder Priorities: • VSTA (Support for indigenous focused curriculum) Stakeholders: VSTA
    - ii. Trustee Comments: • Greater services/support for Indigenous Learners (particularly at the Elementary level)
  - d. TECHNOLOGY
    - i. Stakeholder Priorities: • VEPVA/VASSA (New and improved) • VSTA (New and improved) Stakeholders: VEPVA/VASSA, VSTA
    - ii. Trustee Comments: • Adequate hardware, software and IT infrastructure • Risk management (security)
  - e. SUSTAINABILITY
    - i. Stakeholder Priorities: • IUOE (No school closures, support food programs) • Trades (More efficient with vehicle fleet) Stakeholders: IUOE, Trades
    - ii. Trustee Comments: • Programs for sustainability • Climate emergency – especially educating students in Environmental Sustainability Plan • Food – infrastructure, universal food program
  - f. STAFF SUPPORT/RETENTION

- i. Stakeholder Priorities: • CUPE 407 (Mentoring, Pro-D and Wellness) • CUPE 15 (Filling vacancies, hire retirees, more clerical, continue Peer to Peer support, CPI Training every 3 years, continue Urgent Intervention Program response team) • IUOE (Filling vacancies) • VEPVA/VASSA (Increased admin time, department heads, athletic director blocks, more staffing) • VSTA (Career prep staffing, more mentor teachers, district level subject specialists) • VESTA ( Anti-racism teacher, DRT positions, release time to support CSL reporting, reduce adult ed class size to 24, increase non-enrolling staff, TTOC on first day of absence for non-enrolling) • PASA ( Succession planning , Pro-D)
- g. OTHERS
  - i. Stakeholder Priorities: • CUPE 15 (CPI Training) • CUPE 407 ( Mentoring and training) • IUOE (Increase supplies budgets, cafeteria equipment) • Trades (establish a fleet of vehicles) • VEPVA/VASSA (mental health support, curriculum support, communicating student learning support) • VSTA (Increase school flex budgets, improve building conditions, career prep materials) • VDSC (Continue washroom upgrades) Stakeholders CUPE 15, CUPE 407, IUOE, Trades, VEPVA/VASSA, VSTA Comments Equipment/Supplies (departments and schools)

Facilities & Planning (March 4 | Amanda | [agenda](#))

#### Delegations

Strong Schools, Strong Community Robin Prest

- Helping To Get Facilities Consultations Back On Track (Alt. Title: We Have To Stop Meeting Like This)
- The Ask
  - Reinstate moratorium on school closures
  - Withdraw survey to avoid contaminating process
  - Share data about capacity of schools (based on real use) and forecasted enrollment (based on development plans)
  - Talk about equity with every survey and radio interview
  - Avoid pitting downtown parents against east side parents
  - Facilitate open-ended, solutions-oriented discussion

#### Information Items

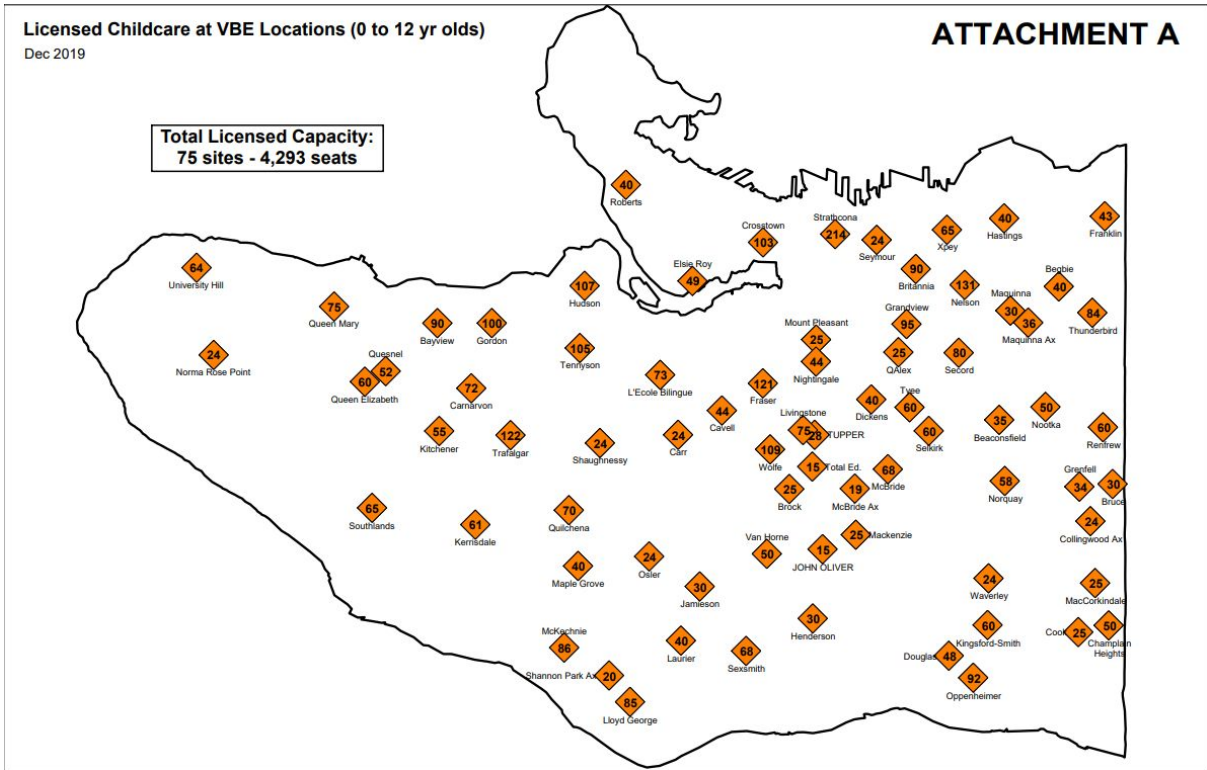
David Livingstone Elementary Seismic Upgrade – Public Information Session J. Meschino, Director of Facilities J. de Hoop, Manager of Planning

- On February 13, 2020, District Staff hosted a public information session at David Livingstone Elementary School. Information on the seismic upgrade, schedule, and a temporary accommodation plan were shown to the school community and surrounding neighbours.
- VSB website with links to display boards, fact sheet and survey: [https://www.vsb.bc.ca/District/Planning\\_and\\_Facilities/current-capital-projects/Pages/Livingstone-Elementary.aspx?rf=d95e9a54-8a58-456c-ad0e-52cc97b64419](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/District/Planning_and_Facilities/current-capital-projects/Pages/Livingstone-Elementary.aspx?rf=d95e9a54-8a58-456c-ad0e-52cc97b64419)
- Top questions were around accessibility and getting other capital upgrades done at the same time. Assuming the board approve, an elevator and other updates will be requested in the June 30 Capital Plan submission

Childcare Update L. Landry, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer T. Hamer-Hayley, Rentals & Leases Supervisor

- On February 26, 2020, the Provincial Government introduced new legislation, The Education Statutes Amendment Act, 2020 which articulates a board of education's mandate to provide before and after school care. The legislation clarifies that it is within a board's mandate to operate before and after school care directly, and authorizes the Minister of Education to make orders regarding policies on childcare.
- In keeping with Administrative Procedure 553, Appendix B, the VBE meets the provisions of the School Act and makes grounds and facilities available to licensed childcare providers as follows:
  - Registered non-profit groups;
  - Licensing and by-law requirements are met;
  - Space is not required for school-age educational programs;
  - The operation must not compromise building or grounds security;
  - Rental contracts are issued on an annual basis to adjust for enrollment needs which are determined on an annual basis;
  - Groups must obtain liability insurance in an amount established by VBE policy; and,
  - Cost recovery rates apply.
- The VBE has been a member of the Joint Council on Childcare (JCC) since 2004.
- Over the past decade, the VBE's childcare portfolio has more than doubled from 1,825 seats in 50 programs (2008) to 4,293 seats in 117 programs (2019). The childcare programs operating in VBE schools are primarily school-age and represent approximately 68% of group school-age childcare in the City of Vancouver
- the Province's Childcare BC New Spaces Fund has provided an opportunity to create additional spaces with funding from the Ministry of Children & Family Development (MCFD) to cover capital costs on approved projects.
- The inventory of remaining multipurpose rooms potentially available may not be in areas of demand (demographics) or meet licensing and City requirements.
- Areas of schools that are not compatible for licensing include gymnasias, and instructional areas of schools (such as libraries and learning commons), and other educational spaces as designated by the school.
- Annexes are not good candidate sites for childcare. School-age childcare programs cannot comply with the early close of annexes, requiring the Building Engineer to stay beyond the regular shift and incur overtime per the collective agreement.
- Question I raised ... what is the demand for OOC across the city. Staff will ask the Joint Childcare Council.





Long Range Facilities Plan Update – Preferred School Size Working Group (Verbal) J. Dawson,  
Director of Educational Planning

- All info the website (see working group update later in this document).

Discussion Items

Notice of Motion - Gas and Diesel Generators E. Gonzalez, Trustee L. Landry, Assistant  
Secretary-Treasurer

- On February 24, 2020, the following notice of motion was proposed at the public Board meeting: “That the VBE develop a strategy to transition the Vancouver School Board and its facility users away from the use of gas and diesel-powered generators. That the work would include:
  - A review of current practices regarding the use of generators in relation to VSB operations, contracted partners and anyone working within the VSB system, with a particular focus on sites used by the film industry;
  - That staff approach the City of Vancouver and Park Board who are in the process of reviewing this same strategy and to look at ways to work together and share data;
  - That the strategy be inclusive of potential exceptions necessary for safety and emergency concerns;
  - That staff develop a proposed timeline with relevant implementation and cost information on the transition, and
  - That staff explore the provision of electrical infrastructure as an alternative to gas and diesel-powered generators.”
- VBE currently has four diesel generators which are used for back-up power when no electrical grid power is available and a small number of portable gas generators used primarily for locations where electricity is not readily available, or for confined space work. Staff believe these uses will have to continue (and difficult to replace with a non gas/diesel/electrical models).

- In June 2019 the Park Board passed the motion “Gas and Diesel Generator Pollution Elimination Strategy”\* and in July 2019 the City of Vancouver passed the motion “Eliminating Generators: Greening Vancouver’s Film and Food Truck Industries”. The intent of the City motion is to reduce carbon emissions generated by the film industry through their use of diesel generators. As the VBE provides film site locations and staff have identified the use of diesel generators in the district, it would make sense for VBE to work with the City and the film industry on this goal as well as support the VBE’s own sustainability initiatives. There is the potential opportunity to partner with the film industry to identify possible cost sharing opportunities.
- For the levels of power that are needed for filming applications, specialized electrical distribution panels would be needed. Existing panels are sized for school use, and extra capacity would be required by code as a safety factor. An elementary school that normally runs with 600 to 800 amp service might not have the capacity to service the levels needed. There may not be the requisite supporting level of hydro service; it may require putting in additional service from BC Hydro. Capacity in excess of that needed for school use is not funded by capital programs. Additional operating costs would be incurred, including i) electricity consumption charges for the power provided; ii) peak usage fees, called “capacity charges”, that would be incurred on school hydro bills, when consumption passes a certain threshold and iii) building operations staff time if connection access is required within the building. A mechanism for cost recovery would need to be developed and maintained.

## **VSB ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

**Diversity** (Mar 11 report, consolidating Jan and Feb meetings | Celena Benndorf)

### 1. Committee Member Updates

- January 28, 2020:
  - Raman Gil (Diversity Anti-Racism Lead)
    - February 4<sup>th</sup> Anti-racism Youth Summit
    - How to Respond to Racism in School Poster is available. Work in progress.
  - Allan Wong (Trustee Rep)
    - Ask from an outside agency to have a rep sit on this committee. Jody Langlois referred to past agreement that only individuals who work directly and serve students in the district will be permitted to have a seat in the Diversity Committee. Special guest speakers are welcome to present at the committee.
    - Colonial Audit: the Committee’s feedback was presented and the Trustee responsible for the motion may bring part of the motion back to the Policy and Governance Committee.
- February 18, 2020:
  - Committee Member Updates were provided by the District Resource Diversity Teacher – SOGI, District Principal of ELL, Student Placement and Newcomer Services, Newcomer Welcome Centre, VSTA Representative, VESTA Representative, Indigenous Education Staff, VASSA Representative, and DPAC Representative.
  - Don Fiddler, Indigenous Education

- Don brought up the idea of a movement based on being the first person in your family/community/people to accomplish a particular achievement. For Indigenous people this is an important change of perspective, because not many models have yet been established in many fields.
- Black History Month and Youth Summit highlights provided by committee members with feedback regarding shape and content of the day discussed by all.
- Allan Wong (Trustee Rep)
  - Provided Colonial Audit Motion update: “By October 2020, that VSB staff arrange a conversation with Indigenous leaders in order to inform development of a District plan to conduct a colonial audit of Board policies and staff procedures. The intended outcome of the audit would be the identification and removal of barriers, within policies and procedures, to the full participation of members of Indigenous communities within the VSB. The findings of the colonial audit will inform further actions as part of the District commitment to reconciliation. “
  - Original Motion: “That the VBE directs staff to undertake a comprehensive Colonial Audit in order to identify both short term and long term opportunities and specific ways to improve VBE policies and practices with regard to Reconciliation and Anti-Racism, for an interim report back to the Board in May 2020 and a final report to the Board in May 2021.”

**SEAC** (December 9 | Kathryn Ransdell)

The SEAC met for its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the 2019-20 school year on Dec. 9. The majority of the meeting was reserved for the agenda item, “Moving Inclusion Forward: Feedback Activity.”

The District updates were minimal. The most significant update shared involved the continued training for the Low Arousal program with the focus being around staff and students, built around prevention, non-intrusive minimal way of responding to dangerous behaviour.

The representative of the Ministry of Children and Family Development circulated a 1-page handout, “Summary of Engagement and Research Findings.” Per the handout, the “Public Release of Service” Framework is tentatively scheduled for March 2020.

A one page confidential draft document was shared with the group. I have provided initial feedback and have shared with the executive to gather input for the next meeting.

Next meeting that is scheduled for Monday, April 6, 2020.

**Emergency Management Committee Meeting** (Feb 10 | Dawn Ursuliak)

1. Welcome introduction / New Business
  - a. Approval of last meetings minutes
  - b. For: agenda – lock down,
  - c. Pandemic / coronavirus
2. SERT TRAINING

- a. SERT TRAINING - had 2 sessions in fall - trained 35 in fall will do one more in spring – likely April -- Might do an Emergency First Aid focus / recertification (EFO)
- b. FIRST AID RECERTIFICATION
  - i. Offered 5 first aid recertification sessions before winter break
  - ii. Out of 375 SERTS – only 22 need First aid recertification
  - iii. Sessions for those 22 people – 2 before 1 big one and one after the big one
  - iv. Information will be sent directly to those who need recertification
- 3. BIG ONE @ 2:00 Drill -May 7, 2020
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> year principles have the option to hold reunification drill in October (Great Shake out) or BIG ONE drill
  - b. Scenarios will be sent out to school – they are optional
  - c. Most will give to SERT / FIRST AID
  - d. VSB to tweet out a message the day about the Big One
- 4. STUDENT REUNIFICATION – year 4 (each year they add on extra exercises/scenarios with goals to increase a little more)
  - a. Most are doing this on MAY 7 – BIG ONE @ 2:00
  - b. Continuing to work with secondary schools on how this will work best – best practice, normally do inside but would do outside for earthquake
  - c. There is training/toolbox for schools for principles
- 5. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS
  - a. New system will not be in place for May 7<sup>th</sup> drill
  - b. Everything in place to put a VSB exclusive channel (2 radio stations)
  - c. Install -- work has begun to get it up by end of May
  - d. Procurement of base radios in parallel to getting tower ready
  - e. Distribution based on need / access to tower lines..
- 6. OLD BUSINESS
  - a. Phone Tree
    - i. ask John Dawson’s team about electronic version of Phone tree, vs existing School Messenger (used to be called SINNER Voice) which is a school messenger email/voice mail
- 7. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. During Lock Down is there a system wide communication plan??
    - i. For organizations at the school – maintenance and grounds, daycare, community centres, garden...
    - ii. First priority is staying safe and communicating with 911 – principles are not required to send out texts to all if they feel unsafe – the fire trucks/police should be a sound
  - b. Pandemic Planning / (Coronavirus)
    - i. Low risk exposure locally, monitoring daily and in close contact Ministry of Health (MOH) and Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH), Provincial Health Offices (PHO) and Vancouver Coast Health (VCH)
    - ii. As it is cold and flu season – recommend wash hands: best times
      - 1. before and after eating,
      - 2. before and after washroom

- iii. there is a district / management plan to deal with high absenteeism with staff and students, helps with closures: 3 stages to plan– pre-pandemic (we are not in it), pandemic stage, post state
- iv. Messaging to schools are being sent out
- c. Collette O'Reilly is presenting to DPAC (not sure date)

NEXT MEETING: MAY 11, 2020

### **School Renaming Working Group** (March 4 | Karen)

This was the second-to-last meeting of this committee, so time was spent tightening up the language of what will trigger a name change.

There will likely be three tracks to trigger asking whether or not a name needs to be looked at:

1. Rebuild, automatic review
2. Renovation, possible review
3. By request of school or community group

There is some concern for the volume of name changes that could be triggered, which is why time is spent on deciding how formal discussions on name changes are happening.

Once it is decided that a name should be reviewed, there will be a series of questions that will be asked. They include: Was the Namesake a Canadian (we spoke of adding "or Indigenous" as not all Indigenous People identify as Canadians); Did the namesake have a connection to education?; Is the namesake of a group underrepresented in current VBE school names?; Did the contributions of the namesake contribute to a positive legacy; Is the ongoing legacy of the namesake one that has positive associations in the school and community? Does their primary legacy align with District Mission and values?

We had a lengthy discussion about the removal of "Is this person seen as causing harm to a group of people?" which has been (at this point) removed from the criteria. I advocated for keeping it in for a couple of reasons including that not having it can keep us from having necessary more difficult conversations and because sometimes communities that bring harm information can get labeled as negative, or can feel that they are not welcome to bring that information to the discussion, particularly with certain people who are deeply appreciated by certain groups but have caused ongoing grievous harm to others -- Pierre Trudeau comes to mind, as he contributed in a positive way to LGBTQ lives and multiculturalism, but is also seen as a largely polarizing figure of culturally genocide by Indigenous People.

We discussed how the outcome will be decided upon -- ideas like a point system were rejected, and a venn diagram is being considered. We are also still discussing how a school might be nominated (school community? interest group?) as the current system in place has resulted in 0 school renaming requests.

### **Preferred School Size Working Group** (March 9 | Amanda & Skye)

- Website with all agendas, notes and reading material:  
[https://www.vsb.bc.ca/District/Planning\\_and\\_Facilities/Long\\_Range\\_Facilities\\_Plan/Page/Preferred-School-Size-Working-Group.aspx](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/District/Planning_and_Facilities/Long_Range_Facilities_Plan/Page/Preferred-School-Size-Working-Group.aspx)

- Update and discussion of new information since February 10
- Overview of areas of consideration:
  - District Programs (choice) and School
  - Learning Services Programs
  - Secondary School Organization and Staffing
  - Elementary School Organization and Staffing
- Elementary and Secondary Sub-Group Discussions
- Report back and discussion
  - Most felt an Elementary school should be around 400-500 and a Secondary between 1200-2100, mostly from operational view points but also from experience working in a variety of school sizes.
  - Was a suggestion to look into 'student satisfaction' survey and other data re: student success, happiness. I suggested they not just look at overall, but at more vulnerable student results as some of the research shared was that the greater opportunities that come with larger schools mostly benefit the students who were succeeding anyway.
- Proposed additional consultation process (focus groups and/or survey)
  - Focus groups would be between 15-20, take about 1.5 hours to review what the group has discussed and get feedback
  - Suggested DPAC could host one on Thursday May 21 or Thursday June 4.

#### **Advocacy Committee** (March 10 | Amanda)

- Now chaired by trustee Carmen Cho, other trustees include Barb P. and Estrellita G. This committee reports out to Policy & Governance and advises the board.
- Matters Arising from Last Meeting
  - Stakeholders Advocacy Campaign
    - Idea to have each stakeholder complete a template form and link to from VSB Advocacy page. Deadline end of June to have live by September.
      - *Key role of your organization in the District:*
      - *Specifically, why is "Vancouver" public schools a great place to teach, work, go to school and be a part of?*
      - *Why is Public education important?*
      - *Why is your organization an integral part of the public education system?*
      - *How has your organization connected positively with the local neighbourhood?*
      - *What is one example of advancing student success that you're proud about? Share one story of an important positive event that your organization has helped the community (could be as an individual member, as a group or as an association) that advances student success.*
    - QUESTION: Is this something DPAC wants to do?
  - Active Transportation Poster

- Communications creating mock-ups. Basically, how we're supporting public education then and now. Thought is to display in VBE foyer and on the website.
  - Public Education Exhibit
    - Carmen following up. Idea is to display at MOV.
- Discussion on next focus/Direction
  - Stakeholders and trustees discussed ideas for advocacy.
  - Ideas from DPAC included advocating to Ministry to approve 'lowest life cycle cost' SMP projects instead of 'lowest cost' as well as mentioning we're submitting a resolution to BCCPAC to advocate to have a Chief Educator position at the Ministry again.
  - Other ideas included continuing to promote why parents should send kids to VSB; recruitment/retention of staff; ensuring student achievement is #1 on strategic plans; pushing for longer-term vision with capital plans as it is for the next 40-60 years; improving overall wellness of stakeholders and students; pushing for more ministry funding; working with CoV for proper school sites; renaming 'School Tax'; and fair taxation to increase education funding.
- Next Steps
  - Share minutes with stakeholder groups and come back to June 1 meeting to discuss what the focus should be on for the next school year.

## **DPAC COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

### Facilities (February 18 | Vik)

1. What's happening at VSB: LRFP, Land & Asset Strategy
  - 1.1. Old 2019 LRFP was rushed; originally had 3 ½ week timeline
  - 1.2. Some recommendations passed and being pursued such as Preferred School Size
  - 1.3. New LRFP supposed to be a year long consultation
  - 1.4. New LRFP guidelines issued by Ministry of Education
  
2. Discussion on capacity from the K & 8 perspective: Pros and cons of crunching the data set for all Kindergarten and Grade 8 registrations initially made into the child's home catchment prior to movement. Potential outcome: Formal ask for data sets from VSB to perform our own analysis.
  - Rationale: Patterns can emerge if we get the same data set going years past or by collecting it moving forward. Today, this data can show us the gravity of our current situation. Ex: Lots of chatter to send kids to Mt. Pleasant, Shaughnessy & Nightingale from full schools. To what extent is that feasible? Where is there space at the K level and how much? This data can help us here. Also, from now until final enrolment, is there any drop off out of the VSB system? Lots of chatter from parents about "forced" to go private school. To what extent is this happening at the K level?
  - Approved: To ask for the raw Kindergarten & Grade 8 registration data as well as catchment of residency/enrolment data.

3. Discussion on breaking Vancouver into Zones: Pros and cons of doing so. Positive in that Capital Planning Instructions could base funding on Zones. Potential Con on East/West divide. Potential outcome: Formal motion for VSB to consider for implementation.
  - After significant discussion, it was decided to defer this until the question of “How do we measure & define capacity?” is answered in more detail.
4. General Brainstorming and Discussions:
  - 4.1. Vancouver Plan & VSB: desire for VSB to officially sign on as a partner as it would be ideal to have LRFP tie in with the Vancouver Plan.
  - 4.2. What Percentage of Vancouver School Lands is owned by the Ministry vs. VSB?
  - 4.3. The policies of BC Area Standards, Capital Planning Instructions and Seismic Mitigation are not helping at all with the changing demographics in Vancouver.
  - 4.4. What is the life of a school? Asset life?
  - 4.5. Should there be a mandate that all schools be built in a method where they are expandable in the future?
5. Review/Tweak DPAC Facilities Committee Mandate. ([link](#))
  - Ran out of time; will post & review online