

Vancouver District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) wishes to acknowledge the ancestral, traditional & unceded Indigenous territories of the Coast Salish Peoples, in particular, the Squamish, Musqueam, & Tsleil-Waututh First Nations on whose territory we work, live & play.



DPAC Executive Meeting

A Town Hall with
VSB's Superintendent & Board ViceChair
Thursday, April 9th 7-8:30pm

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An On-line Meeting via Zoom

PAC/VSB Town Hall Questions

Link to recording:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Pw4YUpZxb_4MYrDuSS37RxDquLUaKB2p/view?usp=sharing

1. What is the current state of kindergarten registrations, in particular cross-boundary applications and families who did not get into their catchment schools, and when can parents expect to receive all due information? ([timecode: 9:10](#))
2. For September 2020 we saw a significant increase in the Kindergarten students displaced from their catchment school. What is being done to address and mitigate this for future years? ([12:10](#))
3. What are the district's plans for welcoming/onboarding kindergarten students if the current situation persists as many families are not yet part of school communities? ([15:30](#))
4. What are the Board's current top priorities? What items are currently on hold and what work is continuing? When will revised timelines be shared? ([17:20](#))
5. When will the draft budget for 2020/21 and an updated timeline be shared? Also, when will the Ministry's response to the VSB's capital plan submission last June be made public? ([18:45](#))
6. What is the VSB doing to ensure readiness in the event of a future pandemic or crisis? ([20:09](#))
7. How much money will the VSB save if in-school instruction remains suspended through the end of this school year, and how does the VSB intend to use that money? ([22:56](#))
8. What have you found out about the tech resources available to our learners and their families? How will you ensure equitable access to technology/learning/tools for all of our learners? Is the VSB considering loaning technology to families? ([24:58](#))

9. What direction has the District given secondary teachers for contacting their students? Who should parents/students contact -- and by when -- if they have not been contacted by all their teachers? ([28:45](#))
10. What is the current status of school-age care programs? What proportion remain open? Parents seeking school-age care are asked to contact their principals: what have principals heard? What kind of uptake has there been from families of essential service workers seeking childcare spaces? ([31:30](#))
11. What supports is the District offering to Indigenous students, particularly those graduating this year? ([34:11](#))
12. What is the process for parents of international students who have concerns or questions? Would the District consider refunding fees if international students withdraw? ([35:27](#))
13. Are students able to schedule a time to go back to school to retrieve the resources they need to start online learning? ([37:25](#))
14. How will PE courses work under the distance learning system? Does the Ministry requirement for regular physical activity remain in place? ([38:58](#))
15. For those students with 1:1 classroom support, how (and when) should parents contact VSB about additional supports at home? ([41:00](#))
16. What software other than MS Office 365 is available to teachers across the district, and how long will it continue to be available to parents after the current situation is resolved? ([42:28](#))
17. If students' current grades are going to stay the same (or improve) for this year, can secondary students register/start next year's courses via VLN or access other DL opportunities? ([45:35](#))
18. When is the board going to release the results from the facilities survey? What options is the Board considering for Phase II? ([48:09](#))
19. When will the consultant's report on music be released? ([49:55](#))
20. Can PACs expect any support -- e.g., shared technology licenses -- in order to be able to serve their school communities? ([50:24](#))
21. What is the district doing to support vulnerable learners and families through this crisis? ([51:37](#))
22. What is the VSB doing, either by itself or with the Ministry, to ensure full availability of safe hand-washing stations in schools (i.e., hands-free faucets, warmer water, new sinks)? ([53:53](#))

23. When will standing committees resume and how will they operate if remote? ([55:05](#))
24. Is summer school registration still starting April 27th? Is the district looking at making any changes to summer school? ([56:30](#))
25. What is the current status of BCTF contract negotiations? ([57:53](#))
26. The \$35 annual supplies fee does not seem to show up in the classroom. Our PAC is always fundraising for basic supplies and technology. How is the District working to reduce the fundraising burden on parents? ([58:30](#))
27. Follow up 1: How is technology that PACs have leased being used by schools? Is that technology being donated/loaned to students in need? Can a PAC loan leased technology to a sister school in need, if the home school is assessed as well supported with personal technology? ([1:02:35](#))
28. Follow up 2: What are VSB acceptable platforms for holding online PAC meetings? ie is zoom considered secure? ([1:05:10](#))
29. Follow up 3: Children of essential workers are not being supported in curriculum/education during hours at VSB childcare centres. How can PACs support these families and reassure them that their children are not being left behind? ([1:07:08](#))