

DPAC Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

6:40-7:56 pm

via Zoom

Attendees: Marina (chair), Jason (treasurer and QBES), Raani (secretary), Jennah (Director), Kavitha (BES), Rebecca (KSS), Holly (AES), Jessica (SES), Tracy (SES), Nancy (SES), Megan (AES), Brianne, Michele, Amanda (BSS/SES), Angel (BSS), Nancy (SES), Renee (QBES), Michele (AES/KSS)

Regrets: Maleah (Director and CEAP/PASS), Trustee Kurland

Guests: Superintendent Dr. Peter Jory

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by the Chair
- Land acknowledgement
- Verified we have quorum (3 voting members)

2. Introductions

- Introductions were made in the chat.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda: [February Agenda](#) and [January Minutes](#)

- Motion by Marina, all in favour.

4. Trustee Update - Barry Kurland

- DPAC asked if Trustee Kurland could share information on how parents/caregivers can provide feedback to the board: what meetings can parents speak at? He submitted a written statement:

The process for a "delegation" to speak at a Board meeting is found in [bylaw 3](#) subsection 6 of the QSD bylaws. This bylaw gives the process that a delegation would use to speak at a board meeting.

In addition, the Board has allowed time at all meetings for the DPAC to give a report. In my memory this time is usually not used. In our COW meetings, held monthly, anyone is allowed to speak or ask questions. COW's meaning is "committee of the whole." Finally the board has a time at the beginning of each meeting to read written submissions, and at the end of each meeting question we have a time set aside for questions from the public regarding matters that they need clarification from the board.

It is important to remember and note that the meetings of the Qualicum School Board are meetings held in public. They are not "public meetings" as such. We also have "incamera" meetings that the public is not welcome to or invited. These typically involve, "Land, Labour or Law".

5. Superintendent Update - Dr. Peter Jory

- Budget development and opportunities for input
 - On Feb. 11 there was a budget session for partners and then a public session in the evening. Ron, Secretary Treasurer, outlined the process and history and what our enrollment projections look like and budget pressures.
 - He is in discussions with the Ministry around the budget. Very challenging time for the government. Per pupil funding is intact, there will be some funding to support communities in terms of special needs, the district will get numbers from the government in March.
 - Consultation process in April - district will meet with principals, meet with indigenous partners, April 15 is a partners meeting that DPAC can attend, regular board meeting on April 28, special budget meeting on May 19. More on the budget timeline can be found [HERE](#).
 - Parents can share information through PAC/DPAC representatives. The [finance website](#) has information on the process and parents can fill out the [Budget Survey](#).
- IEP Parent/Caregiver Session on February 19
 - This session is tomorrow at 6pm
 - RSVP [LINK](#) - the Team Link is emailed to those who RSVP
 - There will be an opportunity to ask questions. The meeting will be recorded.
- Fieldtrip busing costs
 - This is active at the schools now. All schools will be charged the same busing fees for field trips to common destinations.
 - This is about creating equity between schools.
- Food Program Survey
 - The Food Program Working Group met today and heard preliminary survey results
 - Survey is still open, results will be shared with principals, who will be asked to share the results with their PAC
- 6. Mount Arrowsmith Teachers Association (MATA) Update**
 - Was unable to attend.
- 7. CUPE Update**
 - Was unable to attend.
- 8. Chair's Report**
 - Road safety at SES and EOES is a concern and has been picked up by the PQB News. Articles linked [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).
 - SES and EOES PACs have been working hard to get government agencies to come together to discuss safety concerns. March 4 is the next meeting.
 - The Integrated Child and Youth (ICY) program lead role remains unfilled. Here is the [news article](#).
 - The ICY role was reinstated after being terminated by Island Health and the position has been posted. We will keep checking on this.

- DPAC is hosting a parent/caregiver online workshop - [*Inclusive Classroom - What They Are, Why They're Complex, and How Families Can Support Them*](#)
 - Sunday, March 8, 4-5:30 pm
 - Carly Eirikson is the speaker. The event will be recorded.
 - Please spread the word about this event!
 - There is an opportunity to ask a question in advance.
- It would be great for the district to hear from more parents. PACs can request to be a delegation at a meeting and submit questions/comments in advance of the board meeting. Parents can also ask questions at the end of the board meetings during the public question period. More information on this can be found [HERE](#).
- Lots happening behind the scenes - working on securing speakers, meeting with partner groups, attending Committee of the Whole meetings, working group meeting and district board meetings.

9. Treasurer's Report

- **Gaming Account Balance** as of February 10, 2026: \$2,959.75
 - Paid \$787.50 to reserve our March 8 Speaker, Carly Eirikson, on Inclusive Classrooms
 - \$459.75 needs to be used by June 30, 2026 (carried over from last year).
 - \$2,500 needs to be used by September 30, 2026.
 - **Food Safe Training** - Deadline for DPAC funding available to cover [food safe training](#) for two PAC representatives at each school is February 28.
- **General Account Balance** as of February 10, 2026: \$16,398.32

10. Ongoing Business

- **Policy 302 - Community and Volunteer Involvement**
 - This policy is under review.
 - Trustees wanted to know from PACs if there is a requirement for all volunteers to have a CRC would it make it difficult for PACs to run events, activities, and fundraisers? Draft policy is available [HERE](#) (pages 5-10).
 - This policy was discussed at the Policy meeting yesterday. Sounds like the district needs to determine if legally all volunteers need a CRC or not.
 - The 500 series is under review right now. There are many policies that may be of interest to you or your PAC. The drafts are available [HERE](#). You can provide questions/comments to DPAC at gsd.dpac@gmail.com or attend the Policy Committee of the Whole meeting. Policy topics:
 - Communicating student learning
 - Use of technology (including AI)
 - Field trips/experiences
 - Animals in schools
 - Intellectual property and copyright
 - Fundraising in schools
 - Conduct of coaches
 - Programs of choice and speciality academies
 - Career education
 - Educational change due to emergencies
 - Learning resources
- **Notetaker Pilot**

- We have had some volunteers come forward to help launch the pilot! Thank you! Would love to have a high school and NBES volunteer note taker for geographical coverage.
- Will test this out as a pilot and see how this works.
- Feedback from parents around having this option has been positive.
- **District Food Program Working Group** update
 - Please encourage your families to fill out the [SURVEY](#)
- **District Communications Working Group** update
 - A draft communications plan was sent to working group members yesterday. We will send it to PACs in case your PAC or a PAC member would like to review and provide feedback.
- **DPAC Inclusion Working Group**
 - Sign up to join [HERE](#).
 - Looking to set up a meeting after spring break.

11. New Business

- Budget feedback
 - Encourage families to fill out the [BUDGET SURVEY](#)
- DPAC elections in May
 - Only one more DPAC meeting before the election
 - Would love to have more people join our DPAC executive. We are happy to have a chat or coffee.

12. MABR Guest Presentation / Request

- MABR is planning a school food program fundraiser
- Focus of the event is to connect the community with the schools
- MABR has rented Oceanside Place - rink and pond, on Sunday, April 12 from 1-3pm
- There will be skating, facepainting, DJ Connor, and community groups will be there with educational displays
- Entry is by donation; half of the funds raised through donations will go to school food programs
- In the morning MABR will be at KSS from about 9:30-11:30 hosting a free pancake breakfast
- MABR would like to host a movie night at the end of the day at a school
- The event takes place during the wildlife festival
- CEAP PAC is going to participate
- WOW bus / OBLT may attend
- Question: Where is the money going? Not sure yet how to direct it to food programs.
- Suggestion to invite organizations that offer food support to the event like Risebridge
- Suggestion to create a role for PAC volunteers and send PACs a link for them to ask volunteers to sign up.
- Suggestion to ask for 4 PAC members who can help

- Comments: appreciate that this is a community event that will bring together different generations, community organizations and is low barrier
- PACs can reach out to Ray directly if their PAC would like to participate at: ray@mabr.ca
- MABR would like to make this an annual event. Will learn from this event and can look at rotating to different schools in the future.

13. Time for Comments

- The province announced funding changes for children with disabilities and we may want to keep an eye on this as the district budget process continues.
- Request that DPAC set aside a budget to host an all candidates debate before the trustee election in the fall. Suggestion to host it at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre. Discussion around having a hybrid meeting. Ray offered to look into this further.

14. Next Meeting

- Wednesday, April 15 at 6:30 pm

15. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn by Marina, seconded Jason. Meeting ended at 7:56 pm

Future Meeting Topics / Action Items

- Future Topics for discussion:
 - Accessibility Working Group updates
 - RDN busing

Have a topic you'd like to discuss? Email us at qsd.dpac@gmail.com

DPAC Meeting Schedule for 2025/26

Meetings are scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

- April 15
- May 20 - AGM