



The Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council

General Meeting Minutes
Date: January 8th, 2024, at 7pm
Location: Zoom

The Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council acknowledges that this meeting is being held on the unceded, Traditional Territory of the Okanagan People

COPAC Executive: Nicola Baker (**CLE**), Simon Adams (**CMS**), Roslyn Hazen (**HMS**), Deannie Zahara (**KLO**), Leslie Atwell, Nathan Hind (**BCE** alternate), Jeanette Watson

In Attendance: Kristina Grant-**AME**, Danielle Ferguson-**BHE**, Ryan Liborian-**BME**, Ingeborg-**CAS**, Heather Engram-**DRE**, Jenifer Dyson-**DWE**, Brittany Ryder-**ELE**, Kellie Garcia-Bunting-**GME**, Jill Glassford—**HGE**, Shan Gill-**HRE**, Jennifer Dickie-**PSE**, Caitlin Harper-**PGE**, Amanda Davies-**QGE**, Lisa Schetel-**RLE**, Kelly Doane-**SLE**, Roen Labreque-**SKE**, Amanda Kraft-**SRE, RMS & RSS**, Sabrina Chapman-**WAT**, Carlos Rockhill-**DRK**, Amanda Davies-**SMS**, Tanya Leshuk-**GESS**, Cadre Simpson- **KSS**, Carmen Klassen-**OKM**, Amanda Kraft-**RSS**

McKinnon-unrecognized name, Camilla Biffard- KSS co-rep, Trustee Wayne Broughton, Trustee Lisa Guderyan

PARTNERS PRESENT:

Superintendent of Schools-Kevin Kardaal

Deputy Superintendent of Schools-Terry Beaudry

Board of Education: Trustee Amy Geistlinger

COTA (Central Okanagan Teachers Association)- Susan Bauhart

CUPE (Canadian Union of Public Employees)- no reps present

DSC (District Student Council)- no reps present.

1.0 Call to Order -Greetings and Introductions Nicola Baker, COPAC President

2.0 Guest Speaker – Samantha Primmer – Operations Manager, Okanagan Science Centre (OSC)

- Classes can attend in person science Centre fieldtrips in Vernon, bussing can be a challenge.
- Raising awareness about OSC programs that can come to school classrooms -providing hands on learning science from Okanagan Science educators that align with the BC curriculum, 1hr in length.
- [Science in Your Classrooms](#) Programs offered are Pre-K to Grade 8
- PAC general and gaming funds can be used to cover the costs. Feedback from teachers (and PACs) is that cost for these field trips to Vernon can be cost prohibitive, with bussing being the major expense but many people are not aware that the Science Centre can come to your school.
- See attached program summary for ideas.

3.0 Establish Quorum (10 Voting Members) Established with 31 school PACs.

AME	X	ASM		BHE	X	BGE	X	BCE	X	BME	X	CAS	X	CTE		CLE	X	DRE	X
DWE	x	ELE	x	GME	x	GRE		HGE	x	HRE	x	MJE		NGE		OTS		PLE	
PSE	x	PGE	x	QGE	x	RAY		RVE		RLE	x	SLE	x	SKE	x	SRE	x	SVE	
WAT	x	WRE																	
CMS	x	CNB		DRK	x	GMS		HMS	x	KLO	x	RMS	x	SMS	x				
GESS	x	KSS	xx	MBSS		OKM	x	RSS	x										

4.0 Agenda: Additions/Approval

Motion: To accept the January 8th, 2024, COPAC Agenda as presented.

Motioned by Jeanette W., second by Roslyn H.

All in favour: **Motion caried**

5.0 Minutes: Additions/Approval

Motion: To accept the December 4th, 2023, minutes as circulated.

Motioned by Leslie A., seconded by Roslyn H.

All in favour: **Motion carried**

6.0 SD23 PARTNER GROUP REPORTS

Trustee Update – Trustee Amy Geistlinger

- No upcoming action items for Wednesday, Jan 10th Board meeting
- Recapped the good news item for NGE to receive \$7.5m in funding from Ministry of Education and Childcare to add 5 classroom prefabricated modular building.
- SD23 Budget timeline has been approved. February 5th will be the start of requests for input.
- New student enrollment registration starts January 29th [Registration link](#) on SD 23 website
- [Upstream Project](#) has been approved to include Dr. Knox Middle school and as more funding becomes available it will include all SD23 middle schools, currently surveys are distributed to KLO and SMS students. *The Upstream Project is a preventative initiative to identify at-risk youth and connect them with wrap-around supports with the goals to improve student's overall and mental well-being, increase school engagement, and decrease youth homelessness.*
- Additional funds received for food infrastructure program.

Superintendent Update- Kevin Kardaal

- Flooding occurred at GESS, operations team was fast to respond and followed high standards of Health and Safety procedures, also consulted independent restoration inspector to ensure the entire building was safe for students and staff to return to school.
- Light Board meeting this week but will have good news stories during the Inside 23 portion featuring students highlighting the great work happening in our school district, encourage the public to join in person. *The zoom broadcast begins after the Inside 23 portion, agendas with zoom link are always posted to [SD23 website](#).*
- Staff in Secondary are finishing semester 1, parents can expect this happening and support ensuring sure students complete their courses on time and successfully.

Question from President Baker- re: GESS flood, was the water damage primarily to the facility or were there any losses of materials, books etc.

Answer Superintendent Kardaal- The damage stayed low affecting crawl spaces and mechanical areas, very little damage to materials like books. The damage required drywall needing to be cut and assessed, flooring and carpets having to be ripped up. Full assessment will be known when all the mitigation occurs.

Comment from Cadre S. commended everybody in the district that was involved for their remarkable efforts in getting all the Childcare spaces built for our communities in such a short turnaround.

Superintendent Kardaal responded stating that in 2016 there were 35, including 15 strong start preschools. SD23 has been one of 2 districts provincially that has embraced that schools are community centres, and to date including strong starts we are now at 53 sites. Due to the capital investment from the province, this is our first opportunity in these 7 new sites to have full on childcare open.

Need to take steps slowly as one of the concerns going forward is whether or not the Ministry will fund the actual operating costs of these sites as when they are separate buildings from the school they add additional costs on operations, for example snow removal at these need to be given priority as the program start time is earlier than school. These are some of the growth challenges that we are learning and working with the ministry to address. Lots going on and intricate, but it's the right idea and right program when schools are hubs for community service for children in our district.

COTA - Susan Bauhart

- **Not much to report other than teachers are happy to start second term.**

CUPE – COTA President Susan B. sent regrets from CUPE Teri Wishlow

DSC – No representative

Assistant Superintendent Update

-provided an update on the survey distributed to parents/guardians in December asking for feedback on Written Learning Updates (formerly called report card). Over 300 parents so far have completed the survey, the results of survey will be shared at the next Education & Student Services committee meeting.

Recap: The BC Ministry of Education recently released a new K-12 Student Reporting Order. The order calls for a more consistent and aligned approach to report cards across schools. [Click here for Student Reporting Resources for Families](#)

No further Questions or Comments for Partner Groups

Brief notes from District Committee Representatives (PEAC, HPS, Safe Schools, Early Years Partnership). *Reminder that, Past meeting minutes are posted to school district website; links to all the committees are on the [COPAC website](#)*

Human Rights Committee highlights: (Deannie Z.)

-committee reviewed the [SD23 Accessibility plan](#) and the survey questions for feedback/input to district. An email with link for the survey will be sent out soon to school communities (parents/guardians, and staff).

Recap: Persons with disabilities may experience barriers that make it hard to experience full and equal participation when they are trying to: Access a school district program, building or information, Receive a service or support. Our District wants to know the specific barriers persons with disabilities face.

7.0 PAC 360 – Nicola Baker (A quick opportunity for PACs to briefly discuss topics they may need assistance with from COPAC or SD23 or topics that might be relevant to other PACs)

- BHE rep brought forward elementary student voice asking if there was a way to increase student voice at school level and/or bridge partnership with District Student Council as part of their mandate of representing all students in the district which include elementary students.
Superintendent Kardaal commented that he would take this to his Principals meeting and find out what the common practices are in schools. Assistant Superintendent Beaudry added that some elementary schools in our district run the Leader in Me program, or some other leadership/student voice type opportunity to varying degrees.
*President Baker suggested this could be a great topic to bring up at your PAC meeting with your principal if you think there may be a group of students exhibiting a passion for leadership/student voice. This would also be an opportunity for a parent volunteer to be part of the equation to provide extra support.
- GME rep thanked COPAC Exec for hosting the Hot Lunch Coordinator workshop. Their coordinator benefited greatly and was very appreciative of the support and hopes that it will be done annually to build connection and collaboration. President Baker shared that the hope is to keep Hot Lunch coordinators connected in a variety of ways to share their learnings on a more regular basis. Stay tuned for more info.
- PAC Toolkit resources- PACs are all working separately doing the same things, so this could be an opportunity to help each other with templates or tools, share ideas for all manner of things that happen in the PAC world. This is something that the COPAC Exec would like to start and would like to draw on our incredibly knowledgeable members in our PAC communities. If this is of interest to you, please email copac.president@sd23.bc.ca
- RMS PAC is requesting how to get pedestrian safety awareness out to our Middle school students. There have been several near misses of injuries with students not crossing at marked crossing, especially after school.
President Baker mentioned that we have Dan Glascock, SD23 Traffic Safety Officer, if your principal hasn't already been in contact with him, it might be great first point of contact. Superintendent suggested to email him so that he can pass along to Dan to see what he can fit into his schedule. This is an opportunity for Principals to convey Pedestrian safety reminders to our middle students as well
Jeanette Watson commented that Pedestrian Safety tends to be geared towards elementary students, and pointed out that sometimes it's the middle schoolers that may not have that parent supervision to help guide them along, she will also bring this topic up at the next safe school committee to help continue the conversations of pedestrian safety awareness at the middle school level.
- question regarding the new shopping center in construction near Canyon Falls middle school and if anyone was aware of what will be done to ensure a safe crossing for people.
Superintendent Kardaal suggested to reach out to City Council as sidewalks, crosswalks, traffic control are under their jurisdiction. Board of Education is meeting with City Council soon and they will add this to their agenda.
 - Cadre shared that City of Kelowna has an online portal to submit questions and will get directed to the transportation department, as well as [online service request](#).

8.0 COPAC 360

- **Treasurer Report** - *Roslyn Hazen* (see attached Treasurer Report)
 - Received the SD23 funding grant.
 - Roslyn shared the bank statements showing that bank accounts for December aligned with her report.
 - Motion: To accept the December 2023 Treasurers report as presented
 - Motioned by Jeanette W., seconded by Nathan H.
 - **All in favour: Motion carried.**

**If PAC executives and treasurers have PAC financial or treasury related questions, please reach out to Roslyn and she can help guide you copac.treasurer@sd23.bc.ca*

- **EVENTS & ENGAGEMENT:** *Jeannette W.*
 - **Bylaws Workshop:** *January 30 at 6:30pm via zoom – Registration required* <https://sd23.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5wtc--tqzlrHtUf6TUChS9ulbr03hmWTFs4>)
 - **PAC 101 Workshop** *stay tuned for more info.*
 - **Digital Literacy Parent Engagement Event** (*watch for questionnaire so that we can gather feedback on topics of interest around digital literacy / internet safety*). We are working with SD23 Learning Technology Department (LTD) to host an event for parents/caregivers. [Visit COPAC website for Digital Literacy resources](#)
-Reminders: COPAC has funds to provide Parent Education opportunities, if you have any speakers or topics in mind to bring to our community, please email copac.atlarge3@sd23.bc.ca and keep an eye out on the COPAC Facebook page for many educational opportunities that are provided by community partners and share with your school community.
 - **Playgrounds/Enhancements – COPAC Survey:** PAC projects in progress/in discussion. This is an ongoing conversation with operations department, and this will be a valuable information gathering opportunity for our district.
 - Last chance reminder to school communities – please encourage participation in [survey on student reporting](#) (Report Cards). We request that PACs share survey link in their social media accounts to improve engagement. **Deadline January 9.**
 - **Partners for Inclusive Education Meeting** – January 15, 2024, at 6pm. Reminder to share with your school community. *Agenda Topic: Transitioning from high school to Adulthood (ideal for parents/guardians with youth ages 14+)* <https://sd23.zoom.us/j/8569391842>

President Baker gave Partner Groups an opportunity to leave the meeting.

- **PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATION & BCCPAC**
 - For PACs who had COPAC pay for registration, please be sure to **complete the registration process with your own PAC's details.**
 - **Resolutions Town Hall** January 16, 7pm zoom– [registration required](#) (for Member PACs). *The Resolutions Committee will lead a presentation and question and answers about the process, purpose and relevant dates/timelines for BCCPAC Resolutions* [Click here for BCCPAC Resolutions info](#)
 - **February Town Hall** – Feb 27th (discussion of the Advocacy Training) *Cadre shared she has taken this training several years ago and that this is an important opportunity for any parents that want to be advocates/ leaders within their school communities.*
 - **BCCPAC Nominations / Candidates for the AGM** (**March 31st is nomination deadline**) (*Simon & Nicola discussed the positions available and other information*).
 - Great opportunity for any parents wishing to get involved at the provincial level; if your PAC has anyone wishing to step forward its important within a provincial representation level that the interested parent is aware and informed of what is already happening at the BCCPAC and COPAC level. It is not something to be jumped into lightly, for more info please reach out to copac.president@sd23.bc.ca

- [BCCPAC Awards Nominations](#) – February 28
“Do you know a dedicated parent volunteer or dedicated Grade 12 student? Shine a light on their achievements by nominating them today.”
- **Resolutions Discussion** – Requests/Ideas (**Deadline for special resolutions submissions- February 24, 2024**)
 - Sun Safety Health Resolution (AME rep Kristina Grant)
 - In collaboration with DPAC colleagues we are looking at putting forth resolutions regarding BCCPAC housekeeping.
 - Had a 15min discussion on the Cell-phone Ban implemented in Quebec.
 - COPAC Treasurer Roslyn shared their experiences with HMS implementing a no cell-phone policy this school year. Principal shared at their fall PAC meeting that last year they saw elevated numbers of issues after the lunch break, from students predominately being on devices during lunch. This year admin decided that student personal devices were to remain in lockers from arrival to dismissal. So far it has been working very well and they have seen a huge decrease in cyber-bullying and social media issues and a huge increase with students being physically active during lunch periods. Initially some parents were concerned how they were to contact their child if pick up details needed to be changed but were reassured that students were allowed to quickly check their phone at lunch to communicate with parents and that the school office is available to connect parents with students.
 - Discussions around extenuating circumstances for students needing devices for learning supports (visually impaired, dyslexia etc.).
 - Discussed how its left up to individual schools and/or classroom teachers to develop policies/set of rules and enforce them without the backing of the school district and board of education.
 - Discussed looking at request for exploration of a Cell Phone policy from a district level to create more consistency and equity across schools

9.0 Other Business – None

10.0 Brief in Camera - (COPAC Members/PAC Presidents Only)

One item discussed.

11.0 Adjournment – motioned by Camilla B. at 9:12pm

Future Meeting

COPAC General Meeting- Monday February 5th, 2023, 7:00pm via zoom.

COPAC Website: <http://copac.sd23.bc.ca>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sd23copac/>

Twitter: @COPACSD23

School Board and Board Standing Committee Meeting Information www.sd23.bc.ca

[http://www.sd23.bc.ca/Board/boardmeetinginfo/Pages/default.aspx#/="](http://www.sd23.bc.ca/Board/boardmeetinginfo/Pages/default.aspx#/=)

Recording Secretary: Deannie Zahara

COPAC President: Nicola Baker

Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council Treasurer's Report

Account Balances as of **DEC 31/2023**

General Account:

HSBC

Balance Forward	\$ 1,403.11
Deposits ()	5,000.00
Cheques written ()	1,125.00
Interest	0.02
Service Charges	
Balance	\$ 5,278.13

Deposits to general acct

Description	Amount
SD23 Grant	\$ 5,000.00
Total	\$ 5,000.00

Cheques from general Account

Description	Amount	Chq #
BCCPAC Fee Refund	\$ 75.00	676
BCCPAC Fees for PACs	\$ 1,050.00	677
Total	\$ 1,125.00	

Gaming Account:

HSBC

Balance Forward	\$ 2,873.91
Deposits ()	-
Cheques written ()	-
Interest	0.02
Service Charges	
Balance	\$ 2,873.93

Cheques from Gaming Account

Description	Amount	Chq #
TOTAL	\$ -	

Outstanding Commitments

COPAC SPENDING SUMMARY (2023-2024)

Current To: 2023-12-31

EXPENSES		BUDGET	EXPENSES	VARIANCE
General Account	BCCPAC Fees for SD23 PACs	\$ 3,375.00	2,400.00	975.00
	Communication Resources	\$ 1,500.00	509.46	990.54
	Conference Fees	\$ 500.00		
	Education	\$ 1,500.00	17.06	1,482.94
	Travel	\$ 1,300.00		1,300.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 8,175.00	\$ 2,926.52	\$ 4,748.48

Gaming Account	BCCPAC DPAC Membership	\$ 150.00	150.00	-
	PAC Community Building	\$ 1,100.00		1,100.00
	Presenter Fees	\$ 1,250.00		1,250.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 2,500.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 2,350.00

ACCOUNT	STARTING BALANCE	EXPENSES	REVENUE	CURRENT BALANCE
General	\$ 3,204.49	2,926.52	5,000.16	5,278.13
Gaming	\$ 523.87	150.00	2,500.06	2,873.93
TOTAL	\$ 3,728.36	3,076.52	7,500.22	8,152.06

Printed as of: 2024-01-08

Pre-K:

Making Sense of the Five Senses - Using our fascinating five senses we will explore and classify the properties of familiar materials.

Colourful Chemistry - Use chemistry to mix, create, and explore colours!

Kindergarten

Survive to Thrive! – What are the differences between plants and animals? What are the basic needs of life? Discover how the features of plants and animals help them meet their basic needs for survival!

Making Sense of the Five Senses – How do humans interact with matter? Using our five senses we will explore and classify the properties of familiar materials.

Force and Motion - How do you make an object move? We push or pull it! Does the size, shape and type of material influence how objects move? Let's perform hands-on experiments and challenges to find out!

Changing Seasons - How are plants and animals affected by daily and seasonal changes? How do animals protect themselves from strong sun, wind, or rainstorms? Let's design a shelter for animals to keep them safe!



Grade 1

Insect Mania - What are the basic needs of insects and how do we classify them? Discover how insects help them survive and adapt to their environments!

Properties of Matter - What are the phases of matter? Why do solids keep their shape, but liquids and gases flow? What makes the properties of matter useful?

Light and Sound - What are the properties of light and sound? How are they similar? How are they different? Discover this and more with exciting activities!

Grade 2

Metamorphosis: Caterpillar to Butterfly – What is metamorphosis? How has the butterfly adapted to live in its changing environment? Let's look at the life cycle of a butterfly and how it has adapted at each stage of life for survival!

Physical and Chemical Changes – What are physical and chemical changes? How are they different? Why would we want to change the physical properties of an object? Let's conduct some amazing experiments to test our knowledge!

Force and Motion – What are the different types of forces? How do we make objects move? Does the shape, size, and material it is made out of influence this? Let's perform some hands-on experiments and challenges to find out!

Water Everywhere - Why is water important to all living things? How does it cycle through the environment? Explore local water issues and construct a filtration device to filter polluted water!

Grade 3

It's a Small World – What is biodiversity and why is it important to our ecosystems? Let's explore biodiversity using local pond water to detect protists, animals, plant matter, and bacteria.

Matter verses Mass – What is an atom? What is matter? How is matter different from mass? Let's explore why matter is known as the material of the universe!

Thermal Energy Exploration – Discover the true nature of heat: what it is, how it is created, and how it can be transferred.

Earth & Erosion – Let's discuss some of the landforms we see outside. Has wind, water, and ice erosion changed the shape of the land in our area? Let's simulate ages of erosion and change landforms all with the power of water.

Grade 4

Temperature and Particle Movement – What are the phases of matter? How does temperature affect particle movement? Let's raise the temperature in this program and find out with some hands-on chemistry experiments!

Sensing & Responding: Biomes – What are biomes and how do living things sense, respond, and adapt to their changing environments? Let's make our own biome and discuss how we will keep our biomes healthy and active!

Transforming Energy – Can you name the different forms of energy? We know energy is important, but how do we make energy work for us? Discover the many ways to transform energy into useful electricity from different sources.

Grade 5

Human Anatomy (1) – Let's explore human anatomy and learn the basic structures and functions of the digestive, respiratory, and circulatory systems!

Human Anatomy (2) – Let's explore human anatomy and learn the basic structures and functions of our musculo-skeletal system!

Simple Machines - How do machines transfer force and energy? Use simple machines (levers, pulleys, wheels, inclined planes) to complete challenges and solve problems!

Solutions, Solubility, and Mixtures - What is a homogenous mixture? How are they useful and can you separate them? Let's mix our own solutions, conduct separations, and discuss the properties of solutions!

Oil Spill – Earth materials change as they move through the rock cycle, but how is oil created? Let's design, build, and test a pipeline across and around many obstacles. We will simulate an oil spill, discover different methods for cleanup and restoration, and discuss how we can act as stewards of our environment.

Grade 6

Human Anatomy (3) – Let's explore human anatomy and learn the basic structures and functions of the excretory and nervous systems!

Newton's Laws – Let's investigate Newton's 3 Laws of Motion. Learn the relationship between force and motion with hands-on activities!

Heterogeneous Mixtures – Everyday materials are often mixtures, but how do we separate them? Let's scientifically determine the properties of different materials then use your skill and imagination to manipulate and separate them.

Grade 7

Crystalline Structures and Chemical Changes – What are elements and compounds? How do crystals form and what are crystalline structures? Let's explore crystallization with chemistry!

Electrifying Electricity - What is electricity? How is it generated? Find out more about the different types of electricity with hands-on experiments and activities!

Electromagnetic Force - What is a magnet? What is electricity? What is electromagnetic force and how is it generated? Let's explore electromagnetism together!

Grade 8

Cell Theory - What is a cell? What is the difference between an animal cell and a plant cell? Prepare and observe these two classes of cells under the microscope.

The Behaviour of Matter - Can we prove that atoms exist and move? Observe the Brownian Motion of atoms and molecules to help understand molecular theory.

Planetarium Shows

The Okanagan Science Centre has the only fixed roof planetarium in the Okanagan. We offer customized planetarium shows on a wide range of topics including the phases of the sun and moon, the components of our solar system, and constellations. We also offer stargazing and storytelling from an Indigenous perspective in our Indigenous Astronomy planetarium show. All planetarium shows are available for field trips booked to visit the Okanagan Science Centre. Please contact us at 250-545-3644 for more information on customized shows.