

DISTRICT PARENTS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

Background

The District values the input of all sectors of the community into its decision-making process. The opinions of parents of students attending District schools are especially valuable, particularly those opinions that represent a consensus of District parents as a whole. For this reason, the District strongly supports the formation of a District Parents' Advisory Council (DPAC).

The District and its employees will work cooperatively with the District Parents' Advisory Council towards identifying and achieving common goals.

Procedures

1. The District Parents' Advisory Council is an organization of parent volunteers elected from the Parents' Advisory Councils of District schools and is the official representative of school Parents' Advisory Councils at the District level.
2. The District Parents' Advisory Council is to:
 - 2.1 Assist individual parents and Parents' Advisory Councils in expressing concerns and gaining appropriate access to the education system;
 - 2.2 Promote effective communications amongst Parents' Advisory Councils;
 - 2.3 Serve as an advisory council to the Board, District administration and Parents' Advisory Councils;
 - 2.4 Encourage the formation and continued operation of Parents' Advisory Councils throughout the District;
 - 2.5 Provide resources, other than financial, at the request of any Parents' Advisory Council;
 - 2.6 Provide liaison between the B.C. Confederation of Parents' Advisory Councils, the Board, District administration, Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association, Canadian Union of Public Employees (Local 4165) and the Cranbrook and Fernie District Teachers' Association;
 - 2.7 Provide and promote leadership in developing and understanding the rights and responsibilities within the education system.
3. A Trustee is appointed by the Board to act as a liaison to the DPAC. That Trustee will be a non-voting member of the Council; they will be responsible for attending DPAC meetings, will participate in the discussions and report on discussions to the Board when required.
4. The District may ask the DPAC to comment, attempt to reach a consensus, or give advice on issues referred to it. Such referrals shall be made in writing and responses to the Board, or its committees shall also be made in writing. Timelines for accomplishing requests shall be included.

5. The District may request members for Board, staff or community committees from DPAC. When such a request is made the representative(s) is to be empowered to speak and act as a representative of District parents as a whole.

Reference: Section 8, 8.4, 8.5, 22, 23, 65, 85 School Act

Approved: August 15, 2021

Revised: