

Annual Report

2014-15 SPEAC

Promoting parent involvement, education, and meaningful district-wide collaboration

Sooke Parents' Education Advisory Council, SD62 D-PAC

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<http://www.sd62.bc.ca/Parents/SPEAC.aspx>

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Message From Our Executive



"Volunteers do not get paid -- not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless!"

- Sherry Anderson

Au si'em nu sii'ye'yu. Uy' Skweyul, huy' tseep q'u!

We want to acknowledge the Songhees, Esquimalt, Sc'ianew, T'Souke, and Pacheedaht First Nations, whose traditional territory SD62 is located on. We raise our hands and thank them for allowing us to live, learn, laugh, and love in their traditional territory each and every day.

Huy' ch q'u!

This report will highlight the many events that SPEAC was involved in either via planning, coordinating, or participating. We are hoping you will see how important our work is and the benefits of SPEAC. If you find this report interesting, it inspires you, and you find it encourages you to participate in SPEAC. Please contact speac@sd62.bc.ca and let us know what areas you are interested in participating in or helping with.

We want to thank the 2014-15 Executive for all of their hard work, dedication, and commitment:

President, Dory Thuot

Past President, Stephanie Longstaff

Vice-President of Communications, Brena Robinson

Secretary, Michelle Windsor

Treasurer, Teresa Mason

BCCPAC Rep., Crystal Andrews

Directors: Cindy Andrew, Yvonne Sundby, Sherry Richards, Stephen Anderson, and Dara Kirkpatrick

We are hoping to exceed the bar you have set for us and we are honored to be your elected executive for 2015-16.

Respectfully,

SPEAC Executive, 2015-16

“The DPAC is the legislated parent voice at the school district level, representing the collective views of PACs in a school district.”

BC Ministry of Education, Parental Involvement In School

Contact Information



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VP of Communications
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SD62 DPAC Information

Sooke Parents' Education Advisory Council, SD62 D-PAC
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Email: speac@sd62.bc.ca

Website: <http://www.sd62.bc.ca/Parents/SPEAC.aspx>



Financial Information

As the District PAC, we have three revenue streams: BC Gaming Grant, School District 62, and membership fees. We receive \$2500 from gaming funds, which are restricted on how we are able to use these funds. Our school district funds are based on the number of students registered in the school district and we have membership fees of \$50/PAC.

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ending June 30, 2015

Revenues

General	\$15,273.46	
Gaming	<u>2,500.00</u>	
Total revenue		\$17,773.46

Expenses

All PVP dinner	\$250.00	
BCCPAC AGM	2,896.49	
BCCPAC fall conference	1,914.10	
BCCPAC membership fee	75.00	
Office supplies	152.10	
PAC summit	1,860.50	
Parent education	1,328.71	
VIPC	<u>3,825.00</u>	
Total expenses		<u>\$12,301.90</u>
		5,471.56
Less: O/S pmts Mental Health Forum		<u>5,000.00</u>
Surplus funds		<u>\$ 471.56</u>

2014-15 SPEAC Events

Meetings

Our meetings are usually held on the third Wednesday of each month. We try to rotate the location of our meetings through the different schools in the school district. For 2014/15 we met in the following locations:

- School Board Office (SBO)
- Dunsmuir Middle School
- Crystal View Elementary
- Spencer Middle School
- Sooke Elementary
- Hans Helgesen

We also use a program, Blackboard Collaborate, for our members, who cannot attend meetings in-person, to participate in our meetings online. Please email speac@sd62.bc.ca to inform them that you would like to participate online and to get the link emailed to you.

All Candidates Meetings

We hosted two All Candidates Meetings: November 4th, 2014 at EMCS Theatre for the Milne's Landing Zone Candidates and November 6th, 2014 at Spencer Middle School for the Belmont Zone Candidates.

The purpose of these meetings/forums were to introduce the candidates to the parents in the school district, but they were also open to all voters in the areas. These forums gave parents the opportunity to meet the candidates, ask questions about issues that were important to them, and hear the candidates' responses.

PAC 101 and Nutrition Night

SPEAC has an annual PAC 101 night and this past year we tried something a bit different. We included vendors that are used by various PACs in the district to fundraise via hot lunch sales. This gave PACs the opportunity to try samples of the foods they would sell to our kids, to meet the vendors and ask them questions.

We had Janet Krenz, Island Health, talk with our parents about the new Guidelines for Food & Beverage Sales in BC Schools. These guidelines pertain to all events/vending machines at schools that sell food and/or beverages.

We had the following round-table discussions:

- How to hold an effective meeting
- Secretary role and responsibilities
- Treasurer role and responsibilities
- Gaming grants and fundraising
- Hot lunches

Our goal was for PACs to network with one another, get the information/resources they needed, and to share what they learned with their PACs. We had great feedback from parents and are looking forward to this event on October 15, 2015 at Belmont Secondary.

BCCPAC Fall Conference

In November 2014, the conference was held at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre, in Nanaimo, BC. Due to the convenient location of the conference, we were able to have a high representation of parents attend from our school district; eight parents from SD62 attended the conference!

The Keynote speakers included the following:

- Kevin Cameron, *Open vs. Closed School Dynamics and the Role Parents Play in it!*
- Gary Anaka, *The Teenage Brain*
- Carol Ann Fried facilitated a discussion, *Moving Forward: A Conversation about Education*

There were several education sessions that included the following:

- What Parents Need to Know About Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) in BC Schools
- Residential Schools
- Brain Wellness for Parents
- Little Red Riding hood and Why Parents Should Support Drug Policy Reform in Schools
- And more

The conference ended after a discussion on the classroom resource fund (CRF). The discussion contained information about how the concept of the CRF was developed, information about the purpose of the CRF, how the CRF would be used to resource classrooms, why the CRF is a viable option, and direction from the PACs on how they wanted BCCPAC to proceed with the CRF.

All Presidents' Dinner

We held this event in January 2015 at the SBO. Presidents and Vice Presidents of SD62 PACs were able to network, share information, and provide valuable feedback to SPEAC. We will be hosting a similar event at the Whitespot Restaurant, in Langford, on November 5, 2015.

Vancouver Island Parent Conference (VIPC)

We worked with the Victoria Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (VCPAC) to host a conference that parents would find meaningful and valuable. Last year, the theme was “*School Wellness: Mental, Physical, Emotional, and Spiritual*” and the VIPC was held at Spectrum Community School. There was some live streaming of the sessions held in the theatre, which were recorded as podcasts and VIPC provided the links to all attendees.

The keynote speaker was Robin Grill, from Australia, who spoke to parents about “*Love, Fear, and Shame in Education*”. Featured speakers included Gary Anaka, the Brain Guy, and Brenda Whittam-Neary. You can find podcasts of the following sessions on the VIPC website (<http://vipc.ca/2015-conference/72-2015-videos>):

- Robin Grill, *Love, Fear, and Shame in Education*
- Robin Grill, *Parenting For a Peaceful World*
- Brenda Whittam-Neary, *Self-Regulation*

The 2016 VIPC, *Launching the Framework: Changing Our View of Education*, is scheduled for Saturday, February 27th, at Royal Bay Secondary. The District PACs of Greater Victoria, Sooke, and Cowichan are working together to host this conference. The featured speakers include: Yong Zhao, Rod Allen, Jeff Hopkins, and Shelley Moore. Registration opens on November 2, 2015. Visit <http://vipc.ca> for more information.

Sex, Drugs, and Social Media

In February, we hosted this event at Dunsmuir Middle School. The speakers included Jennifer Gibson aka “The Sex Lady”, our very own Cindy Andrew, and RCMP Cst. Scott Rothermel, SD62’s Community Liaison Officer.

They provided parents with important up-to-date information to support their teens in today’s world. They discussed issues facing today’s youth; consent, pornography, sexuality, drugs, social media, and decision making.

The event was so important that parents asked for another session to be held in Sooke. Our speakers agreed and they held a second session at Journey Middle School in May 2015.

BCCPAC Spring Conference and AGM

We had four parents travel Burnaby for the conference and AGM. They had parent education sessions on the Friday; these sessions included the following:

- Happy Kids, Healthy Kids
- Parents as Career Coaches
- In Their Shoes – Understanding LD
- And several others

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday until Sunday at 12:45 pm. There were 24 resolutions for the membership to vote on and below is the results of the elections.

The highlight of the event was when BCCPAC presented our very own, Stephanie Longstaff, with the George Matthews Award for her 17+ years of hard-work, dedication, and advocacy for parents and students.

2015-2016 BCCPAC Board of Directors

President	Nicole Makohoniuk
1st Vice-President	Farah Shroff**
2nd Vice-President	Ayesha Haider
Secretary	Kendra Mann**
Treasurer	Gordon Byers**
Director	Angie Carlyle
Director	Tracy Wright
Director	Shelley Courtney**
Director	Darlene Campbell**

**Newly Elected Board Members

Child & Youth Mental Health Forum

Our Healthy Schools Committee worked with the F.O.R.C.E. Society to host this informative session on National Mental Health Day, May 7th, at Spencer Middle School. Parents learnt what they could do to promote the mental health of their children and about helpful resources that are available in our communities.

The Healthy Schools Committee is looking at doing a similar event in May 2016.

Promoting Mental Health Forum

This forum was an idea that came from our 2013/14 Healthy Schools Committee. One year later, they were able to make their vision a reality. The one-day conference was titled, *“Promoting the Mental Health of Our Children and Youth: A Comprehensive School Centered*

Approach”, was funded by a Healthy Schools BC School District Readiness Grant, and organized by a CRD-wide Healthy Schools Mental Health Forum Planning Committee.

This event had over 200 attendees from the south island school districts. The attendees included parents, educators, administrators, and trustees; but the most powerful attendees were the students. Their voices were so powerful and one student in particular brought the entire room into tears.

PAC Summit & End of Year Celebration

We held our 2nd Annual PAC Summit & End of Year Celebration in June at the JDF Kinsmen Fieldhouse. Our featured speaker was our very own Dave Betts, Assistant Superintendent, who shared information about Bill 11 and how it differs from SPCs. We had two keynote speakers:

- Nancy Walt, Director of Curriculum and Assessment – Learning Division, Ministry of Education, discussed the new approach to how curriculum will be taught to our students and how it differs from previous practices. The powerpoints from her presentation are still available on our website midway down the page (<http://www.sd62.bc.ca/parents/speac.aspx>).
- Maryanne Neal, Professor at Royal Roads University, former DPAC & PAC Rep., former employee of the Ministry of Education, discussed change and led roundtable discussions about how PACs can foster a culture of resilience to meet upcoming school changes.

The highlight of the evening was when SPEAC was able to acknowledge and celebrate all of the outstanding parent volunteers, in our school district, for all of their hard work and contributions to our schools. We cannot forget how nice it was for everyone to leave with some swag! Thank you Dory for all your hard work on this!! It was a great way to end the school year and we look forward to hosting a similar event in 2016!

2015-16 SPEAC Executive



Brena Robinson
President



Dory Thuot
Past President



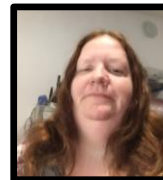
Mike Hansen
1st Vice President



Crystal Andrews
VP of Communications
BCCPAC Representative



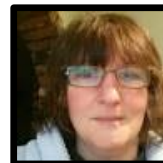
Teresa Mason
Treasurer



Jean Grimshaw
Secretary



Cindy Andrew
Director



Yvonne Sundby
Director

Committees

SPEAC Committees

We are always looking for parents who are willing to participate in our committees. Please email speac@sd62.bc.ca if you see one that you are interested in!

Healthy Schools Committee

Cindy Andrew, Chair

Brena Robinson and Jean Grimshaw

Communication and Engagement Committee

Dory Thuot and Mike Hansen

PAC 101 Planning Committee

Yvonne Sundby, Chair

Dory Thuot and Dara Kirkpatrick

Emergency Preparedness Committee

School District Committees

Education Standing Committee

Brena Robinson and Yvonne Sundby

Education Committee of the Whole

Brena Robinson and Mike Hansen

Finance/Budget Committee

Brena Robinson

Transportation Committee

2015-16 SPEAC Meeting & Event Schedule

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sept. 23	7 pm	SPEAC Meeting	SBO
Sept. 30	7 – 8:30 pm	Anaphylaxis and What You Need to Know	Belmont
Oct. 15	7 – 9 pm	PAC 101 & Foods that Fit	Belmont
Oct. 19	7:15 – 9:15 pm	Healthy Schools Committee	SBO
Oct. 21	7 pm	SPEAC Meeting	Royal Bay
Nov. 5	6:30 – 8:30 pm	All PVP and SPEAC Rep Dinner	White Spot
Nov. 18	7 pm	SPEAC Meeting	Belmont
Nov. 25	7 – 8:30 pm	Health Café	Royal Bay
Dec.		TBD	
Jan. 20	7 pm	SPEAC Meeting	Westshore
Feb. 15	7:15 – 9:15 pm	Healthy Schools Committee	SBO
Feb. 17	7 pm	SPEAC Meeting	Poirier
Mar. 9	7 pm	SPEAC Meeting	Lakewood
Apr. 18	7:15 – 9:15 pm	Healthy Schools Committee	SBO
Apr. 20	7 pm	SPEAC Meeting	Willway
May 25	6 pm	SPEAC AGM and PAC Summit Celebration	TBA
Jun. 20	7:15 – 9:15 pm	Healthy Schools Committee	SBO

2015-16 Proposed Budget

General Account

Carry over from last year	\$1,570.08
SD62 Grant	6,600.00
SPEAC Membership	1,000.00
SD62 VIPC contribution	2,250.00
Total General Account	11,420.08

Gaming Account

Carry over from last year	178.82
BC Gaming Grant	2,500.00
Total Gaming Account	2,678.82

Total Grants and Donations \$14,098.90

General and Administrative Expenses

All PVP & SPEAC Rep Dinner	\$350.00
Office and Miscellaneous Expenses	500.00
BCPAC Membership	75.00
PAC Summit & Celebration	2,200.00
Parent Education(including Food)	2,740.00
BCCPAC AGM	3,500.00
Vancouver Is. Parent Conference	4,160.00
Total Expenses	<u><u>\$13,575.00</u></u>

Estimated Surplus \$523.90