# District Director, Risk Management Services. Tracy Blagdon. Insurance & Risk

Management- Looks after insurance, claims, litigation and risk management advice.

Designed to protect District but PAC is a sub-set of this as they are working in service to the district. However, it does need to be an authorized event.

Actions of PAC are covered if the activity is authorized by School District. Small events like PAC meetings would be something the principal can approve, but larger events should have a proposal submitted with risk mitigation strategies, e.g. Grade 7 leaving event. Confirm the type of approval needed with the principal. Planning should be done jointly and PAC should ensure the event has been authorized.

Sub-Committees should be reporting to the PAC so they know activities, and then up to principal/district for any approvals are needed.

If PAC is a legal entity, then coverage doesn't apply (if they are a registered charity/society) and need to get their own insurance. Most PACs are not their own entity.

# **Common Exclusions**

Individual Claims against one PAC member brought by another PAC member. Volunteers to the PAC, e.g. if a 3<sup>rd</sup> party comes in to help the PAC but is not a PAC member.

Criminal/Illegal Acts.

# **Common Events not supported**

Pub Nights, or any events with alcohol served.

Some Activities at School Fairs- Pony Rides or any other riding animal, Farm Animals. Inflatables that have people on top or inside of it.

Trampoline Parks, Axe Throwing.

Contracts should not be signed by PAC for district authorized events; it is reviewed and signed off by the district. As PACs are not legal entity they cannot sign a binding agreement for the district. Avoid potential personal liability and give it to the district to sign. PACs may also need to transfer the money to the district so they can pay if there is a PO or something similar. Look into this if money is coming from gaming as they don't like money to go to the school and have rules around it.

PAC property is not insured by school district insurance, e.g. cash, equipment (unless it is donated to the district). Personal Property also not insured.

Personal Accident Insurance- limited insurance that covers PAC volunteers, some AD&D, disability provided. Need to report any issues to the district through the principal.

Students are not insured for accidents. If you have extended health then that could be sufficient, but if not you can consider Student Accident Insurance. Available for things

such as ambulance trips, crutches, physio, broken glasses, dental. Costs as little as \$17/year.

# **Volunteer Drivers**

Vehicle must be licensed in BC and carry minimum of \$1M 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability insurance. School insurance then covers for over \$1M.

School District doesn't provide physical damage insurance, theft, student damage.

# **Business Session-AGM**

Quorum is 10 members for AGM, which was exceeded (23 voting members present). **President Report** 

Budget was passed at last board meeting, \$16M shortfall. DPAC continues to advocate for robust programs and supports for our most vulnerable learners.

Facebook group for DPAC has been created, and a separate parent group was also formed outside of the DPAC.

DPAC Coalition created where some Facilities Committee was created out of this and have raised many issues around facilities and capital planning.

Surrey DPAC held a rally in Surrey regarding the budget cuts and attendees ranged from parents, Surrey teachers' association and PAC members from New Westminster and Kamloops. Surrey DPAC also attended a Rally in Victoria with various other DPAC delegates from across BC, as well as teachers, teacher associations and CUPE attended.

New campaign launched last month "Surrey Students Deserve Better" that discusses the issues with underfunding in the district and have had great interactions with the various videos and information on the website: <u>www.surreystudentsdeservebetter.ca</u>

Minister of Education invited DPACs to meet with them, and they did for 30 minutes on Monday. They discussed the impacts of inclusive education and underfunding, and led with 3 key asks that would not cost anything directly:

Own the crisis and create a long-term sustainable plan.

Reinvest in public schools- phase out private school funding and redirect \$570M annually.

Create wraparound supports from external sources that can be delivered through schools.

They also met with Conservative party for 45 minutes to discuss these issues, and with the Green party.

Plan is to hold regular forum with DPACs and invite each party to send a representative as well as media. Each forum would have clear topics and questions would be sent from both sides ahead of time so direct answers can be given.

### **Treasurer Report**

April expenses came from PAC training. Larger expenses coming in May due to BCCPAC AGM being moved to Prince George. Budget for approval will be submitted in September.

### **Trustee Report**

Praise and thanks to DPAC for the amazing advocacy work being done. Budget was passed at last meeting (around \$1B), nobody was happy with it, but cuts were needed to have the budget balance.

5-year capital plan \$5.7B submitted also, around \$1B added this year. Board meeting with infrastructure director and minister of education to discuss capital funding.

# **Inclusion of Diverse Learners Committee**

Met this month, 2 new members joined. They discussed their plans for the next year to have the most impact for the students. Application to join was shared as they are actively recruiting new members.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSca7zIGANWxm9BzFqg7jiz\_9AqpnUX77wl a5izDjm\_kLqnwvQ/viewform

A survey has also been launched and they would like it shared with PACs and passed on to parents so they can participate. The aim is to look at what the Ministry say they provide compared to what students are actually getting in terms of additional support: <u>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf6WHNdjLqyzORLQZroKOwAkpIaOe-Cc-3ohkYs\_AfJIms-wg/viewform</u>

# AGM

Elections for the Executive were held. No new nominations were received. All 7 positions were approved by majority. The minimum positions is 9 and maximum is 13 so they are currently short members. Applications for Director at Large, as well as the Secretary are encouraged as the DPAC have many plans but limited resources (representation especially wanted from Central or North Surrey). Director at Large typically take on a small portfolio. Help specifically is requested with managing communications such as sending email reminders/information/newsletters. Also, assistance with the DPAC social media presence.

#### **New Business - Vaping**

The Trustees meet annually and DPAC can present 3 topics. One was vaping in terms of health, psychological and physical safety. Some students do not feel comfortable

going to the washrooms and some are not going all day, or waiting to lunch and running home because of other students vaping in there. Safe Schools came to discuss this and they are looking at doing some joint education sessions in the fall to dive into it further. Superintendents at the meeting discussed cameras outside of bathrooms, which brought up privacy issues. There are also detectors that exist that can detect vaping; however the costs could be over \$10K per site and funding for this was not seen as possible at this time.

# **New Business- BCCPAC**

DPAC shared a report from the AGM through email. Have been talking about the issues with BCCPAC and trying to bring them into compliance, but it is currently an exercise in futility. 4 DPAC executives attended the AGM in Prince George. The agenda was not passed until 11.30 when the meeting started at 9.30. There were missing and incorrect items in the AGM package. The budget was overspent by \$50K and there was no accountability. The treasurer was ill for the first day, but on the second day did not come with concrete answers to specific budgetary questions and changed their responses. E.g. \$90K spent on non-board members food and accommodation in the last year- no answer given as to why. \$19k over budget for speakers- no answer given as to why. The resolution committee went to archive resolutions that had not been completed. The administrator controlling proxies was changing rules and rejecting for minor issues. There were no new nominations and so everyone on the Board were approved by acclamation. This is an issue as typically Board members should not be aware of nominations received for positions. DPAC are going to file a CRT complaint.

Main funding comes from Province- Grant from Ministry of Education is \$250k (and \$275k for 2025), Then member dues \$60K, some sponsorship from vendors and event registration.

BCCPAC has an Executive Director who is a full-time employee with benefits, and then another full time and one part time employee. The Board members are not paid in theory, but many expenses and retreats are reimbursed.

It blocks advocacy as BCCPAC is supposed to represent PACs and DPACs and so they are the people invited to the strategic meetings with Govt, but they don't talk to PACs and DPACs and bring anything that are the issues to the table.

Asking for PACs to hold off on joining BCCPAC for next year at this time and will continue to provide updates and a plan of action.