

# Welcome to DPAC 2017/2018

FOR PACS AND PARENTS OF  
COAST MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT #82

District Parent Advisory Council CMSC #82  
3211 Kenney St.  
Terrace BC, V8G 3E9  
FB: SD82DPAC  
[www.cmsd.bc.ca/about-dpac](http://www.cmsd.bc.ca/about-dpac)

## What is DPAC?

DPAC is the District Parent Advisory Council and includes a representative of each PAC in CMSD#82. We gather electronically and/or in-person as a separate board to provide leadership to PACs as well as to communicate and provide a parent view to the School District #82 Board and staff, as the policies are reviewed and budgets are made at a district level each year.

## Why be involved?

DPAC Representatives bring forth news about their school PACs, help to identify common issues and points of inquiry for parents at a district level. DPAC supports PACs to develop and helps parents to connect with the school system. DPAC also communicates back to the PACs about changes or asks for feedback from PAC on policy or issues to represent the local schools interests and inform the Board of impacts your PAC may be having or answer your questions. For example;

- annual review of the Code of Conduct,
- the use of seclusion and restraint in schools,
- funding issues, review of alternative schools,
- French immersion,
- learning outcomes and goals,
- development of new curriculum,
- implementation of Response to Intervention,
- budget priorities
- and more.

The Board doesn't hear your voice at the school level directly. DPAC is the official "district" voice of parents and your participation is critical through your DPAC rep.

DPAC is a separate agency and has a Constitution and Bylaws and obligations under the School Act and Society Act to support parents to be involved in education with the goal of increasing student success in schools. DPAC has separate funding from PACs.

DPAC currently meets on the 4th Monday of each month at the School Board Office in Terrace. During school breaks and Stat days, an alternate date may be planned. Members can attend meetings via phone if preferred. Some travel reimbursement for attending is available for out of town members.

## PAC's role in choosing the DPAC Reps.

Each PAC elects a DPAC Rep. Some larger PACs also elect an alternative person. Our Constitution also requires that DPAC representatives be *elected by secret ballot*. This is a requirement by *legislation of the School Act*. Therefore, please use secret ballot for your selection.

## Letting DPAC know.

Finally, we request that you inform DPAC of who the person(s) elected and their contact info by filling out the attached Membership Form and emailing it to the DPAC Chair and Secretary at Chairdpac82@gmail.com and Secretarydpac82@gmail.com.

## What if our PAC does not have a DPAC Rep?

DPAC is your voice and what we do impacts your school and your children. We want to help your PAC to develop and we would appreciate a school contact person to keep you informed. We will still help you connect with BCCPAC with membership; invite your school to our PAC café or other events where we have a person to contact. Please have your PAC either choose a “contact person” or provide information about who your executives are with contact information to ensure your school parents have their voice or do not miss important opportunities.

## What if our school doesn't have a Parent Advisory Council?

DPAC is willing to and work with you and your school to increase parental involvement in whatever unique ways your school may need. Contact the DPAC Chair to discuss your schools needs.

## External Committee Parent Representatives: Nominations from PAC

The CMSD#82 Board of Education has asked DPAC to provide parents to participate on two of their committees to provide “stakeholder” input. One is the Education Committee and the other is the Budget Committee.

*The Education Committee* meets monthly to present and discuss projects, frameworks, educational goals and developments in the district and can make recommendations to the Board.

*The Budget Committee* meets once a week usually for about 4-6 weeks to develop the budget.

- Both meetings occur after school from 4-6 pm at the School Board office.
- Both committees have 2 parent positions on these committees.
- All External Committee Reps are required to attend to the DPAC meetings to report back and to gather information from DPAC to represent to the committees. If attendance isn't possible, an External Committee report needs to be prepared and submitted to the Chair or Secretary prior to the regularly DPAC meeting directly following the External Committee meeting.
- Some travel to the Board office from outlying areas is available

This is a unique and important volunteering opportunity for parents.

PACs nominate interested parents and DPAC executive review the nominations and appoints the parents to these positions annually. Names of past nominees are also considered.

There is immense value in having PACs nominate interested and committed parents for External Committees. These parents do not need to be PAC executive but PAC executive are also welcome. Any DPAC rep is eligible however we ask that the PAC provide a nomination form to help the DPAC make the selection.

Any questions: please forward to [Chairdpac82@gmail.com](mailto:Chairdpac82@gmail.com)

## BCCPAC annual Membership: DPAC can help you.

District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC) is offering to cover the \$75.00 annual fee for membership with BCCPAC to all Coast Mountain School District PACs.

BCCPAC membership form can be found on their website at [bccpac.bc.ca/membership](http://bccpac.bc.ca/membership). On the bottom of the form check DPAC when you get to the section “Who will be paying?”

Please email the DPAC Chair and Treasurer to let us know you have submitted your membership before Nov 10, 2017. Once we hear from you, DPAC will work directly with BCCPAC to ensure payment.

## Reasons to Join BCCPAC

1. BCCPAC is the official provincial level “voice of parents” according to current legislation.
2. BCCPAC advocates for systemic changes to the education system based on your voice.
3. PACs and DPACs present “resolutions” to the Annual General Meeting, for discussion and support. If accepted by the membership, BCCPAC will lobby the government for your proposed changes.
4. BCCPAC is successful in its ongoing lobbying regarding changes to legislation that impact your children.
5. BCCPAC Board of Directors are elected at the Annual General Meetings by your PAC/DPAC reps and are parents like you. BCCPAC has some hired staff and there are opportunities with BCCPAC.
6. BCCPAC provides a format for networking with other PACs and DPACs, providing information, website and forums on critical topics, advise on your PAC development and connection to other PACs.
7. Newsletters are available and resources BCCPAC sends out regular communications.
8. Opportunities to receive leadership education from skilled experts at our annual conferences.
9. Travel subsidies are available for members through DPAC to attend the Conferences.
10. Opportunities to serve on various provincial committees, and to provide feedback through focus groups and opinion polls.

BCCPAC info can be found online at [bccpac.bc.ca](http://bccpac.bc.ca).

## DPAC can help your PAC.

Developing or reviewing your constitution? Want a presentation on DPAC and BCCPAC? Want to help parents who need to advocate for their child in the school? Want to explore options to support your PAC to develop? Need help resolving conflicts? Need help connecting with education systems? DPAC members are willing to help your PAC. Contact your DPAC rep or the DPAC Chair and let us know what your PAC needs.

### Your current DPAC Executive:

<i>Chair:</i>	Krystal Miller	chairdpac82@gmail.com
<i>Vice-Chair:</i>	Annette Peterson	vicechairdpac82@gmail.com
<i>Secretary:</i>	Sarah Crampton	secretarydpac82@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Terri Edmond	treasurerdpac82@gmail.com
<i>Member-at-Large:</i>	Jacquie Strachan	mibdpac82@gmail.com

DPAC is excited to begin the 2017/2018 school year and we hope to connect soon!

# DPAC Membership

(2017/2018 school year)

School Represented: \_\_\_\_\_

PAC Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School PAC Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

PAC Chair Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

PAC Chair Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Elected DPAC Rep Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DPAC Rep Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

DPAC Rep Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## *Where no PAC exists or DPAC rep available:*

Parent Rep Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Rep Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Rep Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to receive information regarding DPAC business, reports, information, agendas, minutes and requests as follows (mark all that apply):

- Email
- Phone
- Letter to School Address
- Letter to Home Address
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please circle one:*

I do/do not agree for my information to be released to other members of DPAC.

I do/do not agree for my information to be released to the executive of DPAC

I do/do not agree for my information to be released to the SD#82 administration.

I do/do not agree to have my name and email listed on the District Website

*Comments or questions:*

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*Please email the completed form to the Chair and Secretary or mail to DPAC at the address found on the front of this package.*