

**Subject:** DPAC Notices for March 28.

Welcome back from spring break! In addition to returning to school(!), the district is springing right into a busy month including finalizing the facilities plan and the 2016-2017 budget by May 3.

PAC chairs and secretaries – please distribute to your parent list.

## **Facilities Plan Meeting Schedule**

Community meetings begin at 6:30.

Board of Education meetings begin at 5:00 in Nelson and Creston (videolink).

Public comment and question periods occur at the beginning and end of every board meeting.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 29:** Special Open Board of Education Meeting  
Agenda: Draft Facilities Plan & Temporary Closure of Yahk Elementary  
[Agenda March 29](#)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30:** Slocan Valley – Winlaw Elementary

**THURSDAY, MARCH 31:** Salmo – Salmo Secondary

**MONDAY, APRIL 4:** Nelson – Central School Gym

**TUESDAY, APRIL 5:** Regular Board Meeting

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6:** Creston – PCSS

**THURSDAY, APRIL 7:**

Kaslo – JVH

Attend the meeting in your area and submit your comments and suggestions to [facilities@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:facilities@sd8.bc.ca) before April 30. The plan is scheduled to be finalized and approved by the Board of Education at their open meeting on May 3. Plan implementation will begin in September and will be phased in over time.

All of the information presented at these meetings as well as at previous meetings, along with scenario scoring data and supporting documentation is posted at [Facilities Plan](#). The draft plan is to be posted on March 30.

DPAC will be holding another toll-free parent teleconference in the near future. Watch for the date and time on the SD#8 parents' [facebook](#) page, and the DPAC website <http://dpacsd8.weebly.com>.

No input = no influence.

Let's make this the plan that best serves all of our kids!

## **BCCPAC Spring Conference & AGM**

The 2016 BCCPAC spring conference and AGM is Apr 28-May 1 in (relatively) nearby KELOWNA.

Because this event enlightens and inspires parents, **DPAC will financially support a limited number of SD8 parents to attend.** If the opportunity to join with parents from all over BC to discuss public education interests you, then tell DPAC why you would like to attend and how your attendance will benefit your PAC.

**Send your (no more than 2 paragraph) response to [dpac@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:dpac@sd8.bc.ca) by Tuesday, March 29.**

PAC Chairs and Secretaries – watch for your AGM book with resolutions and proxy vote form in your mailboxes right now. Resolutions submitted by February 28 are posted at [resolutions](#). Expect a call from a DPAC executive member very soon!

Find out more about the BCCPAC spring conference and AGM at <http://bccpac2016.weebly.com/>

## **Become a Parent Advocate – Creston Training Session**

**Creston area parents – contact DPAC ([dpac@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:dpac@sd8.bc.ca)) right away** if you would like to learn how to help parents advocate effectively for their children. Please include your preferred days and times in April and May for the three hour training session with Susan Wilson.

Mileage and childcare subsidies are available.

Read about parent advocacy on the DPAC website at:  
<http://dpacsd8.weebly.com/advocacy-parents-helping-parents.html>

## **Help Make SD8 Carbon Neutral**

SD8 is working to reduce its carbon footprint. Review SD8's 2014 Carbon Neutral Action Report posted at <http://dpacsd8.weebly.com/>. It's not too late to submit your ideas to Director of Operations Larry Brown [lbrown@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:lbrown@sd8.bc.ca) for inclusion in the 2016 plan.

Find out what measures other school districts and public sector organizations are taking at [Carbon Neutral Action Reports](#).

## **School Transfer Requests**

Planning to transfer your child to a school outside of your catchment area for the 2016-2017 school year?

Submit a Student Request for Transfer Form to the new school between March 1 and March 31 @ 4:00 pm.

The district has indicated that the deadline may be extended to accommodate changes resulting from implementation of the facilities plan.

Details and forms at: [transfers](#).

## **Budget 2016-2017**

First reading of the 2016-2017 budget occurred at the Board of Education meeting on March 8. Budget details will be discussed at the Budget Stakeholder Engagement Committee meeting on April 4 and by trustees during second reading at the April 5

Board meeting. Third reading and adoption is scheduled to occur on May 3. Send your budget comments to your DPAC Budget Committee reps at [dpac@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:dpac@sd8.bc.ca).

**Budget questions?**  
**Check out: [Budget 2016-2017](#)**

## **Healthy Schools' News**

Find out about the latest health and wellbeing initiatives in SD8 schools. Sign up to receive the Healthy Schools' newsletter (News You Can Use) [here](#).

Here's the March issue of [News You Can Use](#).

~~~~~

**The world is run by those who show up – get involved!**

**Did you know that SD#8 parents have their own facebook page?**

It's "A place for parents of SD8 students to share news, ideas, information, plan events and work together for our children's education." Check it out!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/273417826188629/>

**The DPAC Website is updated frequently**

Please visit <http://dpacsd8.weebly.com> often to get updates from DPAC on a variety of district and provincial issues. Check out the "Great Info for Parents" for some, um, great info. Please drop by and don't forget to send us a comment!

**DPAC Executive Committee Members are available for PAC Meetings.**

Have questions about DPAC or PACs or public education, but can't attend DPAC meetings? Members of the DPAC Executive Committee are available to come to your PAC meeting. We have information on the role of parents in education – plus we bring food and door prizes!

Contact [dpac@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:dpac@sd8.bc.ca) to request that a DPAC member attend your PAC meeting.

Thanks for reading!

Sheri Walsh, Chair

Kootenay Lake DPAC

[dpac@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:dpac@sd8.bc.ca)

<http://dpacsd8.weebly.com/>