

### **POLICY 2.50 PARENT ENGAGEMENT**

The Board of Education believes that parents are partners in our educational system. The Board considers parental engagement to be crucial to promoting a positive learning environment, and encourages open communication among parents, schools, the District and the Board. This parental input, advice and feedback are essential elements in the development of a positive relationship between home and school.

The Board recognizes that school Parent Advisory Councils (PACs) play a positive role in a school's organization. The primary focus of a PAC is to improve the quality of school/community life by promoting and supporting education. In keeping with this intent, the Board expects that school personnel will actively encourage and support PAC involvement in the schools.

The Board believes that a District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) will enhance communications among the school Parent Advisory Councils (PACs), the District, educational partner groups and the community at large. The primary focus of DPAC is on programs and opportunities that have an impact on students and parents in the District. The DPAC is invited to consult on Board policy and provides valuable input to Board committees

The Board also believes in a consultative process to gather parental input on issues affecting students and schools in the district.

#### **DPAC Engagement**

1. The Board will provide a liaison Trustee to the DPAC, upon request.
2. The DPAC shall conduct its affairs in accordance with the *School Act*.
3. The DPAC is expected to follow the Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest Guidelines of the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC).
4. The Superintendent, or designate, will be available to attend any meeting of the DPAC in a non-voting capacity.
5. The Superintendent, or designate, will assist the DPAC by providing meeting facilities and facilitating the use of district communications systems.
6. The Board, in setting a budget, will annually determine the amount of funding to be provided to the DPAC.