

Richmond District Parents Association
Tuesday April 8th, 2025
Meeting Minutes

Location:

In person Location : Richmond School District Board Room 1st floor, 7811 Granville Ave
And

Microsoft Teams

1. Welcome and Introductions (Connie)

- 4 parents in attendance
- 16 attendees online

2. Adoption of the Agenda

- Meeting agenda was presented and adopted with no objections (Dean/Tiffany).

3. Adoption of the Minutes from previous meeting (Mar 4, 2025)

- Meeting minutes from Mar 4, 2025 were accepted with no objections (Tiffany/Dean).

4. Guest Speakers - DARE Program

- Presenters: Constable Tammy Walker, Rav Johal and Leanne McColl from SD38 to support
- D.A.R.E. topics include: bullying, online safety, mental health, peer pressure, and substance prevention.
- Program Format: 10 sessions over 10 weeks, with certificates and T-shirts at graduation.
- Delivered in a two-year cycle across Richmond public elementary schools students in grades 4/5.
- Community stakeholders (police, schools, volunteers) collaborate to support delivery.
- Secondary schools supplement this with speakers from Vancouver Coastal Health and Richmond Addiction Services.
- Strong support expressed from parents for expansion to all 38 Richmond elementary schools.
- DARE program focuses not only on substance prevention but on building relationships with police
- The ERASE initiative offers a set of provincially provided resources covering topics like: Substance use, Online safety, Equity and inclusion. These resources are available to teachers, students, and parents and are used at the discretion of educators.
- **Question:** Why is D.A.R.E. not offered in secondary schools? Response: The program is designed for grade 5, and so this offers the best alignment for developmental and curricular impact.
- **Question:** Why no comparison data exists on the effectiveness of different mental health and drug use prevention programs. Response: It was clarified that public schools follow the Ministry of Education and Child Care's curriculum and approved resources.

5. RDPA business

- AGM in May
- Call for Nominations