



**CENTRAL OKANAGAN PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
*The Umbrella Organization of Parent Advisory Councils in School District 23*  
Phone/Fax: 250 870 5040  
1040 Hollywood Road, Kelowna, BC, Canada V1X 4N2

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## **COPAC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

### **What does 'COPAC' stand for?**

'COPAC' stands for the Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council.

The Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council is recognized as the SD #23 District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) and is recognized by the Board of Education as the 'Parent Voice' at the district level.

### **Who are our members?**

Our membership is to consist of one elected/appointed representative from each Parent Advisory Council (PAC) in School District #23. PACs are encouraged to provide at least one individual from their school to attend COPAC meetings, participate in COPAC discussions, and vote on behalf of their school. We also have one liaison each from the Advisory Council for Exceptional Students (ACES) & the Aboriginal Parent & Family Council (APC).

### **What does COPAC do for Parents/Students?**

COPAC works to "support, encourage, and improve the quality of education for students in SD #23" by:

- acting as a forum for the exchange of information between PACs and parents in SD #23;
- providing information to and seeking input from parents/guardians/PACs regarding educational and community matters
- providing the COPAC position/opinion (ie 'Parent Voice') at both the district (ie Board) and provincial levels (BCCPAC and the Ministry of Education)
- encouraging PACs to provide a parental voice to education decision-making organizations affecting the school district
- providing learning and educational opportunities for parents/guardians at both the local and provincial levels".

COPAC strives to have COPAC Representatives sit on a number of District-based committees and Board Standing Committees as well as attend Regular Public Board Meetings in order to be able to provide information and seek input/feedback from members.

### **What are some of the items/issues COPAC addresses?**

- Transportation/User Pay Bussing
- School District Budget & Ministry of Education Funding
- School District and Ministry of Education Policies/Regulations
- Inclusion of items in the School Act
- Advocacy for parents/students
- Safety of students
- Parent Advisory Councils
- Special Education
- Other topics or issues that may arise and relates to the education of our children

### **IS THERE A POSSIBILITY OF COPAC DISSOLVING?**

YES - If we cannot obtain Representatives from individual schools as well as individuals willing to take on Executive roles, we will not be able to continue operating or serving the parents/guardians and students within our district.

### **HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED?**

CONTACT ANY MEMBER OF THE COPAC EXECUTIVE AT 250-870-5040 OR  
SHARLENE DROHOMERESKI (COPAC PRESIDENT) AT 250-864-4999