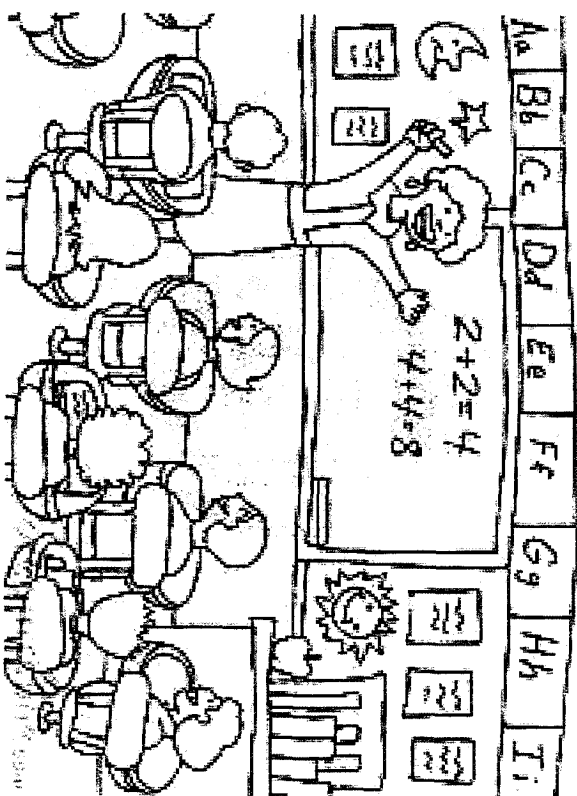


Advocating for your child (BC public school system)

Morgane Oger - Secretary, SD39 DPAC

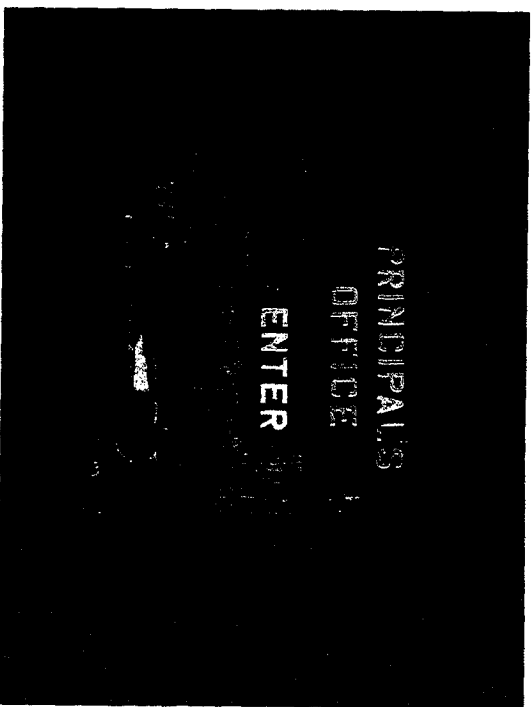
Front Line Staff

1. Counsellor (sec school)
2. Counselor-parent-teacher
3. Counselor-parent-teacher-administration (and union rep)
4. Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)
5. DPAC Rep
6. DPAC Exec
7. Superintendent



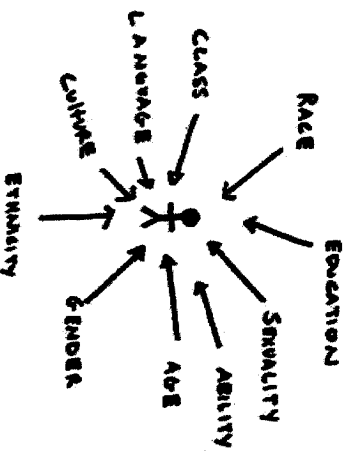
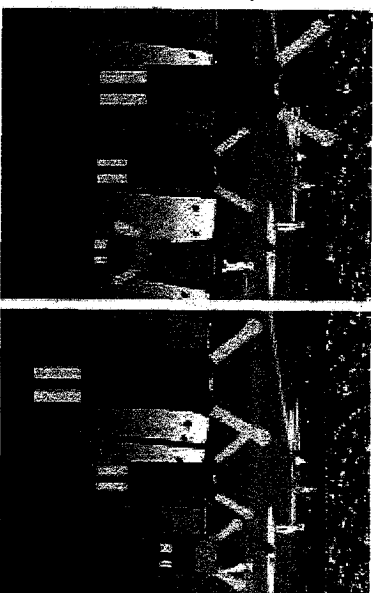
Administration

1. Counselor-parent-administrator,
2. Counselor-parent-teacher-administration
3. DPAC Rep
4. DPAC Exec
5. Superintendent



Special Needs

1. Resource teacher
2. teaching staff collaboration (looking 4 positive outcomes)
3. IEP meeting (parent milestones),
4. labelling - special needs designation
5. Classroom Assistant (CA).
 - a. System broken here.
 - b. Happy? do the paperwork, get your child designated.



Systemic Marginalization

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Frontline Staff | 1. Aboriginal Education |
| 2. Administration | 2. Pride Advocate |
| 3. DPAC | 3. School meals programs |
| 4. Superintendent | 4. Special Education Services |

Bullying

1. Front-line
2. Counselor
3. Principal
4. PAC
5. ERASE
6. DPAC Rep
7. DPAC Exec
8. Superintendent
9. BCCPAC
10. MLA (press)



Know your system

- Parents assume the system is going to protect their kid. They are wrong.
- A kid who has been a regular problem with administration gets less well served.
- Front line staff only observe symptoms, rarely root causes.
- Schools are motivated to increase funding through special needs designation.
- Schools work best with the 90% in the middle. The outliers are less well served.
- Know the district policies.
- Know your rights and your child's rights
- Don't turn into your child's problem.

Tips For Success:

- **A little understanding goes a long way**
- **Get support for yourself**
- **Know your child's rights**
- **Always prepare for meetings**
- **Always take your partner or a friend with you to meetings**
- **Leave you unger children at home**
- **Keep your cool**
- **Get support for yourself**
- **When following up, do not wear out your welcome**
- **If you believe your child is unsafe, also notify the police.**

Resources

1. 10 ways to be an effective advocate - understood.org
2. A parent's guide for advocating for students in schools [BCCPAC](#)
- [Self-help problem-solving guide](#)
3. BC province-wide [ERASE](#) bullying program
4. Roles, Responsibilities of teachers, teachers assistants, Education Assistants
- [BCTF](#)
5. [VSB Policies](#) online.
6. BC Ministry of Education Resources - [Safe And Caring Schools](#)
7. An Administrator's point of view: [From The Principal's Office](#)