

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council Meeting

April 20, 2023

6:00pm-8:00pm (PST)

Video Conferencing via Zoom

Minutes

1) Call to Order, 6:07PM,

We acknowledge, respect, and honour the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District #8.

2) Welcome & Introductions

Natalia Nazaroff - DPAC Chair/MSSS&Elev8 DPAC Rep/DPAC Gov&Policy Rep/Advocacy Coordinator;
Tamara Ziemer - DPAC Vice-Chair/LVR parent/DPAC EdCom Rep; Michelle Sylvest - DPAC Treasurer/Hume DPAC Rep; Taryn Stokes - DPAC Secretary/CBESS&LVR parent/DPAC EdCom Rep; Tyler Rice - Redfish Treasurer/DPAC Op&Fin Com Rep; Eden Dupont - parent at LVR&MSSS/DPAC Gov&Policy Rep; Chris Goggins - PAC Chair Redfish; Christopher Raabis - Wildflower Nelson DPAC Rep; Lisa Wilkinson - Crawford Bay School DPAC Rep; Trish Smillie - Superintendent of School/CEO; Naomi Ross - District Principal Early Years & Elementary; Deanna Holitzki - Director of Instruction - Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; Lenora Trenamen - Trustee North/East Shores & Board Chair; Allan Gribbin - Trustee Creston South Rural; Sharon Nararoff - Vice Chair Slocan Valley/Bonnington; Kristina Leidums - Wildflower Creston vice-chair/DPAC rep; Vanessa - ARES PAC; Candace P - Blewett DPAC Rep; Terri Wilkinson - Redfish; Sheri Walsh - Valley Voice (newspaper); Jen Derco; Audrey

3) Adoption of Agenda

Motioned - Natalia; Seconded - Tamara, Opposed- nil

Additions - change to special guests

4) Approval of Minutes

Motioned - Tamara; Seconded - Natalia; Opposed- nil

5) Superintendent's Report - plus guests Director Deanna Holitzki & District Principal Naomi Ross

- Lots of good things are happening. Indigenous focused Professional Development Day. Wonderful day of learning for all.
- Approved a draft strategic plan for field testing. Screen share for how to access feedback on the draft. Highlighted a few pages of note. Demographics, Mission/Vision/Value Statement - positions the board. Strategic priorities - Lifelong Learners, Connected Learners, Caring & Inclusive Learning Culture, Cultural & Identity Development and Career Development. Based on 2800 points of feedback in the community sessions, staff sessions and online.
- Preliminary draft budget present - relatively optimistic keeping student numbers steady. School food programs will be a new development for next year.
- Director Deanna Holitzki & District Principal Naomi Ross - Childcare and Kindergarten transitions.

- District Principal Naomi Ross - one early learning goal is to have staff involved in programs to improve student connectedness to school and the other goal is to strengthen community partnerships to support a positive kindergarten transition.
- Early Learning Framework Principles (ELF) - every child is capable and full of potential. Important role of families, play, relationships, community.
- Provincial Programs - StrongStart, Changing Possibilities for Young Children, Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten & Roots of Empathy.
- Kindergarten Transitions - special day about what to expect, tote bag, new in SD8 this year is the Childhood Experiences Questionnaire (CHEQ) - developed by UBC and collects information on experiences that are strongly linked to children's health and well-being, education and social outcomes
- Child Care Update - there are 11 childcare and early years programs on SD8 property. Currently doing an Environmental Scan of child care to help inform the district and ministry. Only one is a SD8 program at Winlaw, the others are private or independent contractors.

6) Treasurer's Report

- Waiting to send out some cheques. Current balances as of April 20, 2023 are reflected below.
- Screenshot of report shown below. The school details reflect who has been paid back for their BCCPAC memberships.

SD8 DPAC Financial Report

Bank Balances as of April 20, 2023

General (Operating) Account: \$10,423.11

Gaming Account: \$3,244.56

February/March 2023 Expenses

\$15.00 Banking fees

Adam Robertson Elementary	pd
Brent Kennedy Elementary	pd
Canyon/Lister Elementary	pd
Crawford Bay Elem-Secondary	pd
Elev8 D.E.S.K.	
Elev8 Homelinks	pd
J V Humphries Elem-Secondary	
Jewett Elementary	pd
Kootenay River Secondary	pd
L V Rogers Secondary	pd
Mount Sentinel Secondary	pd
Rosemont Elementary School	pd
Salmo Secondary	pd
South Nelson Elementary	
Trafalgar Middle School	
Wildflower	pd
Winlaw Elementary School	reissue

7) Correspondence

- Letter from Wildflower PAC - wondering if parents are having troubles with the new field trip forms. Redfish had a slight challenge but they are driving a personal vehicle - may not be accommodating for those less tech savvy.
- Dyslexia updates - SD8, union of BC Indian Chiefs supports SD8 DPAC resolution for the BCCPAC AGM, Trustees Association also has a motion coming up at their AGM and they are also in favour.

8) Discussion Items

a) Advocacy Level 1 Training Seminar

- Was also opened up to SD20 parents.
- Also invited some BCCPAC members on the Inclusion Committee to see if Advocacy Programs should be added across the province.
- Great feedback & participation.

b) Human Flourishing Consultation Report from the Ministry

- Summarized the Parent Consultation meeting from February 15, 2023

c) Online Draft Strategic Plan Public Review

- Covered by Superintendent Smillie, accessible on the district website.

d) Preliminary Balanced Budget for 2023-2024

- Not as easy to find on the SD8 website but can be found with the search feature.
- There is an email address given to provide feedback on the budget.
- One page (of the budget presentation) shows special grants that SD8 applied for to pay for specific projects. One example is new buses, HVAC upgrades, plumbing, accessible playgrounds. These are targeted programs and targeted funds outside of the regular budget.

e) Proxy forms are due for the BCCPAC AGM

- Due by the end of the week. Very important for us to be able to vote (DPAC) at the AGM.
- Need DESK parents to attend the next PAC meeting to get the proxy forms done.

f) Two representatives will attend BCCPAC AGM and Conference in May

- Motioned for the funds at the last meeting.
- Natalia will be attending as well as Colleen Bayly from Creston.

g) Voting instructions on Nominations for BCCPAC AGM

- There is an all-candidates meeting - recommendation to keep our vote OPEN based on this forum.

h) Voting instructions on Resolutions for BCCPAC AGM. See details in the AGM Booklet -

https://bccpac.bc.ca/images/AGM/2023_AGM_Booklet.pdf

- 2023.01 - special resolution, no changes, OPEN
- 2023.02 - special resolution, YES
- 2023.03 - special resolution, YES
- 2023.04 - special resolution, YES
- 2023.05 - special resolution, OPEN
- 2023.06 - special resolution, OPEN to hear the discussion

- 2023.07 - ordinary resolution, parent advocates, YES
- 2023.08 - ordinary resolution, climate change education, YES
- 2023.09 - ordinary resolution, phase out fossil fuels, OPEN
- 2023.10 - ordinary resolution, funding model review, YES
- 2023.11 - ordinary resolution, agricultural visibility, OPEN
- 2023.12 - ordinary resolution, food literacy, YES
- 2023.13 - ordinary resolution, biodiversity standards, OPEN
- 2023.14 - ordinary resolution, data for parent advocacy, YES
- 2023.15 - ordinary resolution, outdoor classroom, YES
- 2023.16 - ordinary resolution, release updated Inclusive Education Policy Manual, YES
- 2023.17 - ordinary resolution, literacy centers funding, YES
- 2023.18 - ordinary resolution, reading programs, YES
- 2023.19 - ordinary resolution, BC Gaming Funds, YES
- 2023.20 - ordinary resolution, Amend Policy 420 (special resolution process for AGM), YES

9) Committee Reports

- Operation & Finance
 - Historical budgets developed in the spring have been conservative with enrollment estimates lower than actuals of kids in school on September 30.
 - DPAC rep for Op & Finance committee indicated the April 6 meeting started late due to technical issues, and included highlights about geographic challenges. No discussion about whether the funding is sufficient.
 - DPAC could consider drafting a letter to have more time to review the sessions.
 - Want to highlight kudos for the budget to staff/board since it is balanced.
 - The Special Purpose Funds slide was shared from the Prelim Budget Presentation
 - April 25 is a public forum on the preliminary budget
 - Next Operations & Finance meeting is in May.
 - Representative thinks there should be more metrics to assess progress.

10) School Reports

- LVR - Atlas program, Principal's update, grad, student led yearbook, staffing changes
- ARES - field trips, learning share, Willie Wonka play
- Redfish - basketball tournament at Hume with six different schools, garden planting in progress, year end festivities, fundraising has been a little less with burnout, discussion about next year, staffing changes, wondering how principal turnover at SD8 compares to other districts, but Redfish has had higher turnover than others over the years so are looking for a stable administration but this could depend on the demographics of the group.
- Blewett - spring activities are in full swing, dance fusion for a full-school course, new startup from Principal for a movie night, talent show, school wide BBQ, starting up Halloween committee early in August to plan haunted house event
- MSSS - new cell phone policy - one of the last schools in the district to do this, academy class is going to Vancouver for a week for the first time in a few years.
- DESK - PAC meeting on Monday.
- Hume - movie night and bake sale, ice cream social event, bike rodeo.

- CBESS - field trip for 5-7 class, grocery gift cards looking for volunteers, will be discussing staffing concerns at the next PAC meeting, garden is starting up, student led conferences, after school programs starting up, silent auction for the student exchange program went well, movie nights for exchange fundraising as well.
- Creston Wildflower - getting ready for year end camping trip to Kokanee Creek, kids enjoying Roots of Empathy program, had second ever student entrepreneurial market at the Creston Rec Centre - filled the whole room and the students did amazing and a great community response.
- Nelson Wildflower - proud to have completed outdoor playground setup and are planning a grand opening, raffle for a new library space, concern about the field trip forms and that field trips have decreased because of this.

Adjourned at 8:00 pm PST, next DPAC meeting May 18th 2023, at 6:00 pm, will have a report on the BCCPAC Conference & AGM & committee reports