

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council Meeting

May 18, 2023

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

Video Conferencing via Zoom

Minutes

1) Call to Order, 6:02PM,

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;
Taryn Stokes - DPAC Secretary/CBESS & LVR parent/DPAC EdCom Rep; Colleen Bayly - DPAC Rep for Creston HL and Erickson Elem/DPAC Op&Fin Com Rep; Tyler Rice - Redfish Treasurer/DPAC Op & Fin Com Rep; Chris Goggins - PAC Chair Redfish; Kim Morris - BK DPAC Rep; Ben Eaton - Director of Instruction, Innovative Learning; Rob Simpson - Online Learning - Elev8 DESK and Homelinks; Lenora Trenamen - Board Chair Trustee North/East Shores & Board Chair; Murray Shunter - Trustee Nelson/Bealby Point; Sharon Nararoff - Trustee Slocan Valley/Bonnington; Vanessa - ARES PAC; Candace Pongratz - Blewett DPAC Rep; Sheri Walsh - Valley Voice (newspaper); Chris Schultz-Lorentzen BCCPAC President

3) Adoption of Agenda

Motioned - Kim; Seconded - Taryn, Opposed- nil

Additions - change to special guests, Rob Simpson instead of Tamara Maloff

4) Approval of Minutes

Motioned - Vanessa; Seconded - Kim; Opposed- nil

5) BCCPAC - Chris Schultz-Lorentzen President

Background to the BCCPAC - DPACs support PACs and BCCPAC is the accepted voice for PACs. Deal directly with the Ministry on certain issues and is a support/guidance for BC PACs. Everyone wants the best for education no matter which partner group. Structured by a Board under the Societies Act. CEO/Executive Director helps to guide the board and an office staff of 1.5 and board members are volunteers like us. BCCPAC does not have any authority over PACs/DPACs is just a support for us. Have workshops for member PACs and hold town halls as needed.

6) Superintendent's Report - presented by Director of Innovative Learning Ben Eaton

- Strategic plan and annual budget are now approved. Had over 700 participants in the process. Thank you to everyone who contributed.
- Grad season - 378 graduates and 75 indigenous students celebrating this year.
- Rob Simpson, District Principal
 - Online learning programs. Desk & Homelinks

- MOECC revised the distributed learning programs and renamed it to online learning, effective July 1.
- Part of that revision was the creation of Provincial Online Learning Schools.
- More consistency in online learning schools. SD8 was accepted.
- Elevate/Desk - is a traditional online learning program with everything online. Used to be done through the mail system but now is online. It is teacher delivered and directed.
- Homelinks are more community based programs so there is an opportunity for blending learning. A teacher works with families and there is also an in-person component.
- <https://search.onlinelearningbc.com/>
- Key changes - making sure all students are supported like students with diverse needs.
- It is open enrollment high school students can apply now and work through the summer.
- No enrollment projections but are ready to act on things quickly.
- Students from our district can also cross-enroll in other POLS not in SD8.

7) Treasurer's Report

- No update at this meeting.
- Showing screenshot presented on April 20, 2023. Expenses not yet submitted for the BCCPAC Conference & AGM or the Susan Wilson advocacy seminar and cheques not written yet.

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

8) Correspondence

- Dyslexia resolutions for BCCPAC letter received. An email received after the BCCPAC conference from a teacher. The teacher wrote that she almost cried when she read the news (that the resolution had passed) because she has been advocating for this for years and passes on her thanks.
- Superintendent Smillie letter regarding corrections from April meeting. Director Eaton is happy to take any questions back if needed. He has noted the questions and has asked for the documents to be shared after the meeting to ensure accuracy.
- Email from Tyler Rice.

- Question - What is the DPAC process for distributing the information? The superintendent had requested information to be shared with the reps. Followed the protocol of passing along the email to the people that it was relevant to (did not use the entire route list) as requested by the superintendent.

9) Discussion Items

a) BCCPAC Conference & AGM Report, by Natalia & Colleen

- Will not share all of it tonight but will email it.
- Natalia asked Chris Schultz-Lorentzen from BCCPAC to explain the first speaker further. Parents could get a sense of what it was like at the provincial level. Membership is voluntary in the BC Principals and Vice Principal group. The presentation was an overview of how they work together and how BCCPAC fits into the advocacy piece. One example was the School Plan - boards look at this for district and strategic plans. Every partner group has different roles and responsibilities but want the same thing for education.
- Attended all the breakout sessions, with the help of Kendra Mann from SD20. Natalia attended an advocacy session - document everything - emphasized that it is important to send a thank you note and reflect back on your points of the meeting. If there is no reply back it is a way of accepting what you heard.
- Colleen attended the session on Integrated Child & Youth Teams, ICY, (children's mental health). Goal is to implement ICY teams in every school district to make it completely accessible and provide wrap-around services.
- Also shared details on the Consent Cafe developed at Thompson River University. It is NOT sex-ed. About training our youth so they have proper ideas on what consent is.
- Communicating Student Learning session - emphasized that ministry is trying to encourage evaluation according to the individual child. Need to compare a child in September/December/June rather than comparing different children. Need to shift our mindset to make sure every child is growing and learning rather than comparing children.
- BC Ombudsperson presentation - sometimes advocacy cases cannot be resolved at school or district level or even the provincial level. They are a neutral third party and the duty is to evaluate fairness.
- BCCPAC AGM - SD8 had six schools not registered with BCCPAC this year. There was a motion this year that passed by one vote and we (SD8 DPAC) were voting against it. The report shows the resolutions as they have been changed during the meeting so does not match the resolution booklet. Our resolutions (Literacy Centres and Science Based Reading) were passed.

b) Committee Reports - Education Partner Advisory Committee from May 9, by Taryn

- Superintendent spoke - Draft Strategic Plan will be proposed to the board for approval that evening. It is a vision document, mission and commitments of the board and what we are aiming for wrt student improvement. Reflects all the phases of the engagement process from January to May. Will communicate to partners after board approval.

- 5 Strategic Priorities with several goals under each – 1) Lifelong Learners, 2) Connected Learners, 3) Caring & Inclusive Learning Culture, 4) Cultural & Identity Development and 5) Career Development
- Director Ben Eaton – shared the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning – alignment and coherence, annual cycle includes data analysis of student learning outcomes, design of school/district plans, shared video of the student symposium from February (is one piece of the street level data)
- District Principal Maloff – connects school planning with school based professional development days, details on numeracy spring learning series – anchoring workshop, demonstrations classrooms at 3 families of schools (show teachers how to implement a strategy with an opportunity to discuss and debrief), then a May workshop and school based PD day.
- District Numeracy Teacher – David Salisbury Rowsell – shared practices (commonly agreed upon) of things to focus on with math education – example – put kids in a position where they have to struggle a bit (productively) because that reinforces the learning, did a demonstration with the room, ideally groups of 3, each group only gets one marker, ultimate goal is to give teachers a common focus to help each other become better at what they are doing
- School learning plans and learning tours coming up, in person by family of schools
- Next meeting – June 13,

c) Committee Reports - Operations & Finance, attended by both Taryn (sub for Colleen) and Tyler

- Superintendent presented the recommended budget to the committee - was approved by the board later that evening.
- The budget should reflect SD8 values from the new Strategic Plan. Highlights of budget:
 - Slight decrease in expected student attendance, only 6 FTE.
 - Increased funding provincially for unique needs (designations), salary differential (very slight increase) and geographic adjustment.
 - Now have an employee engagement fund, increasing funding for student transportation (field trips), reestablish funding for student-led district wide events, increased support staff, greater focus on food equity, hardship funding for all schools, increased school counselor allocations for schools, reallocated funds for knowledge keepers and Elders, Expansion of Trades programming, school transportation budgets increased to support career exploration and community engagement.
- Additional observations from the official Finance & Ops rep based on the recent budget season from cradle to grave. Observations from this year compared to a prior year and based on his accounting experience.
 - F&O meeting frequency is less and there is less to view
 - Could correlate the strategic plan to the budget
- Chair Trenamen requests that these detailed questions be asked of the superintendent.
- Tyler had requested a motion to be reviewed by the DPAC exec to draft a letter to the board. Chair recommends that we defer this item so there is more time to review it.

Natalia motion, Chris G second to extend motion for brief school reports

10) School Reports

- LVR - new VP as well, mental health presentation for students and community, school sports, travel is expensive for provincials, ideas for Atlas program to be able to have training in avalanche zones
- ARES - Learning fair - tour of school, owl dissection, drum group, powwow at rec center, track meet
- Redfish - welcoming a new principal, year end PAC event, basketball, broke ground on garden project
- Crawford Bay - field trips, plant sale fundraiser, grocery gift cards, full bus for the pow wow tomorrow
- HL Creston - new principal, field trip to Calgary
- Erickson - PAC meeting earlier today, went from a PAC of 3-12 parents, successful fundraisers, Grade 7 Trip to Silverwood, activity days planned
- Blewett - Candace - spring activities - soccer, tennis, golf, dance fusion, first annual mulch sale and BBQ, outdoor movie night, year end BBQ, walk/run, school learning tour
- MSSS - book club, archery, soccer club, chess, parent teacher night, reviewing bursary application for PAC bursary, student learning surveys
- DESK - did not have quorum at last meeting
- BK (shared via email after meeting due to technical issues) - Multi age class is organizing a Table Top event June 2 to celebrate National Table Top day (variety of board games will be set up/life size Janga etc.), PAC is helping by running the kitchen. BK is also having a Moving Up Ceremony for the Grade 6's at the end of June, school-wide fun day June 28

Adjourned at 8:16 pm PST, next DPAC meeting June 15th 2023, at 6:00 pm, will have committee reports