

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council Meeting

November 24, 2022

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

Video Conferencing via Zoom

Minutes

1) Call to Order, 6:10PM, delayed slightly due to technical difficulties

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 and Introductions

Please identify who you are representing in the chat, reminder of code of conduct - we would see each other if we were in person - if you can turn your camera on we ask that you do, if you cannot identify yourself in our chat you will be removed from the meeting, as per the code of conduct - will not discuss individual (students/teachers/staff), open discussion is encouraged with respectful conduct, if we have people not following the code of conduct they can be removed

Natalia Nazaroff - DPAC Chair/MSSS&Elev8 DPAC Rep/DPAC Gov&Policy Rep/Advocacy Coordinator;
Tamara Ziemer - DPAC Vice-Chair/LVR parent/DPAC EdCom Rep; Taryn Stokes - DPAC
Secretary/CBESS&LVR parent/DPAC EdCom Rep; Lorien Quattrocchi - Hume PAC Chair; Colleen Bayly -
DPAC Rep for Creston HL and Erickson Elem/DPAC Op&Fin Com Rep; Tyler Rice - Redfish Treasurer/DPAC
Op&Fin Com Rep; Eden Dupont - parent at LVR&MSSS/DPAC Gov&Policy Rep; Kim Morris - BK DPAC Rep;
Skye-Lea Farr - Hume DPAC rep; Trish Smillie - Superintendent of School/CEO; Naomi Ross - District
Principal Early Years & Elementary; Lenora Trenamen - Trustee North/East Shores & Board Chair; Murray
Shunter - Trustee Nelson/Bealby Point; Kathy Etheridge - Trustee Creston; Terri Wilkinson; Angela;
Vanessa; Christopher; Deana

3) Adoption of Agenda

Motioned - Natalia Nazaroff; Seconded - Taryn Opposed- nil

4) Approval of Minutes

Motioned - Natalia Seconded - Tamara; Opposed- nil

5) Superintendent's Report - plus guests Naomi Ross District Principal for Early Learning

- Apologies for the technical difficulties due to her invite on calendar
- Ceremonies in November for Remembrance Day and Indigenous Peoples Remembrance days
- Metis recognition and history, language and culture is also in November, Louis Riel Day

- Learning activities outlined in last months superintendent report and Kootenay Zone Cross Country Championships,
- New Strong Start at South Nelson - 13 programs now across the district
- New Board of Education inaugurated
- Elementary schools have completed the foundation skills assessment
- Early Learning Report - Naomi Ross - 3 main goals in early learning this year 1) Develop a repository of data sets to help understand developmental stages, 2) participate in provincial and regional programs to improve student connectedness to schools, 3) kindergarten transition - work with community partners
 - BC Early Learning Framework - provincial document that guides the work in the early years, important role of families, collaboration between communities/schools, play is integral, relationships
 - Research shows focusing on early years is the “biggest bang for our buck” - 3 year plan for early years learning focus in 2020, 3rd year in the ELP - seeing the results using a common literacy assessment tool
 - EDI and CHEQ, have been around for a long time, physical health/wellbeing/cognitive development etc, collected in wave cycles most recent was done in 2020, this year will have another wave in 2023
 - CHEQ - completely voluntary by parent, exciting because can correlate EDI and CHEQ data on how kindergarten learners are doing
 - Kindergarten transitions - supply bag
 - Provincial programs to foster student and family connectedness, like strongstart, changing possibilities for Young Children (Redfish/ARES/Blewett/South Nelson/Rosemont), Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten (Salmo/Creston/CBESS), Roots of Empathy (Erickson/Wildflower Creston/South Nelson)

Question to Superintendent about recycling plans - was it a temporary stop to service in December 2020? SD will redo the announcement from then. It is a regional issue as two companies do the shipping - if there is a contaminated load the price increases dramatically. Many businesses have provided the same feedback to the RDCK that it is cost prohibitive for many groups in our area to do recycling. Loads go to the dump as soon as there is contamination. Certain schools have certain projects which are very successful - South Nelson does a lot with recycling, others do composting. Projects are very dependent on staff sponsors and volunteers. Selkirk is probably in the same situation and staff takes their recycling home at the SD offices.

6) Treasurer's Report

- Exact same report from agm, used screenshot from that meeting below,, \$2.50 for each banking account for fees, still need to pay training providers and for BCCPAC memberships.

SD8 DPAC Financial Report FYE 2021-22.pdf

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DPAC Financial Report FYE 2021-22

OPERATING STATEMENT	
GENERAL ACCOUNT	
Opening Balance - October 1, 2021	9,459.53
Total Revenue	4,900.00
Total Expenses	1,785.00
Closing Balance	12,574.53
GAMING ACCOUNT	
Opening Balance - October 1, 2021	2046.03
Total Expenses	1,780.00
Total Revenue	2,000.00
Closing Balance	2,266.03
TOTAL CASH (30-Sep-2022)	14,840.56

EXPENSES	General	Gaming
Bank Fees	30.00	30.00
Family Education		1600.00
BCCPAC AGM/Conference	105.00	
BCCPAC fees	1,650.00	150.00
	1,785.00	1,780.00

October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022

7) Correspondence

- LVR recycling, dyslexia BC stories,
- Do we want to sign a mandate letter on behalf of SD8? Because we have a new premier we will have a new mandate letter to the minister responsible - align housing planning with school planning policy, life cycle costs for school facilities - instead of fixing schools should have older schools replaced, provide equitable access for students with disabilities. Question is should our district support this? Comment about good to support our urban partners, the urban schools were not interested in adding rural comments to this letter.

8) BCCPAC Leadership Summit report (provided with agenda package) - A very full weekend of information from the Ministry that we would like to share and discuss with our DPAC. As well, discussion items (emerging topics) from day 2 of the summit. Shared report until around 8:30PM. "SOGI Explained" fact sheet was released by SD8 and is on the website - SOGI is for everyone (everyone has a SOGI) but they are not all the same. New graduation rates will come out this year, 6yr - 85% for all learners and 76% for indigenous students, diverse learners is 72%, 5yr rates - 83%ALL/80%I/76%DL, our January presentation will be Gail Higginbottom, about Indigenous Education.

9) Discussion Items

a) Topics for what parents would like to see from the Finance&Ops, Education, and Policy reps. Thoughts around tracking, reporting and communicating matters presented at DPAC meetings to the reps this school year.

- Recycling and waste management fits under ops&finance, plus the student affordability fund spending - from the last board minutes this was going to be covered in a December board meeting
- Usual reports are 5 minutes, oral reports are short, trust our reps and share the interesting things. Highlights are good as the minutes do come out after.
- Concept of committees is that all members will take back to their representative body, expectation is that then that body will respond to take those comments back to the committee, for example budget meeting, dialog about what is being discussed and being considered, to engage in a back and forth dialog
- Is there a forum for the DPAC to present proactively to the Op&Fin? First Tyler wants to get feedback from the DPAC on whether the items are appropriate, difference between asking for something to be added the agenda and having input into the discussion item that you are interested in
- Example given for budget process - your rep is at the table, you know what is being considered and what the superintendent's recommendations to the board are, you will be able to hear the information and ask the questions and then will have the time to take that back to the DPAC to provide input.
- It is a process - can ask questions at the end of a public board meeting. Purpose of the meeting is to gain the insight of the partners to help form the decision that is made by the board. Have every opportunity as a DPAC to advise the board through the O&F and have every opportunity to ask questions and give feedback on any matter.

Motion to extend meeting by up to 30 minutes by Natalia, all in favour

- Generally the speaking partners don't add to the agenda because the agenda is based on what is of interest to the board.
- Parents are just one of many partner groups at the table, our concerns aren't always the ones that go forward.
- There is no vote at these committee meetings; the board has the say at a board meeting.
- Board Chair Trenamen - function of the board is to make decisions regarding the operations of the district. They are saying this is where we want to go/what we want to do and direct the Superintendent who then gets the experts to make it happen, partner groups - what is your input? Then makes the best decision based on all the input taking into account the students/staff/etc. Their job is one of governance. It may not be the decision you want but at least you know that you were heard. All we can do is give the input to the board. Feeling heard and doing what the parents want isn't necessarily the same thing.
- Final comment from Tamara, you also have a voice through your local trustee, it is your duty to bring it to your trustee as well. But needs to weigh all of the information that is heard - as parents we may not necessarily be aware of all of the information.

b) Advocacy 101 and training with Susan Wilson - \$1000 is the cost for courses and support, could do a survey to see if people are interested. A Trustee is curious how the program is utilized if we want to

answer, advocacy program through the website is available, Creston side doesn't usually use the website, other families in the school district have also reached out directly so Natalia doesn't have that information, coming into the coordinator there are usually a few and they are complex issues, the more we do Advocacy 101 the more we have parents accessing the program, feel Advocacy 101 is good to do every year, Advocate Training is less important but can talk to Susan about just doing 101, Colleen does a lot on the Creston side, Susan also has a program to train staff/teachers on what training she does with the parents, fall/winter is easier & there is more interest to schedule/book than in spring

Motion to run Advocacy 101 with Susan Wilson, seconded by Tamara, AIF, motion carried

10) School Reports

- LVR - computers purchased for grade 10 are not being used and they are in a locked room, what are the plans? Your principal would be able to provide you the answer. Had to get handed in and reimaged.
- There is a process for any concern - in the class, talk to your teacher; at the school; talk to your principal, then take it to the superintendent, have to alert the management of whatever your concerns are, communications protocol brochure, the board will listen to you too but it goes through a process, usually the issues are an administrative or operational issue, use your advocates, there is a process to address every concern and there is a way to get answers, get it put in writing, do you want to wait for a meeting to address your concerns - if not then send an email to get it addressed, <https://www.sd8.bc.ca/parents-students/communication>
- Redfish - there was a concern from parents but the meeting did not include the trustee or SD8 staff. Then the next meeting had the staff and parents and they (trustee/staff) thought it was addressed in the meeting,

10) Adjourned at 8:56 pm PST, next meeting January 19th 2023 at 6:00 pm PST 7:00 pm MST, committee meetings coming up in December as well.