

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Nelson Board Office

Attendance

Parents:

Rebecca Scown BK

Cate Baio - Wildflower

Martha Clark- LVR, Trafalgar

Lisa Schmidtke - S Nelson (and Nelson City Police)

Executive:

Sheri Walsh - Chair (LVR)

Lori Thompson - Vice-chair (Winlaw)

Ester - Treasurer (Mt Sentinel)

Nicole Rhynold- Secretary (JVH)

Kendra Mann - Past chair (Rosemont)

Staff and Education Partners:

Jeff Jones, Superintendent

Todd Kettner - District Psychologist

Lenora Trenaman, Trustee, Board Chair

1) Welcome / Call to Order at 6:06 pm

2) Approval of Agenda

Agenda accepted by consensus

3) Approval of the of February 26, 2015 Minutes

Draft minutes approved by consensus

4) Todd Kettner

- Coordinates psychological services for district
- Consults with and serves as a resource for school counsellors about issues at schools, safety plans, supports learning assistance, administers psycho-educational and other student assessments such as for learning disabilities, Violence Threat Risk Assessments
- a confidential/anonymous program delivers reports of bullying to Todd's computer within minutes and he then works with the school. If it is a matter of immediate risk, works with Child and Youth Mental Health and/or Police/RCMP.

Lock Down Procedure - Lisa - all teachers and principals District wide are now trained.

Mandt - Capacity Building program for staff providing training in preventing or de-escalating threatening behaviour (to self or others)

ASIST- new initiative, (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) throughout the district, staff, community and parent training sessions (Creston, Nelson, Slocan) co-facilitated and sponsored with/by Freedom Quest. Promotes suicide safer communities, getting to know support providers.

Questions - How could we provide training such as ASIST to people who cannot attend central sessions? Would be difficult but perhaps there could be a suitable format.

5) District Report - Jeff Jones

- board passed balanced budget on Tuesday, main points of budget are on SD8 web
- budget process included Budget Stakeholder Engagement Committee meetings (includes 2 members from each of DPAC, KLTF, PVP, CUPE, trustees and senior management), student symposium, talking tables with PVP, talking tables with 22 parents, teachers and trustees - felt they were very productive.
- can start staffing arrangements now that budget is set
- funding increased because of projected increase in enrollment of 5 students, therefore district won't receive funding protection; funding for teacher and support staff wage increases received
- distributed learning audit in May
- new trustees are receiving periodic orientation - has been very positive
- staff professional development on Apr 13
- May 15 - Pow Wow in Creston, plus SD8 will be in the Blossom Festival parade
- Lieutenant Governor is going to visit Salmo Secondary
- Creston Valley Blossom Parade
- Science Fair - 3 students going to national competition
- Angie McTague of LVR - won prestigious McEwen Family Teacher Recognition Award - nominated by former students - \$5000 for her science classroom; she is a very dedicated teacher of high school science and especially physics
- Hired a new principal for Crawford Bay who begins on June 1, Laurie McPherson, from Brunei

6) School Reports

Mt. Sentinel

- Nicolas Paun going to national science fair
- Interact kids went to Mexico and ended up building 2 houses for poor families

JVH

- Garden going well
- Going on walks for DPA (daily physical activity)
- All positive comments

Trafalgar

- Dance tonight
- 2 students from school going to New Brunswick for national science fair
- Fundraiser for bursaries through Dig they do hanging baskets
- Principal went to High Tech High, doing self-directed learning, cross curriculum learning

L.V. Rogers

- LVTV announcements are now online
- Bands are in Banff in competition
- 2 students lead visioning activity for Education Committee - what would our ideal school district look like
- Global Perspective class is holding a fundraiser evening May 22 for a Kenyan village through Free the Children - international meal and different bands - tickets on sale at Otters
- student Natasha Bergman (one of student Education Committee presenters) nominated for national Me to We award, online voting

Brent Kennedy

- Children's market - fun time - very well organized - very well attended, good signage
- Basketball team traveling to Salmo
- Grade 5-6 sex ed. - kept it funny for the boys - 2 teachers and principals and 2 female teachers

Wildflower

- First school dance to raise money for a field trip wanted it to be in the 3:30-5 to be a family event. Bake sale and entrance fee. Believe they raised a few hundred dollars
- Going to sell Wildflower Honey
- Created a PAC logo - maybe a tee-shirt

Winlaw

- We had a working bathroom for the magic show - very successful - great family activity
- Swim program coming up
- Spring Fling - looking for a dunk tank
- Music going great
- Watershed still going strong
- Student Council doing great - really brings the grade 5/6 students along and some grade 4 on the council as well
- New raffles
- It looks like we will be receiving WILD program funds. I believe that the funds are for the outdoor classroom classroom foundation.
- David Hatfield presentation - very well attended for just a few days' notice
- 2 more students enrolled
- A petition from parents to modify catchment area is circulating

Redfish

- Wetlands - opening celebration of community and school project at Sunshine Bay incorporating science, art and wetland preservation
- Music Monday May 4 - students across Canada will sing this year's song at same time
- Earth day busy across the District

7) Correspondence

- DPAC was cc'd a letter to the Board from a parent expressing concern about HPV immunization of girls in schools without parental consent

a) Business arising from Correspondence

- immunization is under jurisdiction of Interior Health
- Board will be responding to letter and DPAC will respond as well after the board has responded

8) Discussion Items**a) Bill 11: The Education Statutes Amendment Act**

- Superintendent Jones reviewed the sections with the major changes affecting parents, i.e., elimination of School Planning Councils and parent input into school plans and all other SPC responsibilities, however there is still a great deal of ambiguity and much will be determined in the regulations; the government has promised to consult widely before developing those
- Chair Trenaman presented a letter from the Board to Minister Fassbender objecting to many changes in the bill, especially the reduced autonomy and authority of local school boards and asked if DPAC would send one as well.
- Motion: Resolved that DPAC write a letter to Minister Fassbender expressing concerns and referencing the SD8 Board letter

Moved: Lori

Seconded: Martha

Carried

b) Talking Tables - 8 parents attended, several others were interested but were unable to do so with only the week's notice that was provided by the district; feedback from Cate, Ester and Nicole - found it to be very worthwhile for increasing understanding of district operations, but wondering how parent input will be utilized

c) Parent Education:

- Parent Night Out:** Very successful parent presentation April 21 by Jesse Miller on social media. Request received from Tamara Malloff for DPAC to provide \$500 funding for the parent presentation. To be discussed following Treasurer's Report.

- ii) **Talking to your kids about sex** - Ester and Lori are planning on hosting a talk, probably in September with the Valley Family of schools in conjunction with CBAL
- iii) **Parent advocacy training** - in June, with Susan Wilson facilitating
- iv) **SPC training** - irrelevant now that SPCs are being eliminated

d) **BCCPAC AGM:** DPAC executive met earlier today and reviewed resolutions and board candidates; made preliminary decisions regarding support, but could change, depending on points raised during debate

- DPAC executive gathering proxies from PACs to enable KL to have as many votes as possible at the AGM

e) **Facilities Plan:** taking longer to complete than was expected - weren't expecting over 90 scenarios. Completing fit analysis for all, those scenarios that are feasible will be reviewed by trustees using criteria previously developed. Public meetings - not sure when

f) **Policy Regulation Committees:** once a policy has been approved by the Board, the Superintendent convenes a committee of interested stakeholders to develop the regulations or district procedures. Anticipate there will be 2-3 meetings of 1-2 hours each for each regulation to be developed. Currently looking for interested parents to sit on regulation committees for the Supervisory Conflict of Interest and the Tobacco and Electronic Smoking Device policies. Please contact DPAC.

- DocuSign & DPAC Chairs Meetings March 15-29 tabled.
- District Communication Protocol, Parent & District Roles & Responsibilities (from January) moved to future meeting

9) DPAC & District Committee Reports

a) DPAC Treasurer

General account: \$4,853.54

Gaming account: \$ 731.21

Motion: Resolved that

DPAC provide \$500 towards the Jesse Miller parent presentation.

Moved: Ester Seconded: Martha Carried

- b) Budget Stakeholder Engagement (next meeting May 5 – JVH, Kaslo)
- c) Finance & Operations (next meeting May 5 – JVH, Kaslo)
- d) Policy & Governance (next meeting May 19 – SBO, Nelson)
- e) Education (next meeting June 2 – WEG, Slocan)
- f) Healthy Lifestyles (TBD)

Adjournment: 8:26 pm.

DPAC Meeting Schedule:

May 28 – Sandy Prentice, International Program

June 18 – Parent Celebration!