

**Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council**  
**Thursday, February 26, 2015**  
**Nelson Board Office**

**Attendance**

**Board:**

Sheri Walsh - DPAC Chair, LVR  
Lori Thompson - DPAC Vice-Chair, Winlaw  
Ester Zdebiak - DPAC Treasurer, Mt Sentinel  
Kendra Mann - DPAC past chair, Rosemont

**Parents:**

Rebecca Scown - BK  
Cate Baio - Wildflower

**by phone:**

Nicole Rhynold - DPAC Secretary, JVH (left at 7:00)

**Education Partners:**

Jeff Jones, Superintendent  
Lenora Trenaman, Trustee, Board Chair

**1) Welcome / Call to Order at 6:15 pm**

**2) Approval of Agenda**

Agenda accepted by consensus

**3) Acceptance of January 22, 2015 Minutes**

a. Draft minutes approved by consensus

**4) Video Presentation:**

Dr. Yong Zhao: "The Science and Education of the Individual: Towards a New Education Paradigm"

**5) District Reports**

**Jeff Jones, Superintendent**

- Busy time; completion of semester 1
- Number of student trips during Spring Break - Mexico and Greece and other places
- Facilities Plan is ongoing - Kim continues working on this
- Poverty mitigation consultation continues; recently completed a parent survey and an employee Thoughtstream/ThoughtExchange process; results will be discussed by the Education Committee, and then the board
- Budget Stakeholder Engagement Committee - will include input from student in symposium
- Dan Rude, former principal of Crawford Bay Elementary Secondary is replacing former principal Dan Miles at JV Humphries in Kaslo. Dan resigned to take a position in Japan. The process to replace the CBESS principal has begun. The first step (which has been completed) is to invite expression of interest from current principals. No one applied so the position has now been posted. The Director of Human Resources, Deanna Holitzki will be meeting with stakeholders at the school to determine their priorities for a new principal
- The principal of Canyon-Lister Elementary will be leaving at the end of the school year to take a position in China. The process to replace him has commenced.

- The district has completed enrollment projections for next year and has started the process to align staff with enrollment. The process begins with reviewing requests for transfers and retirement notices from staff.
- The Superintendent has been visiting many schools over the past month. “In addition to the opportunity to speak with many members of the community, I observe interactions between students and students, students and adults and adults with adults. I look for evidence of student learning, displays of student projects and other signs of the culture of the school. I also seek to understand the impact of decisions made at the school and district level—in order to inform my work as we go about the allocation of resources throughout the district... I am also looking for how the board’s areas of emphasis, redefining learning leaders and ensuring that students have opportunities to engage with their communities, are progressing.”
- SD8 has about 80 FTE international students enrolled annually. At this week’s board meeting, in addition to the presentation of the final report from the 2.5 year long International Program Review which considered how the district is meeting the needs of different groups such as international students, Canadian students, teachers, support staff, administration, homestay families, it was announced that the district will be initiating a Global Citizenship Certificate Program for Canadian students - probably the first such program in BC.
- The board approved Scent Free and Gender Identity/Sexual Orientation policies; regulation committees of interested stakeholders will be formed shortly and the regulations (procedures) will then go to the board for approval.
- Parent Satisfaction Surveys - to be completed by parents of students in grades 4, 7 & 10 by April 30; school administrators will provide link; don’t use the one on the Nelson library website!

#### **Lenora Trenaman, Trustee, Board Chair**

- Superintendent has covered most of the board activities
- board is writing a letter of support of Susan Wilson for the BCCPAC George Matthews Award

### **6) School Reports**

#### **Mt. Sentinel**

- Danny Leeming’s students are using their own laptops

#### **Rosemont**

- Flash Mob dance at city hall for anti-bullying day.
- Learning hip hop dance.

#### **L.V. Rogers**

- Theatre production of Almost Maine at the Capitol was superb
- More theatre at the last board meeting where two students presented an excerpt from “Salt Water Moon” and talked about what taking drama has done for them
- Food drive for the food cupboard
- Golf is starting soon
- Digital audio mixing and the senior jazz band is going to the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Idaho shortly

- Kim Morris presented information about the Facilities Plan to a sparsely attended PAC meeting, although there great conversation
- Galen Boulanger was awarded a Loran Scholarship worth \$100,000

### **Brent Kennedy**

- Making changes to food related to Healthy Options, such as using brown rice
- Kids love the dress up days, mostly Disney characters
- Children's market - very popular, lots of vendors selling kid-related items April 11

### **Wildflower**

- Put together a group for the Nelson Coldest Night of the Year Walk - part of the school district which had the biggest group participating
- Raised around \$1200.00
- Applied for the healthy schools grant - want to purchase snowshoes - storage is an issue???
- Hot lunch started again - other kids cook the meals and bring them to the student
- Looking to buy a popcorn maker - try Civic theatre
- Kim Morris met with parents about the Facilities Plan

### **Winlaw**

- Finished the ski program
- Hired a music teacher for one day a week
- Fridays for the rest of year - cross curriculum science and drama - watershed, outings- hikes for different parts of the project and different age levels. Culminates in a play that involves all grades.
- Student council starting
- RTI - Response to Intervention - all staff went - support system for student creating opportunities for students that don't learn on the first time round. Focus on reading using RTI model.
- Magic show
- Raffles
- Continue grant writing to support teachers in WILD program
- Working to build relationship with and share events with WEGraham and the Whole school.
- Snowshoe dance but on grass

## **7) Correspondence**

Vancouver DPAC - sent us copies of theirs letters to Ministries of Finance, Education and the Premier and press release, in response to budget with cuts to administrative funding.

- a. Business arising from Correspondence  
DPAC will await further information before deciding whether to write a similar letter and do a press release. If a letter is written, it would be helpful to include details of what the district can no longer do because of the funding cut.

## 8) Discussion Items

- a) **Facilities Plan** - 89 scenarios submitted; 1<sup>st</sup> step is to eliminate those that are not physically feasible, then use criteria to evaluate the remaining scenarios, then hold another round of town hall meetings after spring break
- b) **District 3 year Calendar** - calendar discussion completed, draft prepared, went well, early dismissal days still to be decided, recommend 2 early dismissal days in each of spring and fall rather than 3 and 1
- c) **Parent Advocacy Training** - Sheri meet with Susan Wilson today - Susan agreed to deliver parent advocacy training, with a goal of training at least one parent advocate per family of schools; Susan will receive an honorarium from DPAC for doing this
- d) **SPC training** - perhaps in April. There is a provincial announcement about the SPCs forthcoming
- e) **BCCPAC - Resolved that:** DPAC will send up to three representatives to the BCCPAC conference and AGM. Moved by: Lori, Seconded by: Ester Carried  
BCCPAC pays travel costs, DPAC pays registration, accommodation, meals
  - BCCPAC will not have a central November conference but will fund more local conferences. Kootenays should consider organizing a local conference. BCCPAC would pay for a big speaker who could present via satellite and local committee would build the rest of the conference.
- f) **CBAL** - Slocan Valley CBAL offered to partner with DPAC for a workshop/presentation for parents about talking to kids about sex. Could be at Mt. Sentinel, district office, could be videocast as well.
- g) **ASIST workshop** - There will be a session at WEGraham in Slocan with space for 3 parents

## 9) Committee Reports

### Treasurer

Gaming: \$736.21

Regular: \$4,881.04

Tamara Malloff has asked DPAC to help fund Jesse Miller's presentation on social media. To be held April 21 at LVR. We will find out amount needed and discuss at next meeting. DPAC will request that the presentation be made available to parents outside of Nelson.

**Budget Stakeholder Engagement** - item we didn't get to at the Committee meeting. Budget priorities - need parent priorities by March 4<sup>th</sup>. Sheri will look at surplus survey to see what recommendations were made and distribute as examples when requesting feedback. Committee may discuss out of catchment bussing and/or bus fees.

## 10) Adjournment: 8:16 pm.

### DPAC Meeting Schedule:

April 23 - 6:00 - Todd Kettner will present ASIST and VTRA

May 28

June 18 - Parent Celebration!