

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 28, 2015
Nelson School Board office

Attendance

Parents:

Cate Baio - Wildflower
Martha Clark – LVR and Trafalgar
Tamara Hudson - Rosemont

Executive:

Sheri Walsh- Chair, LVR
Lori Thompson – Vice-Chair, Winlaw
Ester Zdebiak – Treasurer, Mt Sentinel

Staff and Education Partners:

Lorri Fehr – SD #8 Director of Innovative Learning
Sandy Prentice – SD #8 International Program Administrator

Other:

Wayne Prentice

1. Welcome/Call to Order at 6:08 pm

2. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved by consensus

3. Approval of April 23 minutes

Minutes approved by consensus

4. Presentation:

Sandy Prentice, SD8 International Program Administrator: SD8's International Program
Sandy presented information about SD8's International Program and the results of the recently completed program review, highlighting areas of strength and areas for improvement. DPAC was given a copy of the report. Please contact DPAC to read.

5. District Reports: Lorri Fehr

- Schools are now in June mode – lots of celebrations and field trips, PAC events, grads
- New Crawford Bay principal Laury McPherson, who was recently working in Brunei, begins work on June 1 and is already in the community with her family. She is thrilled to be here and has family in the area.
- Have just finished scholarship adjudications. SD8 has some amazing students involved in many things, many are going on to post-secondary education, including many at eastern universities.
- Today French immersion program did professional development
- District is doing training on the new "SFE" automated employee system.
- Training on the MyEdBC system, student information system replacing BCeSIS, also being done; the Ministry has promised to implement a parent portal, but no timeline has been announced

- School fees were approved at the last board meeting after lots of conversation. Discussions need to continue around values and concerns with fees, including for academies.
- Bill 11 has passed; SPCs have been abolished among other changes of significance to parents.

6. School Reports -

Rosemont

- Phenomenal school – principal sooo polite
- Bike rodeo – won bikes and helmets
- PAC bake sale
- Pizza day on Fridays, different foods on different days
- Always something going on!

Winlaw

- Run and Zumba
- High energy, lots of smiles and laughs
- 4,5,6's going to Pines Camp
- School planning tomorrow
- Raised about \$1,500 at Spring Fling – down from previous years – very hot day
- Had a musical/drama production about our watershed. All students were in the production. Each class studied one part of the cycle; went on out trips to learn about their “Valley like” productions
- Kids are all swimming twice a week for 3 and a half weeks
- Working on raising the remaining money required to finish the WILD outdoor classroom.
- Starting to work on raising \$ for new playground

7. Correspondence

Nil

8. Discussion Items

a.) BCCPAC spring conference and AGM

- reviewed discussions that took place and resolutions of interest
- Susan Wilson received the George Matthews Award

b.) Parent Education:

- decided to do parent advocacy and PAC 101 and Treasurer 101 sessions in the fall

c.) Policy Regulation Committees

- still looking for a couple of parents to be part of the Supervisory Conflict of Interest, Scent Free Environment, Temporary Superintendent Succession and Tobacco and Electronic Smoking Device policy regulation committees; see details on SD8 parent facebook page and DPAC mailouts
- Lori has been part of the Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity policy regulation committee

d.) District Budget Process

- general discussion

e.) School staffing

- concerns by parents about adequate staffing when regular staff are absent
- Director Fehr – there is a constant conversation to ensure adequate staff coverage during absences,
- district is currently analyzing sick days and making plans around that to avoid scheduling proD on Mondays or Fridays which are high TTOC call days; more challenging to find replacement people for part time work

f) “Grad Boutique”

- idea about “recycling” grad dresses and suits between Nelson and Creston to kids who need them
- discussion about very high amount of funds raised for grads, e.g., LVR grads have raised \$38,000
- is this much money needed for a grad? What is done with leftover funds, if there are any?

g) District Communication Protocol, Parent & District Roles & Responsibilities (from January)

- communicating wider cautions, etc., concern about scams; work on relationship building and relationship to technology

h) Parent Involvement

- general discussion about how to increase PAC and DPAC participation by parents
- maybe one trustee could go to PAC meeting at each school at least once
- DPAC should ask each PAC how DPAC can assist, what their needs are

9. Treasurer’s Report - Ester

Regular account: \$4368.38

Gaming account: \$ 228.71

On May 25 applied for the gaming funds for next year. Application # is 1056078. Amount based on per student.

BCCPAC travel subsidy still pending.

10. District Committee Reports and Meetings

- a.) Education (next meeting June 2 – WEG, Slocan)
- b.) Finance & Operations (next meeting June 16 – SBO, Nelson)
- c.) Policy & Governance (next meeting – September)
- d.) Budget Stakeholder Engagement (next meeting – November)
- e.) Healthy Lifestyles (TBD)

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**DPAC Meeting Schedule:**

June 18 – Parent Celebration!

Meeting concluded 8:14 pm.