

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 22, 2015
Nelson School Board office, 570 Johnstone Rd., Nelson

Present:

**Nelson
Parents**

Sheri Walsh, Chair, LV Rogers
Lori Thompson, Vice-Chair, Winlaw Elementary
Raeanne Gow, Treasurer, Redfish
Ester Zdebiak, Mt. Sentinel
Sasha Kitch, South Nelson

Education Partners

Ben Eaton, Director of Independent Learning, SD8

Teleconference

Parents

Nicole Rhynold, JV Humphries

Education Partners

Heather Suttie, Trustee, Vice-Chair, SD8 Board of Education

Regrets

Lenora Trenaman, Trustee, Chair of the SD8 Board of Education

1. Welcome/Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:25pm.

Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Territory

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. Approval of Agenda

Moved: Raeanne Gow Seconded: Sasha Kitch CARRIED

3. Approval of May 28, June 18 and September 24 minutes

Moved: Lori Thompson Seconded: Sasha Kitch CARRIED

4. District Reports

Director Eaton

- **Youth Screening Project:** as of today, three schools (PCSS, Salmo Secondary, Trafalgar) are confirmed to be taking part in the National Youth Screening project for youth ages 12 and up; objective – to increase early intervention opportunities for substance use and mental health challenges; this is new for this district and we will be collaborating with other youth serving organizations which is wonderful opportunity; it is a research project that has just started and the data collected will inform us how to better work together with our partners to help youth; e.g., last year LVR started having mental health clinician come in once week for students to see

5. School Reports

Mt Sentinel Secondary – held Youth Sustainability Awareness Day which was the “coolest thing ever”, there were speakers, workshops, food, is leading to development of student led initiatives such as raising bees on the roof, installation of solar panels, community garden together with neighbouring Mt. Sentinel farm; also held a volleyball tournament

Redfish Elementary – just had Family Fun Night, which is an annual school fundraiser, held on a Friday evening and it was wonderful to have the teachers there happy and chipper after working all day at the school; the PAC AGM will be in November and they are surveying parents to see if they prefer a meeting at noon or in the evening; the local fire department gave a presentation and distributed smoke detectors; 1 day/wk the entire school population does an outdoor activity with the principal and Educational Assistants, while the teachers have collaboration time (called “School Wide Interactive Movement”); focus on place-based learning.

South Nelson Elementary – changed calendar last year to allow for teacher collaboration time one Friday afternoon/month but it hasn’t been happening this year so far; very interested in the program that is occurring at Redfish

Winlaw Elementary – Hallowe’en Howler is coming up; have numerous hot lunch volunteers and the program running well; now have a “laundry fairy” who washes the kitchen towels and sick room bedding; have established a winter clothes closet for kids who come to school without appropriate winter clothing; lots education outdoors is happening including the “WILD” program (Wilderness Indigenous Leadership Development); every class gets math at the same time allowing kids to be in most appropriate level and receive learning support with Cole Auringer – this seems to be going well

LV Rogers Secondary – OTT theatre group is getting ready for the regional drama festival, participated in the student vote program and an individual student, Amelia Martkze organized a student vote that allowed students to vote at school or Expressions Café; various sports teams seem to be doing well (volleyball, field hockey, rugby, etc); despite additional teacher resources and some innovative options, there are still students without required courses in their timetables who will have to take those courses online

6. Correspondence

(Appendix A)

a) Business arising from correspondence

i) Distribution of UBC request for parenting research participants

- It is wonderful to develop further connections with UBC.
- The Superintendent will inform principals of this study and DPAC will distribute the invitation to parents

ii) Financial support to purchase district licences for “The Mask you Live In” & “MissRepresentation”

Resolved that DPAC spend up to \$700 for a district licence for these films for the purpose of parent education, and to facilitate ongoing community engagement.

Moved: Lori Thompson

Seconded: Ester Zdebiak

Carried

7. Discussion Items

a.) PVP performance assessment & contract renewal

- DPAC received a description of the performance assessment procedures for principals which is inclusive of parents; we are unsure if it applies to vice-principals as well and will inquire
- Policy 540 which is currently in front of the policy committee for revision, describes the hiring process for principals and vice-principals which is also inclusive of parents. The policy could be expanded to include performance assessment so that the inclusive process that is already in use is captured in a district policy.
- Policy Chair Heather Suttie will let DPAC know if we should submit a proforma requesting this change or if we could simply suggest the addition of a couple of words when this policy is being discussed.

b.) BCCPAC

- There is a “DPAC Chair Summit” on November 7 in Vancouver which unfortunately no one from our DPAC is able to attend. We have inquired about online or Skype participation.
- It is time for PACs (and DPAC) to renew their BCCPAC registration. Sheri will send out the details and instructions to the PACs and Ester has volunteered to follow up with every PAC. DPAC will continue to pay the \$75 annual membership fee for each PAC.

c.) Increasing penalties for driving infractions in school zones (Appendix B)

- DPAC will offer to write a joint letter with the Board in support increasing fines
- BC School Trustees Association has proposed a motion in support of this as well

d.) DPAC reimbursement of costs (Appendix C)

- DPAC provides travel and childcare subsidies as well as honoraria to help ensure that parents are not prevented from attending parent education events, DPAC or board committee meetings for financial reasons; these subsidies have not increased since at least 2010

Proposed new rates

Travel:

Round trip distance (km) travelled to attend meeting, DPAC or board event and maximum subsidy:

20-50	\$20
51-100	\$40
101-150	\$60
151-200	\$80
>200	\$100

Childcare:

Minimum hourly wage (currently \$10.45) to a maximum of 4 hours. (no receipts required.)

Honoraria: No change

Review and revise or approve at November meeting

e.) Health Promoting Schools Coordinator

- at last week’s Principal Vice-Principal meeting Director Fehr discussed needs of district to ensure they are addressed in the new contract for the Health Promoting Coordinator
- previous HPS Coordinator, Louise Poole did a lot of terrific work in the district in support of student and family physical and mental health and is highly thought of by parents, e.g., she helped South Nelson obtain a grant for a salad bar and her support was needed to help with the start up this fall, however they were able to find a couple of skilled parents to get it up and running properly
- schools are missing the services of having someone in this position; school staff and parents don’t have the time or expertise to write successful grant applications, resources for health and exercise programs, etc.

Resolved (by consensus) that DPAC will write a letter to the SD8 Board of Education stating their concerns and urging them to fill this position as soon as possible.

Chair will draft a letter to be submitted to the board prior to their October 27 meeting.

f.) 2015-2016 DPAC priorities

- parent advocacy training – district strongly supports as well – ideally one parent/school but would do their work in a different school to address privacy and relationship concerns
- Susan Wilson has agreed to do this training and DPAC resolved last year to pay her an honorarium; could have two sessions, in Nelson and Creston areas
- DPAC could ask principals to suggest names of parents they think would be good advocates for other parents, then DPAC could invite them to a training session, with a few potential dates
- PAC 101 and Treasurer 101 would also be very useful for new PAC executive members – need people to present these courses – BCCPAC and Susan Wilson have resources

g.) Future agenda items

- Superintendent has offered to explain the work of the Teacher Regulation Branch – accepted. Chair will inform him. Maybe for November 26?
- SD8 policy manual
- One Call system for schools to use to send notifications to parents

8. Treasurer’s Report

chequing: \$2,161.08
gaming: \$2,716.21

9. District Committee Reports and Meetings

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| a.) Finance & Operations | (Nov 10 – SBO, Nelson) |
| b.) Policy & Governance | (Nov 24 – SBO, Nelson) |
| c.) Budget Stakeholder Engagement | (Oct 27 – SBO, Nelson) |
| d.) Education | (Oct 27 – SBO, Nelson) |
| e.) Healthy Lifestyles | (TBD) |

DPAC Meetings (6pm Pacific Time)

November 26

December 17 – Christmas Party

January 28

February 25

April 21

May 26

June 16 – Parent Celebration

APPENDIX A: CORRESPONDENCE

from: ParentingLab <cjlab@psych.ubc.ca>
to: sheridpac@gmail.com
date: Mon, Oct 19, 2015 at 2:41 PM
subject: UBC Online Parenting Study - Request to Advertise
mailed-by: psych.ubc.ca

I am contacting you on behalf of Dr. Charlotte Johnston, Professor of Psychology, at the University of British Columbia. Our research team is currently conducting an online study for parents of 6-12 year old children. The study looks at child behaviour and parenting cognitions. Specifically, we are interested in how mothers' and fathers' thoughts about child behaviour are related to their parenting behaviour. This research study is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and has been approved by the UBC Behavioral Research Ethics Review Board.

We are writing to request your permission to advertise this research project through schools in the Kootenay Lake district. With your permission, we would contact school principals for their support in advertising the study. We would ask for their assistance in advertising our study by posting a recruitment notice in their newsletter or on their bulletin boards, and/or by distributing flyers to students. Please note that we are NOT asking to conduct our study within the schools or to involve teachers. We are only requesting permission to inform parents of children in the schools about the study.

For your information, the study involves both parents completing questionnaires about themselves, their child, and their parenting, and completing three computer tasks. Parents are compensated \$15 each for their participation and they are free to withdraw from the study at any point.

Attached is our UBC Ethics Approval Certificate, a sample of our recruitment notice, and the consent form for participating families. Please let us know if you would like any other additional information.

Thank you for considering our request and please feel free to contact us at [604-822-9037](tel:604-822-9037) or cjlab@psych.ubc.ca if you have any questions or require further information. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Bethany Ee
Research Assistant for Dr. Charlotte Johnston
UBC Parenting Lab
Psychology Department
University of British Columbia
2136 West Mall
Vancouver, BC
V6T 1Z4

Lab phone: [604-822-9037](tel:604-822-9037)
(Toll-free: [1-866-558-5581](tel:1-866-558-5581))
<http://parentinglab.psych.ubc.ca/>

from: Todd Kettner <tkettner@sd8.bc.ca>
to: Sheri Walsh <sheridpac@gmail.com>
date: Tue, Oct 6, 2015 at 11:12 AM
subject: The Mask You Live In and Missrepresentation

Hi Sheri,

Some of the teachers, counsellors, principals and I went to a preview screening of The Mask You Live In two weeks ago and felt so strongly that our teenage students, parents and community partners would benefit (and the previous movie Missrepresentation from the same director) that as parents of SD8 students we're hoping to bring an organizational license into the district so all schools and all PACS would have the ability to show it multiple times at assemblies, in classes, for parent nights. Any chance DPAC or in association with the individual high school and middle school PACS, could come up with some \$ for this as benefit to ALL students (?13 years old +) in SD8.

I've suggested to Naomi Ross, Wildflower principal, that she connect with you on this cool project.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hc45-ptHMxo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5pM1fW6hNs>

Best Regards,

Todd

Todd Kettner, Ph.D., R. Psych.
Psychologist
School District #8

from: Naomi Ross <nross@sd8.bc.ca>
to: Sheri Walsh <sheridpac@gmail.com>
date: Tue, Oct 6, 2015 at 1:01 PM
subject: RE: The Mask You Live In and Missrepresentation

Thanks for that lead-in Todd!

Sheri, I am wondering if the DPAC would be keen to support acquiring a district license for SD8. The district license costs \$629.00. It includes the DVD and curriculum for K-5, middle and high school, college/university, or all grade levels with unlimited rights to use the curriculum, screen the film on site, and upload the film from the DVD to a secure, school-managed server for student use.

Besides providing much-needed value for our students and staff, I envision schools offering screenings to parents along with a debriefing, etc.

If this is something that you believe DPAC would be interested in supporting, could you please let me know how we would go about making this happen? Thanks very much Sheri!

I have spoken to Tim H and Miranda and know that they are both really keen to have this as a District resource. We felt that if the resource were "owned" by the District instead of by an individual school, it would be able to be used by all schools and parent groups.

Kind regards,

Naomi

Naomi Ross
Principal, Wildflower School
(250) 505-7013 (office)
(250) 551-0636 (mobile)

APPENDIX F: PENALTIES FOR SCHOOL ZONE DRIVING INFRACTIONS

August 17, 2015

School District No. 8 - Kootenay Lake
 570 Johnstone Road
 Nelson, BC V1L 6J2

Re: Safe Stop - Increase fine/penalties

Attention: Board Chairman

Safe Stop is a program that was introduced to School District No. 60 in April of this year. It's sole purpose is to remind the motoring public that driving through the flashing red lights of a school bus is both dangerous and illegal. Between April 15th and June 25th, 2015, the Transportation Department of School District No. 60 recorded every instance of motorists driving through the flashing red lights of the school buses. More than one infraction per day was recorded during this time period.

The fine for "Fail to stop for school bus" in B.C. is only \$167.00 and 3 points, to put this in perspective:

Section	Description	Fine	Points
140	Disobey Construction Signs	\$196-\$253	3
141	Disobey Flagman	\$196	3
144(1)(a)	Drive without Due Care	\$368	6
144(1)(b)	Drive without Consideration	\$196	6
147(1)	Speed in School Zone	\$196-\$253	3
147(2)	Speed in Playground Zone	\$196-\$253	3
151.1(3)	Improper use of leftmost lane	\$167	3

In Alberta, the fine associated with failing to stop for a school bus is \$400.00 and Ontario's fines range between \$400.00 and \$2000.00 depending on the amount of infractions the driver has had. Ontario has an absolute Zero Tolerance for this offense.

Drivers in British Columbia do not take this issue seriously, and it is just a matter of time before another child is injured or killed. Increasing the fine and points to \$368.00 plus 6 points is necessary to reflect the severity of the infraction.

Please lend your voice to this matter by writing letters in support of having the fine/points increased. Contact information and addresses as well as the letter that I have sent out are attached for your convenience. I would be very interested in hearing about your response (or actions) regarding this request and have also included my contact information. Thank you in advance for any consideration or support that you might lend to this endeavor.

Sincerely,



Cindy Dettling - Safe Stop Coordinator
 dettling@telus.net
 Ss2 Site 22 Comp 6
 Fort St. John, BC V1J 4M7
 250 262-9965

9.1 SAFE STOP PROGRAM – SCHOOL DISTRICT 60

SUBMITTED BY: *SD60 (Peace River North)*

BE IT RESOLVED:

that BCSTA urge the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to increase the penalty for failing to stop for a school bus to 6 demerit points and a \$368 fine.

RATIONALE:

Safe Stop is a program that was introduced to School District 60 in April of 2015. Safe Stop's sole purpose is to remind the motoring public that driving through the flashing red lights of a school bus is both dangerous and illegal.

This motion is emergent because drivers in British Columbia do not take this matter seriously and it is just a matter of time before another child is injured or killed due to failure of a driver to stop for a school bus. Between April 15th and June 25th, 2015, the Transportation Department of School District No. 60 recorded every instance of motorists driving through the flashing red lights of the district's school buses and recorded more than one infraction per day during this time period. Currently, the penalty for failure of a driver to stop for a school bus is a \$167.00 fine and 3 demerit points. Increasing the fine to \$368.00 and 6 demerit points would reflect the severity of the infraction.

REFERENCES:

- [August 2015 correspondence regarding Safe Stop](#)
- [Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure Online – BC Driver Alert: When the School Bus Stops, You Stop](#)

This is an action motion and does not change or contradict any existing Foundational or Policy Statement.

APPENDIX C: DPAC REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS

From the KL DPAC Policy Manual, December 2010:

Round trip distance travelled to attend meeting and subsidy:

40 - 139 km	\$20
140 - 199 km	\$35
200+ km	\$50

Childcare: \$10 per hour to a maximum of \$40.

Honoraria for committee meeting participation (if meeting attendance requires taking time off from regularly scheduled paid employment):

Meetings of 4 hours or less	\$50
Meetings greater than 4 hours	\$85