

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 25, 2016
Nelson School Board office, 570 Johnstone Rd., Nelson

1. Welcome/Call to Order at 6:05

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.

Attendance

Parents

Cate Baio, Wildflower, DPAC Secretary
Raeanne Gow, Redfish, DPAC Treasurer
Lori Thompson, Winlaw, DPAC Vice-chair
Sheri Walsh, LVR, DPAC Chair
Rena Vandembos, Mt Sentinel
Megan Somerfeld, Canyon-Lister (by phone)

Education Partners

Cathy Spiers, SD8 Vice-Principal of Innovative Learning
Bill Maslechko, Trustee
Nina Latham, CUPE
Andrea Winckers, Healthy Schools' Coordinator
Mike Kent, Healthy Schools' Coordinator

Regrets

Martha Clark, LVR
Martha Wilson, LVR
Kendra Mann, Rosemont
Lenora Trenaman, Trustee
Curtis Bendig, Trustee

2. Approval of Agenda

- added Discussion item g) Superintendent's Memo re Implementation of New Curriculum for Grades 10-12
- agenda approved by consensus

3. Approval of January 28 minutes

- approved by consensus

4. Presentation: SD8 Healthy Schools Program

Healthy Schools' Coordinators Mike Kent & Andrea Winckers

- Have been to almost all schools, seen really great areas to share resources
- Asset based approach, supporting what's going well
- Themes:
 - Nutrition
 - school gardens
 - salad bars
 - grab and go healthy food

- farm to schools grants; facilitating school applications
 - Physical Activity
 - kids are getting outside
 - some real strengths in district
 - Mental Health
 - 95% of schools said priority (specifically anxiety)
 - developing work plan
 - looking at protective factors – how do we help school staff increase capacity in this area, e.g.
 - greeting kids
 - social inclusion
 - sleep
 - student symposium was great
 - adult driven initiatives can lose steam
 - combined strong student involvement and strong adult champions
 - student leadership/input and initiatives
 - Interior Health nurses are keen to help but waiting for direction
 - Mental health needs are on the rise... why?
 - each child can be from a different root cause
 - there can be finger pointing (no research yet)
 - devices
 - not enough sleep
 - overscheduled kids
 - poverty
 - parents/teachers are stressed out
- funded by interior health (no guarantee of further funding) will know end of March, meanwhile need to work as if contract will end June 30
 - Therefore, priorities are what can be accomplished NOW:
 - work plan
 - vision of capacity building
 - developing website
- plan to send out newsletter every two weeks
- use collaborative/coordinated approach
 - schools can learn from each other
- would like to do health inventory (what are we doing?)
- been in touch with MDs (Shared Care) are interested in helping schools
 - what can be done to support teachers
- education about what anxiety is
 - when is it normal and when it is a bigger issue
- want to get info to parents on how to help kids
 - how to help them to get more sleep
 - how to engage parents
- New programs:
 - Cook it, Try it, Like it - at Canyon-Lister, sponsored by IH
 - grade 5-7, 1.5hr after school for 5 weeks
 - cooking, grocery shopping skills so kids can make good food at home
 - involves interior health nutritionists
 - 2 parent volunteers and a facilitator

- Youth Led Initiatives - \$500 grants from Maccreary Centre Society, fast turnaround

5. District Report (Cathy Spiers on behalf of Jeff Jones)

- Facilities Planning Meetings are in progress
 - last night Nelson, at Central
 - tonight Creston, check schedule on the district website
- Student Symposium was great; another one will be held in May
- Ab ed
 - over next few weeks \$32,000 distributed for Ab ed studies (materials, resources that are inclusive of aboriginal perspective)
 - joint venture with Selkirk
 - food safe
 - scholarships
- have finalized 15/16 budget
- working on 16/17 budget
 - staffing scenarios

6. School Reports

Mt. Sentinel:

- Has choir led by Sophia Grey
- Michael Butterfield is helping to set up band
- Big renovation of fitness centre
 - rowing machines
 - students are happy

Redfish:

- outdoor ed kits (binoculars, microscopes, stools, etc)
- afterschool programs
 - dance
 - run, jump, throw (basic athletic skills)
- parents who have children at TMS
 - safe arrival (parents notified if child is absent)
 - trying to go through TMS PAC to work on solution

Canyon Lister:

- Complete switch around on PAC
- New principal is awesome
- Has someone coming in and reading with kids
- healthy kids program
- likes idea of getting parents more involved

Winlaw:

- last PAC meeting was attended by Sharon Nazaroff (trustee)
- next PAC meeting w WEG and hopefully entire family of schools
- Arts Starts presentation in Gym
- 3/4's going snowshoeing
- talent show on March 1
- bake sale for refugees
- Skate and Swim
- Family Dance on April 1

- finished ski program
- pink shirt day
- mixed age group activities
- getting ready for 'spring fling'

LVR:

- students organized sit in, 'Project Beginning' Feb 29th in support of LEAP Manifesto
- Stick Boy is being performed next week about bullying, March 1 Mt. Sentinel, March 2 at LVR

7. Correspondence – NIL**8. Discussion Items**

a.) DPAC Update

- sending out lots of requests for feedback
- getting more hits on DPAC website page
- no problem getting parents to Talking Tables this year
- although questions for budgeting were challenging, responses were thoughtful
- all feedback is collated, presented to the budget committee and posted on the DPAC website
- action items:
 - all have been completed except still need to send letter to board regarding posting resolution status

b.) BCCPAC – spring conference – delegate selection, resolution meeting, proxies

- can afford to send up to 6 (3 "veterans", + 3 "newbies")
- **DPAC will send out invitation before spring break requesting interest parents to respond by March 24 with why they would like to attend and how it would benefit their PAC**
- resolutions will be out m to late-March, will be posted on BCCPAC website on March 1
- **proxy forms need to be signed and submitted to DPAC before April 25th - DPAC will send out instructions**

c.) Parent Advocate Training – Nelson session booked, Creston session?

- Nelson March 10: 8 – 9 parents expected from Nelson, Slocan Valley, Kaslo and Salmo + Director of Independent Learning and Superintendent
- 2 parents from Creston so far

d.) District Policy 613: Business & Community Advertising & Sponsorship

- concerns marketing to kids in schools
- general policy statement will be discussed at policy meeting is next week
- please read material and give feedback before March 7th

e.) Parent Education – Miss Representation and The Mask You Live in screening

- Lori has been in discussion with NCSC about a facilitator
- Julia Delaney from Freedom Quest may facilitate a presentation in the Slocan Valley
- Roger Luscombe is willing to facilitate in Nelson
- need to determine location, cost and if honorarium is required
- **Cate will speak to Jason about using the Civic as a location**
- **Lori to follow up with potential facilitators and with Creston Family Services**

- f.) Facilities Plan Community Meetings
- please attend and respond!

- g.) Superintendent's Memo re Implementation of New Curriculum grades 10-12
Please take home and read

- h.) Future agenda items:
- Teacher regulation branch

9. Treasurer's Report

- **gaming \$450.75**
- **regular \$6644.60**
- representation project:
 - using USD rate of exchange on Oct. 27 (invoice date)
 - \$515 from gaming
 - \$185 from regular
- have \$700 for expenses on other than conferences

MOTION: DPAC will spend up to \$3,000 on BCCPAC spring conference and AGM attendance

- Moved: Rena Vandebos Seconded: Lori Thompson Carried

10. Other:

- Next student symposium: Facilities and Operation, Policy and Governance

11. District Committee Reports and Meetings

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|--|-----------------------|
| a.) Finance & Operations | Apr 19 – SBO, Nelson |
| b.) Policy & Governance | Mar 8 – SBO, Nelson |
| c.) Education | Apr 5 – SBO, Nelson |
| d.) Budget Stakeholder Engagement | Mar 8 – SBO, Nelson |
| e.) Healthy Lifestyles | TBD |
| f.) Student Symposium (F/O + P/G)
(grades 5, 8, 10? narrower focus) | May 12 – location TBD |

Adjourned: 8:20

DPAC Meetings (6pm Pacific Time)

- April 21 Sandy Prentice: SD8 Intercultural Certificate Program
 May 26 Lorri Fehr: New curriculum update + parent input into monitoring reports for district goals and student expectations
 June 16 – Parent Celebration