

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 22, 2016
Nelson School Board Office, 570 Johnstone Rd., Nelson

1. Welcome/Call to Order 6:09

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.

In attendance:

Parents

Stacey Throop, Brent Kennedy
Cindy Killeen, Brent Kennedy
Cate Baio, Wildflower, DPAC Secretary
Sheri Walsh, LVR, DPAC Chair
Sharon Bloodworth, Canyon-Lister (by telephone)

Education Partners

Larry Brown, SD8 Director of Operations
Paul Boscariol, NDTA President

Regrets:

Raeanne Gow, Redfish, DPAC Treasurer
Rena Vandebos, Mt Sentinel
Lenora Trenaman, Trustee, Board Chair

2. Adoption of Agenda

Adopted by consensus

3. Approval of Minutes

a) Approval of May 26 minutes

- Approved by consensus

b) Approval of June 16 minutes

- Approved by consensus

4. District Reports – N/A

5. School Reports

Brent Kennedy

- New Chair, Treasurer, Hot Lunch coordinator
- Field trips- kokanee
- Movie fundraiser/BBQ in October
- Classes are full – 238 total students, 2 K classes

Canyon Lister

- Still no VP, teacher Mrs. Casemore is acting as VP
- principal on leave, Mrs. Gadadz acting principal
- Only 4 classes and all are split and full and/or overfull (grade 6/7 and 5/6 have 31 students), K/1/2 split
- Have 9 unregistered students (do not have required documentation) who are also attending, not sure if they are included in the class numbers
- School received grant for outdoor classroom, planning on
 - Pond
 - Hope to build paths
- Peace day- had plane fly over and take photo of students in white t-shirts

Wildflower

- New Kindergarten going well
- Students delivered cookies for peace around town
- Lots of kids out and about (hiking, etc.)

LVR

- 777 students; MyEd BC cannot calculate FTE, so has to be done manually
- Waitlisted kids in catchment are all in school
- Some students taking online courses, some by choice other don't have a choice to get the courses they need to graduate
- Several overfull classes, but don't know how many
- Have combined some classes to enable them to run, eg., grade 9/10 science, although complicated because grade 9 has new curriculum implemented and grade 10 does not
- New Principal (Tamara Malloff) started in July, new VP started this week

6. Correspondence

- Letter from Lorna Inkster with concerns about children's access to edible medical marijuana products available from dispensaries in Nelson

Business Arising from Correspondence:

- DPAC to include in note to parents, to keep all medication safe from your children
- Consider expanding topic to all potentially hazardous substances for a Parent Night Out
 - Discuss medical marijuana, what to be aware of, what's out there
 - E-cigarettes, etc.
 - Sheri will ask Lori Thompson if she is able to arrange this

7. Discussion Items**a) DPAC Update**

- providing LVR and CLES parents with support
- With extremely short timelines gathered and submitted input from parents regarding student transportation fund priorities
- Larry- Will go through survey results and prioritize for board approval
 - #1 request was adding more routes

- Attempting to recruit a parent for the district internet and computer use policy ad hoc committee
 - new DPAC general gmail address: sd8dpac@gmail.com
 - distributing and posting info for parents as usual
- b) Joint District Advocacy Media Campaign**
- Resolution passed via email August 22: **That DPAC spend up to \$150 on a joint radio advertising campaign.**
 - Moved by: Kendra Mann, Second: Raeanne, Carried
 - Paul Boscaroli read ads that were broadcast on Vista radio the last week of August and first week of Sept
 - Not sure of cost or impact yet
- c) Parent Advocacy**
- Negotiating a new contract with Susan Wilson to do additional training and mentoring of volunteer advocates
 - Will set up a gmail address, chair to refer requests to group
 - Will develop confidentiality agreements for volunteer advocates
 - How to educate parents that there are trained advocates
 - Secretaries
 - PVP meetings
 - Staff meetings
 - website
- d) Facilities Plan – Director Brown**
- Shanna from Capital Branch explained to staff how government funding is allocated after touring Blewett, Trafalgar, LVR & Central last week
 - Are making huge commitment to seismic upgrades in lower mainland
 - smaller projects such as Salmo/Blewett additions more likely to be funded, than large project like new South Nelson
 - Modified school enhancement program submission after Capital Branch visit:
 - Submitted 5 projects (in order of priority...)
 - \$410,000 elevator at Central Ed Centre
 - Energy reduction: \$270,000 to upgrade heating and ventilation systems:
 - Canyon, Blewett, Hume, Rosemont
 - \$230,000 in duct cleaning for heating systems at:
 - LVR, PCSS, Hume, Central, MSSS
 - \$400,000 for dust collection systems for wood shops (maintenance)
 - \$250,000 for flooring removal at Erickson and Adam Robertson
 - Projects need to be completed by March 31, 2017
- e) Lead in School Water Testing Results**
- district does regular periodic testing for hazardous materials
 - Have completed radon testing and mitigation work; have tested for asbestos and will get report soon

- Lead in drinking water testing was requested by province
- Responsibility for water quality is two-fold:
 - Supplier is responsible to property line
 - SD8 is responsible from property line to tap, etc.
- Have known that Trafalgar has lead in water and all fountains are flushed for 3 minutes every morning
- All sites tested; 72 samples collected first thing in morning before used
- larger sites had more taps/fountains tested than smaller ones (e.g., 6 at LVR, 1 at district office)
- Results: 63 ok, 9 tested slightly above allowable maximum lead levels
 - Of the 9, 5 were in buildings are unoccupied, remaining 4 are:
 - WEG - drinking fountain outside gym
 - LVR – boys' change room fountain
 - Central - drinking fountain by gym
 - JVH - sink in library
 - These are being re-tested after flushing for 3 minutes
- Also testing water from every outlet in buildings where lead level was high to determine whether it's just in that outlet, or a system problem
- Until then all outlets with higher lead levels are being flushed for 3 minutes every morning
- After re-testing completed will decide course of action will be decided from there
 - Flush 3 minutes a day or remove that outlet
- Signs have been posted at outlets that are unoccupied (flush for 3 minutes)
 - Q: will you replace outlet that gets removed?
 - A: Would not remove a drinking fountain without replacing it

f) 2015-2016 Budget Surplus Allocation Priorities

- In addition to \$252,000 from last year, there is a sizable surplus of ~\$1.1M
- Parent priorities discussed and determined as follows:
 - Additional Teachers to support non-enrolling teachers
 - More staff!

g) Parents' Night Out – film showings +?

- Cate emailed Civic Theatre today regarding availability of Civic for film showing. Will update as soon as she hears back
- Will need venues in other district locations
- Topic ideas
 - MissRepresentation and The Mask you Live In – need facilitators as well
 - Sex-Ed... how to talk to your kids
 - Political platforms on education – need non-partisan presenter, might be difficult to find
 - What Parent's need to know: Drugs, e-cigarettes
- Free BCTF workshops/presentations are available to every PAC
 - Minimum 15 people
 - info at <http://bctf.ca/parents.aspx?id=4798>

h) Draft Policy 613 Business & Community Advertising & Sponsorship

- Go to dpac or district website for link to draft policy and input
- Comments are due October 11th

i) BCCPAC

- Important to join – DPAC will pay PAC fees and Sheri will send out instructions to PACs

j) DPAC Meeting Schedule

- will remain at 4th Thursday, 6pm
- meeting schedule posted on DPAC website

k) Priorities for 2016-2017

- How to increase parent participation with DPAC? Perennial issue... Although have good response from parents when make specific requests
- More parent education – facilities plan and budget consultations took all DPAC and parent energy
- expanded parent advocacy training
- could use google docs to sign up parents for specific tasks
- could write monthly DPAC newspaper for papers and maybe link FB page to article???
Cate seemed to volunteer to do this

8. Treasurer's Report (submitted by Raeanne)

As of August 31:

Gaming Account: Balance: \$2.50

Regular Account: Balance: \$3687.76

- Cheque to Lori Thompson for expenses still outstanding \$777.75, so actual regular account balance is \$2910.01
- Gaming account report to be submitted by Sept 30
- Usually receive gaming grant mid-October
- will transfer funds from regular to gaming account before Sept 30 to avoid a \$0 balance

9. District Committee Reports and Meetings

a) Finance & Operations

- discussed surplus, transportation \$ - will be recommending allocation to the board

b) Policy & Governance

- setting up computer/internet use ad hoc committee to draft new policy

c) Education – first meeting is Sept 27

DPAC Meetings – Schedule

Thursday, October 27: **AGM**

Thursday, November 24

Thursday, December 8: **Party!**

Thursday, January 26

Thursday, February 23

Thursday, March 16

Thursday, April 27

Thursday, May 25

Thursday, June 15 - **Party!**