

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 28, 2015
Nelson School Board office, 570 Johnstone Rd., Nelson

1. Welcome/Call to Order at 6:10

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:

Ester Zdebiak, Mt Sentinel
Rena Vandenbos, Mt Sentinel
Cate Baio, Wildflower, DPAC Secretary
Sheri Walsh, LVR (Chair)
Lori Thompson, Winlaw, DPAC Vice-chair
Raeanne Gow, Redfish, DPAC Treasurer

Education Partners:

Jeff Jones, Superintendent
Sharon Nazaroff, trustee (via phone)
Nina Latham, CUPE

Regrets

Sharon Bloodworth, Canyon-Lister
Martha Clark, LVR

Bill Maslechko, Trustee
Lenora Trenaman, Trustee
Curtis Bendig, Trustee

Note - unable to connect to internet, so no online attendance (Kendra Mann tried to connect)

2. Approval of Agenda

- Approved by consensus

3. Approval of December 17 minutes

- Minutes approved by consensus

4. District Reports - Supt Jeff Jones

- New curriculum- check it out and give feedback. PACs can request that Lorri Fehr come to their school to do presentation. However best – family of schools or individually.
- Grad Transitions – currently taking place. Encourage participation from public. All Mt Sentinel kids did digital presentation which was indicator of changes occurring
- Ab ed trips happening
 - expanding number and amount of ab ed scholarships
- We are keeping family and people of La Loche in the forefronts of our minds. This tragedy hits close to home. We are scanning schools for impact and effects that it is having on communities and families in our area and providing support if/as needed. Our district is well-prepared for these types of incidents. Most teachers and admin have training in violence and risk assessment. Engaged and have relationship with MCFD, RCMP, Nelson city police, students and staff are prepared for lockdown if needed, lockdown in Slovan was text book and handled well.

5. School Reports

- Winlaw
 - Budget questions for staffing, got together with WE Graham and submitted response
 - Trying to include WEG more as they don't have an official PAC
 - Will start to work with BK as well for family of schools events

- Mt. Sentinel:
 - green club making proposals to put beehives on top of portables
 - neighbors are interested in helping
 - could sell honey as fundraiser
 - grad transitions have started
 - ab ed - new teacher, came and spoke how he will work with valley schools
 - music choir club- math teacher (Matt Webb) trying to start a band. Phase II bringing in songwriting and voice
 - Telus wifi was installed as other wifi wasn't working. Going well
 - ski days/exams
 - fundraising for grad
- Redfish
 - working on outdoor classroom idea (structure by spawning channel), collecting potential resources (grants and partners)
 - new cross-country skis (gr.2-5)
 - after school programming - dance, run/jump/throw (learning athletic skills)
- Wildflower
 - kindergarten approved
 - ski days
 - 3rd annual ski night
- LVR
 - Grad fundraiser on superbowl Sunday at Findleys'
 - exams
 - grade nine Friday (learn about curriculum, opportunities in town related to curriculum)
 - art therapy
 - year book is back on
 - FORCE presentation on cyber-parenting

6. Correspondence

a) Business arising from correspondence

- none

7. Discussion Items

a.) Updates on previous motions & items in minutes

- **Sheri will make tracking sheet.** She is working on catching up

b.) Ministry of Education data breach

- at least two students if not more have been notified that some of their data may have been lost or stolen
- Ministry did not update school district, but sent letters directly to students with no cc to parents
- 2 parents have now contacted district office
- Supt has corresponded with ministry, but has not received a satisfactory response, in particular:
 - why parents weren't cc'd
 - why our district wasn't informed

Sheri-

- daughter received letter; spoke with 'Sophia' enquiring about how they got daughter's contact info? answer: we went to the school (which differs from answer Supt received)

Lori-

- question: how many letters have they mailed out and how many to this district?

Jeff-

- waiting to hear back from ministry
- has contacted other superintendents and hasn't heard of any other breaches
- info is on SD8 website

c.) FSA testing

- grade 4 and 7
- January 11-February 19
- principal is only person who can excuse student from FSA, must have IEP outlining anxiety issues
 - parent's request is not sufficient
- there is a BCTF protocol that teaching staff are required to follow

Sheri-

- info about FSA testing from BCCPAC and BCTF is on DPAC website and SD8 Parents fb page

Jeff Jones-

- FSA is a basic skills assessment
- assessment is required by province of BC
- report on school, district and province
- letter was written in spring by teacher regulation branch to Fraser Institute requesting that they no longer rank schools based on FSA results; no response received

d.) BCCPAC – spring conference & resolutions

- April 28-May 1 in Kelowna
- Bring a newbie year (conference registration is free)
- Coast Capri rooms are \$129
- great event
- Friday is conference with different sessions, AGM is on Sat and Sun
- Susan Wilson has been nominated for lifetime member
- Kendra Mann is re-running for Secretary
- lots of interesting topics and resolutions, which are BCCPAC advocacy goals for the year
- DPAC interested in proposing three resolutions:
 - costs of testing for radon and mitigation work to be funded
 - parent advocacy training and funding for training
 - funding for wood shops to be tested for health and safety and remediation work
- JJ will fund two hotel rooms for DPAC/PAC parents to attend BCCPAC
- Sheri proposed a resolution meeting
- **Lori-put on agenda for next meeting to start getting feelers out for parents interested in going**

e.) BSEC –

- previous theme was staffing - parents submitted many thoughtful comments
- on SD8 website, go to “Budget 2016/2017” to find resources from BSEC meetings
- questions about staffing were not answered as there were no definitive answers, but general consensus that because schools are so different, there is no one formula.
- strong support for admin to have more flexibility.
- strong support for admin/counsellors not having to teach
- JJ- more efficiencies in larger schools, more resources need to be allocated to smaller schools
- start with legislated requirements and then admin adjusts for their school
- challenge is that enrollment projections start now and can change drastically by September 30
- Theme for next meeting is Facilities
- next set of questions are being formulated
- **Sheri will send out** for feedback from DPAC exec
- Cate suggested to encourage chair to target specific parents to give feedback

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

- JJ policy is governing statement, regulations are how they are set
- it is about not marketing to kids
- Raeanne read policy

- Lori made comment that she would like to pass a motion to have parents included on that policy statement
- next policy meeting in 6 weeks; Sheri will send out notice to parents requesting comments

Other:

- Sheri is updating website more often and now getting more views
- New timeline for Facilities plan has been released. Meetings for family of schools have been posted
- Jeff- clarified comments made at previous DPAC meeting regarding funding for BCTF and CUPE professional development - district exceeds contractual obligations. Has written apology to CUPE for comments made at previous meeting.

g.) Future agenda items:

- BC Ed Plan and new curriculum + Parent input into district goal and student expectation monitoring reports - Lorri Fehr
- Teacher regulation branch - Jeff
- Healthy schools coordinators re healthy schools programs - February
- Parent night out: show MissRepresentation and The Mask You Live In to families of schools, need trained facilitator to be present - these are powerful films
 - **Lori will contact MCFD and NCSC regarding finding a facilitator to come to the showings**
- Parent advocacy training two parents have volunteered to do training so far.
- Encourage parents to volunteer

8. Treasurer's Report

- as of December 1st, haven't received funding from district
- Dec 1 balances:

gaming	\$ 2,711.21
reg	\$ 687.10
- Dec 15th, paid for PAC BCCPAC memberships (~\$1,500)
- finally received response from gaming branch that we can only pay for film portion of MissRepresentation and The Mask you Live In from gaming; associated curriculum costs to come from regular account
- film producer provided breakdown in USD; we will use CAD-USD conversion at the time the films were purchased (written on the invoice) and reimburse Wildflower school \$700 CAD as agreed

9. District Committee Reports and Meetings

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| a.) Finance & Operations | Feb 23 – SBO, Nelson |
| b.) Policy & Governance | Mar 8 – SBO, Nelson |
| c.) Education | Feb 9 – SBO, Nelson |
| d.) Budget Stakeholder Engagement | Feb 16, evening – SBO, Nelson |
| e.) Healthy Lifestyles | February? |
| f.) Student Symposium | February 18 |

Adjourned 8:15

DPAC Meetings (6pm Pacific Time)

February 25 – Healthy Schools Presentation
 April 21

May 26
 June 16 – Parent Celebration