

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 23, 2017

Nelson School Board Office, 570 Johnstone Rd., Nelson

1) Welcome/Call to Order at 6:06pm

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:

Cate Baio (Wildflower; DPAC Secretary), Iris Steffler (Hume), Patricia Routien (Hume), Martha Wilson (LVR), Ester Zdebiak (Mt Sentinel), Clare Kelly (Winlaw, by telephone), Raeanne Gow (Redfish; DPAC Treasurer, by telephone), Tina Rubaek (LVR), Rena Vandebos (Mt Sentinel, DPAC Vice-Chair), Sheri Walsh (LVR, DPAC Chair)

Education Partners:

Jeff Jones, Superintendent

Guest:

Gabriel Keczan

Regrets: Bill Maslechko (Trustee), Lenora Trenaman (Trustee), Sharon Bloodworth (Canyon-Lister)

2) Adoption of Agenda

- a) Add BCCPAC Board of Director nomination resolution to item 8c
- b) Agenda adopted as amended by consensus

3) Approval of January 26, 2017 Minutes

- a) Approved by consensus

4) Presentation: Gabriel Keczan - The Mask You Live In – proposal for PAC

- a) Private practice as a counsellor and art therapist
- b) Meeting attendees watched trailer
- c) Curriculum designed to discuss the theme, “how to be a man”
- d) One option if showing to family of schools: screen 40-60min of film followed by art making or shift right into talking circles of 12 people (no bigger)
- e) Open to offering to individual schools as well as family of schools
- f) What age group is appropriate for view this film? 16+
- g) Gabriel has the film

Action item: Cate will find out if TMS will be willing to take on planning of screening for Nelson FoS. April 18-26

5) District Reports - Supt Jones

- a) Community curriculum meetings- Salmo Monday, Slocan Valley on March 6
 - Great professional discussion
 - Low parent turnout
 - PACs can request district admin staff to attend meetings to discuss anything from curriculum to budget

- b) March 8th non-instructional new curriculum prep day
 - Teachers will be learning about new curriculum
 - Board of Education allocated funding for TToC's and part-time teachers to attend this training day
 - Special session will be broadcast to Creston from board office
 - Schools have submitted individual plans for this day
- c) Superintendent search:
 - Board developed posting with stakeholder input
 - DPAC feels their feedback was reflected in the posting that was sent out
 - Survey was sent out with over 300 responses from range of stakeholders
 - Survey was sent out separately to students 225 responses so far
 - Board is working on criteria for interview process
 - Posting closing on Feb 27th
 - Long listing March 3rd
 - Interviews April 5-7th

6) School Reports

LVR

- Dance intramurals at lunch
- Boys leadership group doing an amazing amount of work with students
- Discussing how to offer second language for secondary students - maybe make it inclusive of students in other schools who are interested?

Mt. Sentinel

- Mt Sentinel girls have joined LVR Rugby team
- Lost music teacher
- Considering ways to assist with transition from grade 6 at valley schools to grade 7 at Mt. Sentinel, especially with BK which is so close
- Ski trip to Revelstoke next week

Wildflower

- Heart Beet- Middle school made borscht for Nelson Food Cupboard

Hume

- Sheri and Kendra attended last PAC meeting
- Grant writing for playground expansion

Winlaw

- Working on outdoor education component

Redfish

- Take me Outside day was great
- Interest from community to expand hot lunch program

7) Correspondence—none

8) Discussion Items

a) DPAC Update

- continuing outreach, sending out and posting information and resources, concern that parents are not hearing about the curriculum open houses
- radio ads continuing – how about posting the scripts on the DPAC website? Yes!
- Continue to provide advocacy (and other) support to parents and PACs

b) Parent Education Update

- i) The Mask You Live In - see item 4 above

- ii) David Hatfield – LVR April 4 and potentially Apr 6 in Creston
 - **Action: Martha will draft email asking PAC's what would be of value to learn from David and responses will go directly to Martha**
 - **Action: Martha will send poster to Sheri and will get sent to school from there as well as DPAC website**
 - **Action: Martha will send info to Jeff Jones on David Hatfield Parent Night and he will send out to all parents**
- iii) Susan Wilson to deliver Parent Advocacy 101 Thursday March 16 before a 1 hour DPAC meeting – usual start time of 6pm 45 minutes + 15 min Q&A
 - need to promote heavily, will do second in Creston in April or May
 - potential topics: How to help your child - the basics, e.g.,
 - where to find resources (DPAC website!), communication protocol, policies, other docs such as appeal form, meeting survival guide and how to use those resources
 - when to call an advocate
 - how and when to involve trustees
 - issues that you should use your PAC to address
 - when to go to the TRB
 - other topics important for parents to know so they know where to start and have a basic understanding of process to use when they have concerns about their child or something happening (or not) at their school?
- iv) Substance Use, hopefully early May: district organizing, DPAC promoting, separate event
- v) April 27 DPAC meeting: Shelley Wiltshire ACE-IT, Four Nations Coalition?
Cate will check into
- vi) May 25 DPAC meeting - Mental health with Ben and Rachel Hole

c) BCCPAC

Motion: Resolved: that DPAC submit the following resolutions to the BCCPAC AGM: That BCCPAC advocate for the Installation of AEDs in all schools and further that the cost of installation, maintenance and training staff be included in funding.

Moved: Patricia Second: Ester Carried

That BCCPAC advocate for the Government of BC to produce and implement a poverty reduction plan.

Moved: Patricia Second: Ester Carried

Sheri will finalize and submit resolutions based on the above.

Motion: Resolved: That DPAC send up to 4 delegates (with shared accomodation) to the BCCPAC spring conference & AGM

Moved: Rena Second: Ester Carried

Motion: Resolved: That DPAC methodology for selection of delegates to the BCCPAC spring conference and AGM be as follows: Expressions of interest and a commitment to share learnings with DPAC and their PAC

Moved: Ester Second: Rena Carried

Motion: Resolved: That DPAC nominate Kendra Mann for the position of BCCPAC 1st Vice-President.

Moved: Ester

Second: Rena

Carried

d) BCCASE Conference

- April 20-21st
- Ben will pay registration fee for 1 parent, but travel will be expensive (have asked about car pooling) and hotel is \$185/night
- DPAC can't afford this
- **Action: Sheri will send thank you and regrets**

e) Budget update – Zero-based budget submission

- Challenge of breaking it into pieces so parents can give feedback
- Most parents don't feel engaged in the process as there is too much information to process and of lack understanding of the bigger picture
- Supt suggestion: create values statements, e.g.,
 - For example, "out of our operating funds, we think it critical to fund transportation for students in rural schools"
- Burden on administration to educate parents how line items relate to each other

f) Advocacy Works! Conference Report

- great conference, about half parents, half teachers
- Friday night keynote – The Internet of Me, will post link – current and future trends and how to balance technology in our lives
- heard about the BCTF-Gov't of BC case arguments, and the Supreme Court decision and what it means, expecting resolution of negotiations within 2 weeks so that districts can plan for the fall and begin hiring (could be up to 3,500 additional teachers hired)
- Saturday workshops on effective advocacy, crafting and disseminating messages
- parent presentations on creative advocacy campaigns – Sheri highlighted the "No Room at LVR", "Save Winlaw School" & "Wildflower-SNES Coalition" – very brief, especially the last one; incredible work being done by parents in other parts of the province – will post link to presentations
- education funding presentations – despite this past year's continual unrelated random acts of funding, BC still lags behind every other province except PEI, which has recently increased their funding – will post that presentation
- impacts of poverty on our students – have posted that one (Hungry to Learn)
- incredible, emotional, wrap up story by Ivan Coyote, a transgender person, about growing up and being different, it's about human rights, not transgender rights

g) 2017-2018 DPAC executive & district committee recruitment (moved to next meeting)

9) Treasurer's Report

Regular account- \$5092.83

Gaming account- \$698.00

10) District Committee Reports**Finance & Operations** - meeting upcoming**Policy & Governance** (submitted electronically for minutes)

- Trustee Heather Suttie re-elected chair
- placed requested revisions to policies 205 (Fees, Deposits, etc) and 430 (extra- and co-curricular activities) regarding financial transparency for student fees on policy schedule
- said no to printed policy manuals in the schools (onerous to maintain) but agreed to help raise the profile of and access to policies,
- officially learned that regulation committee structure was unrealistic and superintendent will draft regulations and bring to the policy committee for review and then board for approval; provided summary of status of regulations (see Feb 7 meeting minutes)
- the district agreed to make policy pro-formas more accessible by posting a fillable pdf policy pro-forma on the district website (DPAC would then place it on theirs as well)
- testing hiring committee procedures recommended by KLTF & DPAC, quite a bit of discussion regarding how to comply with FIPPA requirements and also give stakeholders adequate information at the stages in which that are participating; Superintendent Jones will seek legal opinion on privacy of candidates using KLTF's and DPAC's suggested process. Superintendent Jones will take KLTF's and DPAC's suggestions under advisement when developing regulations relative to Policy 540.
- Trustee Nazaroff provided update on computer network/internet user agreement ad hoc committee work

Education

- met Feb. 21, working groups made progress in their topics, i.e., gr 10-12 curriculum, poverty recommendations, student engagement/symposia, learning environment criteria; recommendations will go to board

Budget Stakeholder

- Kim Morris is developing a living document that will educate parents on the budget process.
- Has incredible potential for communication to stakeholders with lots of turnover and lack of understanding of the detailed process of budget.
- Long term benefit

Healthy Schools/ Lifestyles - next meeting date TBD

Meeting adjourned 8:25

DPAC Meeting & Presentation Schedule

Thursday, March 16: Parent Advocacy

Thursday, April 27: ACE-It, Four Nations Coalition

Thursday, May 25: Youth Mental Health

Thursday, June 8 – **Party!** (Parent Appreciation Awards)