

**Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, April 19, 2012  
Nelson Board office, video conferencing to Creston Education Centre**

**Attendance:**

***Nelson:***

Jenny Henri, DPAC Chair, Mt. Sentinel rep  
Sheri Walsh, DPAC Secretary  
Robin Woodbridge, LVR

***Illuminate:***

Kendra Mann, DPAC Vice-Chair, Rosemont rep  
Susan Wilson, DPAC Treasurer  
Ester Zbediak, BK rep

***Teleconference:***

Lori Camilleri, LVR

**Staff and Education Partners:**

***Nelson:***

Jeff Jones, Superintendent  
Larry Brown, Director of Operations

***Regrets:***

Barb Lindsay, Trustee  
Becky Blair, CVTA  
Elizabeth Tarhan, Erickson rep

**1) Welcome/Call to Order:** at 6:10 pm

**2) Approval of Agenda**

Move Larry Brown to the top of the agenda; revised agenda approved by consensus

**3) Acceptance of March 29 minutes**

March 29 draft minutes approved by consensus.

**7) Discussion Items**

**a) Larry Brown – Student Transportation Update**

- Will be finalizing routes in late May, other than a few tweaks, as usual, in September, and providing an update to the Facilities Planning/Transportation Committee on May 2
- have lived within budget to date, but are faced with rising costs for fuel and maintenance as well as declining enrollment and changes in demographics which changes the number of students on each route
- Current proposals:
  - Consolidating runs and reducing runs to Harrop and Creston by one each
  - Reducing some runs currently over four hours to under four
  - Re-orienting start of four Slocan Valley runs from Slocan and Winlaw to starting in Winlaw and at BK, which will also make it easier to find relief drivers when necessary

- No longer will have a bus run to and from Nelson from the Hwy 6/3A junction for out of catchment students – it will start and end in Bonnington; students will have to take the transit bus
- No more room on the Bonnington to Blewett bus (which is out of catchment); students will either have to attend BK or find another way to get to and from Blewett
- Above changes would save 1.625 FTEs, which is equivalent to approximately three runs

#### 4) District Reports

##### Jeff Jones, Superintendent

- SD8 students did very well at the regional Science fair; several students won awards and three Trafalgar students will be heading to the national science fair in Charlottetown in May. See the SD8 website for a complete list of SD8 award winners [Science Fair](#). We are proud of our students and appreciative of their teachers.
- We are proud of our schools and staff and the many initiatives they have undertaken
- Each month the Superintendent's update will focus on one of the Board of Education's Student Expectations; this month's expectation is "Academic Success".
- Read the complete update [here](#).

#### 5) School Reports (limited due of lack of Elluminate audio)

- **Mt. Sentinel:** Wassabi Collective performed today and grade 7 class made shakers and performed with them and will be able to burn a CD. PAC and CBT have contributed funds for a breakfast program which begins next week. PAC is undertaking a parent survey. SV Family of Schools PACs meeting May 7. Spring session of extra-curricular volleyball has started up.
- **Rosemont:** finished swimming program
- **LVR:** grad prep is underway; fundraising for basketball underway; LVR student provincial exam results exceeded provincial average except for socials 11; talent night grad fundraiser at the Capitol sold out; student art display at Nelson library; won \$1,000 in the green games (one of 10 winners out of 120!); three students going to the green mining workshop at MacMaster University; fun presentation by Science World folks; environmental conference April 28-29 includes a documentary film contest; medical clinic pilot project very successful; dance program has a plant sale fundraiser with plants from Georama
- **BK:** no PAC meeting in March

#### 6) Correspondence and related business

- Nelson District Youth Community Centre requested funding for a venue for a parent presentation by Gary Anaka, and DPAC connected the NDYCC with LVR where it will be held April 26 at no charge to parents or the NDYCC
- Query from parents regarding disposition of funds raised for a cancelled extra-curricular activity; this has been referred to the policy committee for guidance
- Continued correspondence with parents in the Loff Rd area

#### 7) Discussion Items, cont'd

##### b) BCCPAC

- AGM and spring conference May 25-27; DPAC funding attendance by two parents
- May 24 there is a celebration of 90 years of parent involvement
- New website is almost ready and BCCPAC will be soliciting feedback; Susan will send out link when it's ready
- Gathering input from parents regarding the impact of the BCTF strike
- DPAC secretary will send out proxies to member PACs by early May

**c) Family of Schools' meetings**

**Kaslo & Crawford Bay:** Superintendent to determine date and DPAC will organize

**d) BCTF Strike Update**

- Teacher behavior with respect to job action is inconsistent between schools
- Challenging times for everyone
- Continuing teacher-parent communications inconsistencies
- There are concerns about graduating students receiving marks
- Some district committees have been affected - decisions are being made in the absence of teachers' voices
- Potential major impact on school planning days and school goals

**d) DPAC Parent Survey**

- Tabled until May

**8) Committee Reports****a) Chair**

- Attended board and healthy lifestyles meetings

**b) Treasurer**

Gaming account = \$ 529.76 + interest for February  
Regular account = \$ 2,428.01 + interest for February  
Total = \$ 2,957.77 + interest for February

- Most of above funds are allocated

**c) Education**

- Hasn't met this year

**d) Finance**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> draft of budget prepared
- Are many requests for funds
- Are now organizing budget around student needs instead of around Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR); a strategic plan is created before the budget is prepared
- First consider core funding that schools require to operate, then use funding protection funds to strategize how to positively impact learning outcomes
- However, funding protection is being reduced to 98.5%, demonstrating that funding protection cannot be considered and budgeted as a stable amount
- Bill 22 includes a learning improvement fund that is to be used to support "gray area" students
- Finance Committee is undertaking a survey; the resulting recommendations will be considered when finalizing the budget
- DPAC Finance Committee members are enjoying working with the Secretary-Treasurer

**e) Policy**

- Next meeting Monday, April 30
- Disposition of parent-raised funds for cancelled extra-curricular events to be discussed; intend to provide guidance to principals and PAC chairs
- SPC subcommittee will meet after April 27

**f) Healthy Lifestyles**

- Louise Poole is organizing many events and activities and disseminating lots of information
- Much of the activity is Nelson-centric and there was discussion about how to expand into the rest of the district
- Working on in-service training for sex-ed teachers, expanding the FRIENDS program
- Discussed NDCC recreation master plan, developing a Perrier Rd trail for safer walking since there is no longer on a school bus route; noted that there is a BC Transit review Apr 26-27 and an on-line survey that transit users are encouraged to complete
- suggest that meeting minutes be posted on the SD8 website

**g) Facilities Planning**

- Three part meeting May 2, including transit discussion, tour of Nelson area schools and debrief

**9) Adjournment:** at 7:35

**DPAC Meeting Schedule**

May 17, 2012	6:00 pm	
June 21, 2012	5:00 pm	Parent Celebration

**Committee Meeting Schedule**

Board of Education:	Tuesday, May 8, 5pm
Finance:	Tuesday, May 8, 1pm
Education:	TBA
Policy:	Monday, April 30, noon
Healthy Lifestyles:	Oct 18, 4pm
Facilities Planning:	May 2