

**Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday April 25, 2013
Nelson Board office, video conferencing to Creston Education Centre**

Attendance:

Jenny Henri – Mt. Sentinel , Dpac Chair
Kendra Mann – Rosemont, Trafalgar – Dpac Vice Chair
Phil MacDonald – Winlaw, WE Graham
Linda Homeniuk – Trafalgar, St. Joseph
Melissa Woodward – Trafalgar, Redfish
Cheryl Makeir - Redfish, Trafalgar
Heather Anderson – Trafalgar, Blewett
Ester Zdebiak – Brent Kennedy, Mt. Sentinel
Fern Sabo – Wildflower
Iris Steffler – Hume
Dana Diotte – South Nelson
Catherine Locke and Arnie Hinke – LVR
Trevor and Shantalla Anderson – Trafalgar, Blewett
Kathryn Rixin – Brent Kennedy, Mt. Sentinel
Tracy Barkman – Mt. Sentinel, Winlaw, WE Graham
Todd Kettner – South Nelson, Trafalgar

Guests and Education Partners:

Lorri Fehr, SD 8 District Principal of Innovative Learning Services
Tamara Malloff, Mt. Sentinel Technology Program Coordinator
Peter Kozak – CUPE Rep
Louise Poole – SD8 Healthy Schools Coordinator

Social Media and Digital Literacy Presentation – Tamara Malloff

Tamara helped parents understand how social media is changing our learning and cultural landscape, with a balanced message of Digital Citizenship/Literacy and how to be safe online. Parents were able to have lots of questions answered. Links to information shared can be found on the SD 8 Healthy Schools website: <http://sd8healthyschools.weebly.com/>

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

2. Approval of Agenda by consensus

3. Acceptance of January and February minutes by consensus

4. District Report

- School Calendar Discussion – discussed moving away from the traditional 10-month September to June school year to year-round schooling or a 4-day school week. Discussed piloting an alternate calendar in one Family of Schools area. There would need to be an infrastructure upgrade because schools do not have air conditioning for the summer months.

District Report with Lorri Fehr

- Supporting teachers through the innovative learning resources department. Early Learning has a few exciting things happening: Early Development Instrument (EDI) is just being finished and a similar assessment with Grade 4's called Middle years Development Instrument (MDI) is starting. These are university based assessments

which will give us a scope of our students as they grow. Data is well used in the district when looking at programs etc.

- The district is working hard to connect across the community. In June our Kindergarten teachers will meet with our Strongstart providers to discuss students and where they are. "Read by 3" is another initiative the district is doing this year. Providing support time and assistant to help struggling students read by age 3.
- Curriculum changing to be more competency based. Competency's more than curriculum.
- Looking at the shrinking enrolment at our small secondary schools and how to see that as an opportunity to offer more depth for those kids.
- SD 8 school websites are getting more consistent and are keeping up to date. The SD8 Learns website creates online opportunities for teachers in our district.

5. School Reports

- Wild Flower – 4 day week with 1 day of homeschooling on Fridays. Very impressed with the teachers and their ability to be creative and think outside of the box. Intentionally have multi-aged classroom and looking at different ways of looking at things.
- South Nelson – holding "centres" to discuss revitalization and talking about emergency lockdown.
- Rosemont – Flower sale going on and family fun day coming up soon.
- Mt. Sentinel – Drama department's "Dr. Suess Odyssey" was a great success.
- Hume – School Board has been great during the recent structural issues.
- Brent Kennedy – Swimming lessons are underway and the school got new laptops, Mr. Chernoff is retiring with his last day being Tuesday April 30. Children's Market coming up. The school started a "green club." Hot lunch every Wednesday run by parent volunteers.

6. Correspondence – nil

7. Discussion Items

- a.) BCCPAC: Proxy Forms Due
- BCCPAC Spring Conference and AGM will be held May 3rd – 5th in Richmond.

8. Committee Reports

- a.) Treasurer: account balances as of March 31, 2013
 - Gaming account – \$42.42
 - Regular account - \$3750 (approx.)
- b.) Education next meeting May 24, 8-4
- c.) Finance – Budget discussions to discuss in May
- d.) Policy – receive report in May
- e.) Healthy Lifestyles – no meeting
- f.) Facilities and Transportation – receive report in may

Adjournment 8:00 pm

Meeting Schedule:

May 23 6:00 pm

June 20 5:00 pm – Parent Celebration