

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday April 27, 2011
Nelson Board office, video conferencing to Creston Education Centre

Attendance:

Jenny Henri – DPAC Chair, Mt. Sentinel DPAC Rep
Susan Wilson – DPAC Treasurer
Robin Woodbridge – Trafalgar PAC Chair
Kendra Mann – DPAC Secretary, Rosemont DPAC Rep
Sherri Walsh – Brent Kennedy DPAC Rep
Retha Marsden – Erickson DPAC Rep
Tiffany Gorham – Canyon Lister DPAC Rep

Education Partners:

Jeff Jones - Superintendent
Becky Blair – Creston Teachers Association

1. Welcome/Call to Order at 6:10 pm

2. Approval of Agenda by consensus, Family of schools into Dist. Report

3. Acceptance of March meeting minutes by consensus

4. District Report

- Jeff Jones – A request from the superintendent that DPAC support the idea of the six family of schools (K-12 trajectory) bringing their PACs together to broaden community engagement to understand what people are expecting from a public education system. The superintendent will contact principals to choose dates to begin the open, honest, clear dialogue with parents. Trustees talked about a survey within family of schools to add to the research. This will be an ongoing activity. The six family of schools are: Slocan Valley, Salmo, Kaslo, Creston, Crawford Bay, and Nelson.
- Senior staff is currently working on the various processes within budgeting.
- The Board hired two new district principals and a Director of Human Resources. Lori Fehr is the District Principal in charge of Innovative Learning. Heather Denell is the District principal in charge of Independent Learning. The Director of Human Resources is Deanna Holitzki. The principal vacancies from LV Rogers and Redfish have been posted.
- Board – dealing with budget in the next little while. It's always limited and needs are great.
- Becky Blair – “Better Schools for BC” booklets are being dropped off around the district which speak about the Teachers' Federation's vision for education.

6. School Reports

- **Mt. Sentinel** – An all candidates forum was held with the four candidates for member of parliament. The students voted at the school to show the value of exercising a person's right to vote. Town Hall meetings with the students asked questions about their school and their learning. The information will be used at the school planning day. Course selection for next year

is currently going on.

- **Rosemont** – Western themed family fun night, movie night, Mother’s day fundraiser is just wrapping up, the fruit trees were just planted and the grade 3/4 class went to the sturgeon release.
- **Trafalgar** – Trees are being delivered on Friday, Mt. Sentinel kids are coming. The public can sponsor a tree, The year end celebration will happen in June. \$2200 was raised for Japan by making and selling paper cranes. Science fair saw 2 gold winners, 2 silver winners and 6 cash rewards coming from Trafalgar students. Two Trafalgar students are going to the Canada wide science fair. Currently working on Elementary school transitions – Kids will spend a day at Trafalgar in May and parents are welcome as well. Minor changes to scheduling/ planning to reduce teachers. Discussing the idea of themes for certain classes for an immersion type experience. Parent satisfaction surveys will be going out soon.
- **Canyon Lister** – Rubber duck race 1st prize \$500. 2nd \$300. and 3rd \$200. Focus on youth is happening next week. Teacher is going to Unesco ASP school seminar in Olds, BC the goal is to become the BC Rep.
- **Erikson** – 5, 6, 7 going to Spokane to see a theatre show. Easter lily sales are done, hot dog sales, bingo, Normally sponsor Gr. 3 and 4's to go swimming. Norman Foot was just at the school. Focus on youth this week and Sturgeon release last week.
- **Brent Kennedy** – Children’s market went well. School t-shirts are out all kids are receiving one. Chili Cook-off and family fun night, sturgeon release, sponsored a Nunavet educator, soap stone carvings, Art project with the family of schools, garden plants in each class is taking on the maintenance. Ground squirrel problems continue. There’s a substantial number of financial hardships this year that the PAC is helping with.

7. Correspondence

- Green Thumb Theatre
- Flyers from the BC Public School Employers Association (BCPSEA) inviting parents to follow teacher bargaining on facebook and twitter.

8. Discussion Items

- a. AGM April 30th: Jenny and Sheri will be attending. We held a BCCPAC Resolutions meeting on Tuesday April 25. DPAC is voting in favor of all the resolutions except for #12 where we have some questions. Susan is running for BCCPAC treasurer.
- b. French Immersion update – There was a meeting held on Tuesday April 25 at Trafalgar where the idea of a third class was discussed. This coming school year won’t put financial pressure on the district as there are enough students for six grade 6 classes. Following years may see a shift that may cause some financial problems, but the hope is that the district will allow a year to work out the difficulties including the possibility of a 7/8 French Immersion split. The meeting went well lots of information sharing – their seeking creative solutions to the problems. Andy and Jeff will go over the information collected at the management meeting before making a decision.
- c. Homelinks – change to secondary students – students need to enroll as PCSS but schooling will remain to be at Creston Education Centre. Register students as learning centre students to get the per pupil funding.
- d. School planning councils – planning and organizing of the school planning day. Connect with your principals.
- e. Trustee Elections Fall 2011 – November pamphlet will be coming out soon to help people understand the role of a trustee.

- f. Class composition - individual education plans. Composition needs to be part of the discussion.
- g. PAC Raised funds – We have received a few and are waiting for more information to come next meeting.
- h. Parent Celebration in June. Thursday may not work for some, perhaps hold it on Wednesday June 15 – **MOTION:** DPAC spend up to \$600.00 for supper and prizes. Motion by Susan Wilson seconded by Retha Marsden PASSED
- i. Gordon Neufeld Conference – was absolutely fantastic. His books are at the Nelson library and his DVDs can be rented at Reo’s Videos.

9. Committee Reports

- a. Treasurer’s Report
 - There have been very few expenses over the last month. We have asked for additional funding from the Board of \$6000.00
- b. Education meeting – Reviewed Premier’s Report and 21st century learning.
- c. Finance – May 10th is the next meeting
- d. Policy meeting – Next one is May 2nd
- e. Healthy Lifestyles

Adjourned 8:00 pm

Meeting Schedule:

May 26 6:00 pm

June 16 5:00 pm – Parent Celebration