

**Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 13, 2012
Nelson Board office, video conferencing to Creston Education Centre**

Attendance:

Nelson Parents:

Jenny Henri, DPAC Chair, Mt. Sentinel
Susan Wilson, DPAC Treasurer, Mt. Sentinel
Kendra Mann, DPAC Vice-Chair, Rosemont, Trafalgar
Trish Dehnel, Trafalgar, LVR, CPF
Erin Koorbatoff, BK
Kathryn Rixin, BK
Janice Tebulte, Salmo Secondary

Creston Parents:

Sheri Walsh, DPAC Secretary, Mt. Sentinel
Tracy Caron, PCSS

Staff and Education Partners:

Nelson:

Jeff Jones, Superintendent
Peter Kozak, CUPE rep local 748
Louise Poole, Health Promoting Schools Coordinator
Andy Leathwood,

Creston:

Tracy Caron, CUPE

Regrets:

Cathy Scott-May, LVR

1) Welcome/Call to Order: at 6:00 pm

2) Approval of Agenda

- add school schedule to discussion items
- agenda accepted by consensus

3) Acceptance of November 22 minutes

- November 22 draft minutes approved by consensus.

4) District Reports

a) Jeff Jones, Superintendent

- Hume School remediation – mould in the ceiling of a storage room under the gym discovered in August, air quality compromised, air quality addressed immediately with fans and filters and sealing of source, all mouldy materials are being removed by end of this year, then will consult with community about future use of this area (which was no longer being used as a gym)
- Old Crawford Bay school demolition started, but because of changed conditions had to stop, will be completed next year and all materials disposed appropriately
- 2013-2014 budget process underway – all info on website, opportunity for stakeholder presentations on January 29, looking for creative ways to address district learning goals and student expectations; please participate!

- Superintendent, along with a senior staff member, engaged in several structured school visits involving discussion with administrators, observing learners in two or three classrooms for approximately 30 minutes and then meeting casually with staff; very impressed with students and staff; will visit the remaining schools in January
- At Board meeting this week, a parent asked if SD8 could allow a Mexican student that they know well to attend LVR without paying the international student fee, this family will support everything outside of school fee; ~\$12K needed – could KLTF, CUPE, DPAC fundraise this amount? Could the family pursue guardianship? They have been advised to consult with a lawyer regarding what that might entail.

5) School Reports

- **Mt. Sentinel:** hosted provincial senior girls volleyball tournament and Wildcats placed 3rd bronze, opening ceremonies at MSS, then all students bussed to the first games at Selkirk College in Castlegar; 2012 grad Dana Knapik received Governor General's Academic medal for highest average mark for grade 11/12 courses; MSSS alumnus Nikki Bell, presenting her one-woman show "I, Claudia" on Thursday and Friday night; Interact club is busy fundraising for their trip to Oaxaca; Destination Imagination team has started up; senior English students went to see movie Life of Pi as a complement to their novel study; had the first dance in two years last Friday night, dj'd by a grade 10 student, went well; PAC held successful pointsettia and Mom's Pantry fundraisers funds - used for grad bursary; impressed with school's willingness to address student concerns; grad photos just taken, grad June 21 and 22
- **Rosemont:** skate on Thursday, concert on Wed, raffling off baskets of donated items and services, PAC dinner and student craft day with DI crafts
- **Salmo:** grade 11 class is going well, grade 12 struggling with low numbers; basketball game at Mt Sentinel tomorrow night, team is having a fantastic season
- **Trafalgar:** got report cards today; new playground lots of fun for all ages and well used;

6) Correspondence and related business

- received rejection letters both Kootenay Savings Community Foundation and CBT social grants in response to our applications for funding for the Parents' Night Out series

7) Discussion Items

a) Andy Leathwood, Director of Innovative Learning Services - Grad Requirements

- Andy gave a PowerPoint presentation about the ideas associated with the Education change and consultation process being undertaken by the Ministry of Education including; find it on the DPAC website [here](#)
- defining an educated citizen and relating that to grad requirements: what are the core or essential things all students should know, understand and be able to do by the time they leave secondary schools; post-secondary and employers want grads to be competent in real life numeracy skills and concepts as opposed to having specific calculations and content memorized; resiliency critical as well – need to fall down and get back up a few times before graduate; creativity critical as well
- many of these skills are reflected in the SD8 student expectations

b) Transportation

- wondering what has happened with bus safety training that was to happen in October?
- transportation dept looking at further tweaks to schedules to address tight arrival at LVR in particular, and lengthy wait times after dismissal at some schools
- BC transit survey – parents are encouraged to complete survey and indicate that the proposed changes do not address the needs of secondary students

c) BCCPAC

- everything going well

d) Family of Schools' meetings

- **Kaslo & Crawford Bay:** Superintendent to determine date and DPAC will organize
- will be another round of meetings

e) Surveys

- Ad-hoc Catchment/Boundary Committee survey – DPAC submitted their questions to the committee, however survey requires further development
- DPAC parent survey delayed until the spring, we have a draft that we can update in January

f) Parents' Night Out

- Dec 4, Trafalgar parents learned about the Options for Sexual Health Clinic in Nelson
- Dec 17 in Kaslo, "Helping Kids Use Social Media Wisely" was presented by Steve Hoffart, (funded by Selkirk College and CBAL); will be presented again at Redfish on February 6, 7pm (also funded by Selkirk and CBAL), looking to DPAC to provide travel and childcare subsidies; Kendra can attend and provide the subsidies
- Feb 18 Cindy Andrews from Centre for Addictions Research in BC can present on Parenting Resilient Children (she's here doing ProD workshops same day) at Trafalgar
- as didn't get funding from CBT or KSCF, we will need to be creative with funding and focus on our excellent selection of local presenters; DPAC has some funds and at least can cover travel and childcare subsidies at all presentations
- Creston asked for mental health presentation – "Childhood Anxiety and Depression" similar to what was presented at LVR in November would be a good. If you have a presenter/presentation along these lines that could be provided for Erickson parents (we could also invite other parents) please let Louise know.
- April 26 Pro D there will be a BC dairy foundation presentation on "Positive Body Image"; could be parent presentation as well
- looking for a sleep expert as many children and parents have identified inadequate quality sleep as a problem

g) School Calendar

- tabled

8) Committee Reports**a) Chair**

- attended several committee meetings as well as sexual health community partners, options for sexual health sessions

b) Treasurer

- current accounts:
 - \$ 104.42 gaming
 - \$ 5,053.52 regular

Total: \$ 5,157.94 total

- graciously acknowledge and appreciate the receipt of our grant from SD8

c) Education

- looking for new focus; next meeting January 23

d) Finance

- met Dec 11, attended by Chair and Treasurer
- discussed upcoming budget process, stakeholder engagement, focus on student learning
- DPAC invited to present on Jan 29, focus on student learning – maybe ask PACs to get input from parents
- next meeting January 8

e) Policy

- met Nov 23, attended by Treasurer
- Secretary-Treasurer invited to attend and explain school trust accounts
- next meeting Dec 21

f) Healthy Lifestyles

- met December 6, attended by Chair
- discussed ensuring that those teaching sexual health are well trained
- next meeting Jan 31, 4pm, Trafalgar library
- Community Links funding for food for vulnerable students has been received

g) Facilities Planning

- met earlier today, attended by Chair
- public meeting at Wynndel about sale of old Wynndel School went well, 20-30 people attended; would like community group to be preferred purchaser, and if not, people have concerns about non-local purchaser; Board will develop purchasing criteria
- next meeting January 21

9) Adjournment: at 8:09pm**Committee meeting schedule**

Healthy Lifestyles:	Thursday, January 31, 4:00pm PST, Trafalgar library
Education:	Wednesday, January 23, 12:30pm MST Creston Ed Centre
Facilities Planning:	Monday, January 21, 1:00pm PST, Nelson SBO
Finance:	Tuesday, January 8, 1:00pm PST, Nelson SBO
Policy:	Friday December 21, 12:00 PST, Nelson SBO
Board of Education:	Tuesday, December 11, 5:00pm PST, Nelson SBO