

## **Kootenay Lake DPAC Meeting**

**Thursday February 26, 2009**

**Nelson School Board Office, video conferencing to Creston Ed. Centre**

### **Present:**

S. Wilson - WEG PAC DPAC rep, DPAC Chair

K. Mann - Rosemont parent, DPAC Secretary

J. Henri - Mt. Sentinel PAC DPAC Rep, DPAC Treasurer

R. Marsden - Erickson PAC DPAC Rep

T. Burham - Canyon DPAC Rep

C. Hawton - PCSS/ ARES DPAC Rep

### **Guests:**

Matt Weber - program facilitator & prevention worker for Freedom Quest Youth Services

### **Education Partners:**

K. Hergott - Nelson Area Cupe Rep

### **Regrets:**

Robert Eyre - Blewett PAC Chair

Glenda Pasutti - Rosemont PAC Chair

Lenora Trenaman - trustee

**1. Welcome** - called to order 6:00 pm

**2. Presentation from Matt Weber** - program facilitator & prevention worker for Freedom Quest Regional Youth Services. Matt's purpose is to do drug prevention and is currently speaking with students in grades 7, 9, 10, and 12. They're planning a series of evening presentations on **Parenting for Prevention**. The first one is set for March 31<sup>st</sup> from 7-9 at Trafalgar either in the library or the gym. Their hoping to have resources and some presentations on the current drug trend in the area and province, the drugs for concern in our area, effective communication, staying close to the family, stressors in youth, and Internet safety. They've been approached by local organizations to be part of it including ANKORS and Nelson CARES.

**3. Approval of agenda** - as circulated

**4. Acceptance of January 22, 2009 minutes** - by consensus

**5. Correspondence** - see attached list

### **6. Discussion Items**

- a. - Financial Hardship and Winter Conditions are two policies currently under review. There are several policies currently being field tested. See the website for more information - [www.sd8.bc.ca](http://www.sd8.bc.ca).
  - School Catchment letter from Brian Debiasio reminding parents of the

- March 31 deadline to transfer students out of their catchment school
- Kindergarten registration has started
- BCCPAC Advocacy Project is looking for parent feedback to an online survey regarding Individual Education Plans (IEP)

b. BCCPAC

- There is a movement by concerned BCCPAC members to discuss the removal of BCCPAC President Ron Broda at an extraordinary general meeting. His recent response to emails and current action leads many to believe his leadership needs to be debated. PACs are encouraged to fill out the Requisition Form for an Extraordinary General Meeting and return to DPAC as soon as possible.
- BCCPAC member input session will take place at the Prestige Inn in Cranbrook on Saturday April 18, 2009 from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. There will no longer be video conferencing available for this session.
- AGM and Spring Conference coming up on April 30 - May 3. Resolution booklet should be in the mail. Nominations for board positions are open for the board. All parents with PACs that are BCCPAC members are welcome to put forth their name for the board.

c. Finance Committee

- Final 2008-09 budget was passed with no contingency. Board will be conducting a parent school calendar survey. DPAC will have an opportunity to view the survey questions ahead of time to make recommendations.

HOMEWORK for PACS - How do parents feel about 2 week spring break? Any alternatives? One suggestion being going back to school before the long weekend in September.

d. FSA Homework

- Creston parents were sent letters weekly asking parents to excuse their child from the FSA's. One child came home telling their mom that she was making her teacher lose her job. Some parents feel that comments should be directed to the Fraser Institute. Very few students at Canyon/Lister Elementary wrote the FSA.
- Blewett - did talk about the FSA at our last meeting - other than the use by the Fraser Institute there were no parents at the meeting who had concerns about the actual skills assessment.

e. Seat Belts on school buses

- Media interest in DPAC's resolution to BCCPAC: Susan fielded several calls
- The district put forth a motion to the BCSTA similar to DPAC's in regards to mandated use of seat belts on school buses.
- Should DPAC ask the district to support the philosophy of seat belts on school busses regardless of the outcome of the resolutions?

- f. All Parents Belong!
  - BCTF will hopefully get back to us about 3 presentations
  - It was decided not to ask Carol Ann Friedman to do a presentation on Friday April 17 in Creston, as the turn out may not be sufficient to warrant the cost.

### **Committee Reports**

a.) Treasurer

Regular \$4,127.31

Gaming \$1,835.00

b.) Executive Report - see attached

c.) Education committee - Coffee Houses in your area please try to make it out to one. There will be a video showing each school in the area. Next meeting is April 9.

d.) Finance committee - acts as an audit committee, over sees budget, and prepares the budget for the next year. Next meeting March 31.

e.) Healthy Lifestyles - next meeting TBA

f.) Policy - next meeting TBA

### **District Discussion 7:30**

Kevin was asked about CUPE's opinion on the various calendar options. He shared there would be less pressure on secondary students if the district went back to the standard calendar (one week Spring Break) allowing for snow days/weather closures during the winter months.

Pink Shirt Day - Fairly successful, the students responded well and most children wore some kind of pink. Some schools gave students badges and ribbons to wear.

**Adjourned 8:00 pm**