

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday January 27, 2011

Nelson Board office, video conferencing to Creston Education Centre

Attendance:

Jenny Henri – DPAC Chair, Mt. Sentinel DPAC Rep

Susan Wilson – DPAC Treasurer

Sherri Walsh – Brent Kennedy PAC Chair

Kendra Mann – DPAC Secretary, Rosemont parent

Robin Woodbridge – Trafalgar PAC Chair

Education Partners:

Peter Kozak – CUPE Rep, Shop Steward

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

2. Approval of Agenda by consensus

3. Acceptance of December minutes by consensus

4. District Report

Superintendent Jeff Jones' is out of the district with a family emergency.

5. School Reports

Mt. Sentinel - this week is the last week of the first semester, ski day today at Red Mountain Resort. Drama class put on play last night. Quest program is in Mexico for 2 weeks.

Rosemont – Destination Imagination, made \$500 on our poinsettia fundraiser, raising money for the trip to Fort Steele at the end of the year, test camp out February at the school. Buying a new TV, Valentines Skate, Winter activities – Downhill skiing, cross country skiing, and skating for the primary classes.

Trafalgar – really good turnout at the last PAC meeting, discussed landscaping project, Communication between parents and the school is another problem going on. Some parents were complaining about R rated movies being shown for social studies. A couple of parents have taken their children out and done home schooling, and a couple of teachers consistently extending deadlines.

Brent Kennedy – Selling Passport to the Kootenays books \$40.00, tshirt contest, set up after school leadership club, valentines dance, food bank. Fridays in February, buying snowshoes, and buying Net books. Requested a meeting with Jeff and Monica to discuss a new kitchen.

There was discussion around PACs being increasingly asked to pay for items which can be considered “for learning” rather than extra curricular. Susan will contact Secretary-Treasurer Monica Schulte to see if the district has policy on this.

6. Correspondence

a. Business arising from Correspondence: Received the BCTF “Teacher” magazine and various board meeting packages

7. Discussion Items

a. BCCPAC - Spring AGM is April 29 – May 1st. Resolution Deadline is January 31, 2011

b. Facilities Advisory Committees, update – Slocan Valley meeting was postponed until February 9. The Board met on January 11th to discuss the recommendations including “Support the development of a family of schools working together in the Slocan Valley.” The Board felt that the committee hadn't addressed the facilities

utilization challenges. The Board has postponed their decision for the Slocan Valley until February 22nd. Creston has put forth a motion that the “Board of Education remain committed to supporting the Creston Education Centre as a viable facility for the establishment of a Neighborhood Of Learning Centre for the focus of childhood programs and services in the Creston area.”

c. Full-Day Kindergarten update – we received a few responses on the pros and cons. Lack of support in the classroom is one of the main cons that happened quite often. Schools are doing a great job with introducing students and being flexible with other families. The district did provide additional supervision and classroom support to help within the classrooms. DPAC will submit a resolution to BCCPAC regarding lowering the Kindergarten class size of no more than 12 students unless there’s additional support, with a maximum of 18-20 students.

d. Trafalgar Project Support – discussion about more community support. Tabled until February.

e. Library update – Jeff Jones is looking into it.

f. Parent Education Workshop – follow up with Geoff Burns about internet safety to include all parents.

g. FSA – DPAC supports the FSA, Our last letter to the board supporting FSA's was January 29, 2009.

h. Pink Shirt Day is Wednesday February 23 (<http://www.pinkshirtday.ca/2010/11/08/february-23-2011/>) – **MOTION:** Buy pink day T-shirts for senior staff motion by Susan Wilson, seconded by Sheri Walsh - PASSED

8. Committee Reports

a. Treasurer Regular \$3967.00 Gaming \$41.00

b. Education – had a meeting on January 10 looked at calendar options. Looked at balanced calendar splitting the year into 2 or 3 portions and a 4 day week. Motion to the board “The education committee makes the following recommendation that the school approved calendar remain unchanged for the 2011/2012 and develop and process to get a broad input on a different calendar for February 2012. Meet again in Feb. 15

c. Finance – The district projected a shortfall of \$300,000 so they claw-backed some funding to the schools. The December funding announcement saw more money than expected so all the claw-backs and restrictions have been lifted and restored. The per pupil finding was increased by \$88.00 this year. The funding announcement saw more money in the “teacher differential” budget line, which is money the Ministry gives to districts who have higher than provincial average teacher wages.

d. Policy – Meeting on Monday January 31, and no policies currently out for field testing.

Adjournment at 8:00 pm

Topics for next meeting:

- Board election is next fall.
- Trafalgar Project

Meeting Schedule:

February 24 6:00 pm, 7:00 pm Creston

March 31 6:00 pm

April 28 6:00 pm

May 28 6:00 pm

June 16 5:00 pm – Parent Celebration