

**Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday June 20, 2013
Nelson Board office, video conferencing to Creston Education Centre**

Attendance:

Jenny Henri – Mt. Sentinel, DPAC Chair
Kendra Mann – Rosemont, Trafalgar – DPAC Vice Chair
Susan Wilson – Mt. Sentinel, DPAC Treasurer
Sue Robertson – Hume
Iris Steffler – Hume
Rob Marsland – LVR
Ester Zdebiak – Brent Kennedy
Amie - Erickson

Partners:

Jeff Jones, Superintendent
Sheri Walsh, Trustee
Becky Blair, Co-President Kootenay Lake Teachers Federation

Parent Celebration was a great success ☺ Thanks to all parents for their dedication to families in the Kootenay Lake School District No. 8!

- 1. Meeting was called to order at 5:55 pm**
- 2. Approval of Agenda as amended** by consensus
- 3. Acceptance of May minutes**

Motion: To accept the May 23 minutes as presented.
Iris/Ester - carried

4. District Report

Superintendent Jones

- News To Share – a new blog has been created to inform the public of the great initiatives and activities happening in the district.
- All Grade 12 graduation ceremonies will have a Trustee and senior staff member attending on behalf of the district. Jeff will personally attend graduation ceremonies at Homelinks, PCSS, Salmo and JVH.
- Retirement celebrations took place on June 14 in Nelson and June 15 in Creston. Best wishes to staff in their retirements.
- Salmo Secondary Vice-Principal, WEG Principal and Erickson Principal vacancies will be filled very soon. There may be other vacancies in administration and teaching as these positions are filled. SD 8 has a great pool of talented staff to choose from. Succession planning has been working very well.
- School staffing including support staff is well underway. Senior staff is working closely with unions to fill vacancies. There are not anticipated lay-offs but may be some potential transfers.
- There will be minor student transportation bus route changes in September. A new Bus Pass system is being implemented for the Fall. Notices went home to parents asking them to register their child before school starts in September.
- New sound system and electronic meeting options are being finalized. The district will plan to use Skype and Go To Meeting in lieu of the aging PolyCom video conferencing

system. This new system will be more portable and able to include people from their own home.

- Thanks to DPAC, especially for the Parent's Night Out series.

Becky Blair

- Commented on the successful round of local bargaining.
- Thanks parents for their support.

Trustee Walsh

- Reminded parents about the Catchment/Boundary Info Open House coming up Tuesday June 25 in Salmo starting at 6:30 pm.

5. School repots

- Mt. Sentinel: officially has a new Vice-Principal. Shellie Maloff was appointed to replace the late Blair D'Andrea. Exam schedule is posted and the graduation ceremony will be June 21. Kids will enjoy another field trip to Silverwood and Kat's Cookout. The Year End PAC celebration was held on June 10.
- Rosemont: Family fun n
- Trafalgar: field trip to the Castlegar pool until the Nelson pool re-opens;
- Hume: Received approximately \$5000 from a Nutella fund raiser. Approximately \$14,000 has been raised for the new playground. Field trips are well underway, with a few being canceled due to weather. Looking at a healthy breakfast program.
- LVR: successful graduation ceremony was held on June 7 and 8. Would like to discuss "parent engagement"
- Erickson: The school said good bye to principal Nancy Devuono. Plans are underway to fund raise and purchase a new playground. Fields trips have been a great success.
- Brent Kennedy: Students participated in a ball tournament in Salmo. Field trip to the Trail pool. There will be a Grade 6 celebration. June 26 is Family Fun Day.

6. Correspondence – nil

7. Discussion Items

a) BCCPAC

- Early bird draw ends June 30 so please get your forms into DPAC right away.

b) Parent Engagement

- There was a brainstorming session about how to engage parents in PAC activities. Some great ideas include:
 - Clarifying the role of PAC beyond fund raising; engaging communities
 - How can PACs support the district achievement contract, literacy plan and student expectations?
 - Family of schools meetings
 - School planning council training
 - PAC meetings – advertise in local newspapers, keep meetings fun (food & laughter), hold meetings before or after school events such as open houses or concerts

- PAC Boot Camp – basic training for PACs including agendas, minutes, treasurer info.
- How to get more parents to engage in PAC – give them tasks and actions, PAC newsletters and surveys, get students to ask parents to attend meetings, keep meetings short (1 hour), have a definite end time, communication via social media (Twitter, Facebook)
- Support for PACs with a passionate or difficult issue

8. Committee Reports

- a) Chair – reported out below.
- b) Treasurer:
 - Regular Account: \$557.77, approximately \$900 expected to come in from travel subsidies from the BCCPAC Spring Conference
 - Gaming Account: \$42.42
- c) Education – the first round of Learning Improvement Fund (LIF) applications was reviewed at the last meeting.
- d) Finance – quick meeting to discuss a Request for Proposals for auditors.
- e) Policy –
- f) Healthy lifestyles – promoting the International Walk to School activity aka iWalk.
- g) Facilities and Transportation – The new Bus Pass system will be in place for September 2013. Passes will resemble a luggage tag for ease of checking as students get on the bus. There will be a \$5 replacement fee for lost passes for senior students. Discussed how the bus pass system will be implemented for students involved in shared custody and for courtesy riders.

Adjourned – 8:20 pm