

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday March 31, 2011
Nelson Board office, video conferencing to Creston Education Centre

Attendance:

Shelby Trenamen – LVR Grad Student
Jenny Henri – DPAC Chair, Mt. Sentinel DPAC Rep
Susan Wilson – DPAC Treasurer
Robin Woodbridge – Trafalgar PAC Chair
Gerry Mackinnon – LVR DPAC rep
Kendra Mann – DPAC Secretary, Rosemont DPAC Rep
Cathy Scott-May – Trafalgar PAC Chair
Sherri Walsh – Brent Kennedy DPAC Rep
Francesca Blishen – French Immersion
Linda Homeniuk – French Immersion
Gina Fortune – French Immersion
Trish Puyos-Michel – French Immersion
Annick Faehndrich – French Immersion
Victoria Vasleniuck – French Immersion

Education Partners:

Jeff Jones - Superintendent
Andy Leathwood – Director of Student Learning
Bill Maslechko – Trustee
Lenora Trenamen – Trustee

1. Welcome/Call to Order at 6:07 pm

2. Late French Immersion Program Discussion

- Susan Wilson presented a discussion paper regarding a third Grade 6 French Immersion class.
- Process was flawed this year and senior leadership is looking at how to change it and make it better but more importantly how to deal with the dilemma this year.
- Applications were due in by March 31, 2011 however there was confusion this year with the lack of dates on letters sent home to parents. The two classes are already maxed out at 60 students, with a waiting list of approximately 36 students. Traditionally some children drop out in September.
- In 2003 93 students were registered and the district offered a third class. Eighty nine students started French Immersion in September. The third class was problematic when enrolment dropped below a certain level causing smaller than affordable classrooms.
- Senior leadership is discussing a 3 phase approach:
 - a) Get letter out to parents who applied to French Immersion
 - b) Work with core group including parents and French Advisory Council (FAC) with a facilitator
 - c) Come to a resolution that most will be happy with

- Some discussion will include how can the district bring enrichment to ALL students in the best way for them, and what happens to attrition rates down the road.

3. Approval of Agenda by consensus,

4. Acceptance of February meeting minutes by consensus

5. District Report

- Jeff Jones – As the new superintendant there isn't a day I don't see or hear about something wonderful happening within our district. We have very dedicated staff and so many opportunities. I'd like to publicly thank staff, parents and volunteers for their commitment at the most challenging time in history for children and Youth. It makes me so proud to be a part of public education and a democratic process that supports public education.

HAPPY EDUCATION WEEK!!!

- Board – dealing with budget in the next little while. It's always limited and needs are great.
- In a process of change in our structure aligning into a family of schools so there's a K-12 trajectory in all our school communities: Slocan Valley, Nelson, Kaslo, Salmo, Creston and Crawford Bay. The family of schools is designed to follow the student through their public school experience, regardless of which school they attend.
- Funding announcement received – FULL annual facilities grant was restored
- **Cathy Scott-may: Library services update** – Meeting with teacher librarians, librarians and chief librarians for more collaboration and to develop a strategic plan on how to address library in the rural areas. Board of Education made a motion directing Jeff to work with other communities to enhance library service everywhere. How does training or research get delivered? We need to teach our students to use municipal libraries not just the school libraries.

6. School Reports

- **LVR** – Fundraiser for hospital includes a comedian, bake and craft sale
- **Rosemont** – sleepover, science world presentation, science fair projects
- **Mt. Sentinel** – science world, school garden network meeting, Permaculture 12 class was approved by the Board and will begin next school year.
- **Trafalgar** – Science world, Grade 8 transition to LVR. Tree planting in a month and thanks to support from the community.
- **Brent Kennedy** - 3rd annual Children's Market was a great success; T-shirt contest, and after school leadership program.

7. Correspondence

- Gaming grants were increased by \$5.00 per student for PACs and 25% for DPAC's. Our DPAC received \$625.

8. Discussion Items

- AGM April 30th: Jenny will be attending and we're looking for one more parent to attend. AGM proxy vote forms will be faxed out soon.
- Parent education Workshop April 7, 2011 Creston Ed Centre 5pm - **CANCELLED**
- Trustee Elections Fall 2011 – [discussion put forth to April's meeting.](#)
- Gordon Neufeld Conference in Cranbrook April 13 - 16, 2011 – Kendra is attending.

- e. Class composition – [put forward to April's meeting](#)
- f. PAC Raised funds – emailed template out to PACs this week.

9. Committee Reports

- a. Treasurer's Report
 - Gaming: Balance is \$20.09. Deposit of \$625.00 additional gaming grant coming soon
 - Regular \$ 2783.43
- b. Education meeting – No updates
- c. Finance – Several presentations were made to the board. They will be discussed and come up with a budget soon.
- d. Policy meeting – Next one is May 2nd

Adjourned 8:00 pm

Meeting Schedule:

April 28 6:00 pm

May 28 6:00 pm

June 16 5:00 pm – Parent Celebration