

**Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday May 23, 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

Partners:

Jeff Jones, Superintendent
Peter Kozak, CUPE Rep
Doug Kunzelman, Vice President Creston Valley Teachers Association

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

2. Approval of Agenda by consensus

3. Acceptance of April minutes by consensus

4. District Report

Superintendent Jones

- The Board passed a balanced preliminary budget at the May 7 meeting in Kaslo. Budget highlights include a razor sharp focus on students, community LINKs funding focusing on students at risk, continuing to support the capacity building of staff. There will be an increase for information technology and one FTE operations crew to help with facilities. The vehicle fleet will be updated and shop equipment replacement program continues with year three of a multi-year replacement program.
- Next year will see a reduction of 5 FTE teaching positions. Some of these positions may come back due to the Learning Improvement Fund (LIF). Staffing for September has begun and there's an expectation there will be no teacher layoffs due to retirements, medial and parental leaves.
- There will be a reduction in school secretarial time and a reduction of clerical at the school board office.
- The budget process saw great input from all committee members.

5. School repots

- Mt. Sentinel: whole school assembly about the dangers of drinking and driving; Ottawa exchange trip went very well; Vice Principal hiring process is underway; Graduation ceremonies will take place on June 21 and 22.
- Rosemont: Family fun night coming up on May 30; Grade 4 students took part in the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI); there was a Yoyo presentation; Georama fund raiser well underway; students are learning to curl; school field trip to Wildsight; the school is providing dance classes instead of swimming due to the closure of the Nelson pool.
- Trafalgar: school visits to the Castlegar pool until the Nelson pool re-opens; school field trip to Wildsight
- PCSS: the code of ethics is being reviewed and updated with the help of students.

6. Correspondence – nil

7. Discussion Items

a) BCCPAC

- There was a DPAC Chair meeting held on May 2 which saw 30+ representatives of DPACs from across the province share what's going on in their districts. The evening was a great success.
- The AGM was held on May 4. The Kootenay Lake DPAC carried 11 proxies out of a potential 23. Susan Wilson was re-elected to the position of Treasurer ☺
- The Spring Conference was held on May 3 and 5 with a lot of informative speakers.

b) School Planning Day

- There's an expectation SPCs have been helping plan these days at each school.
- Discussed holding SPC training sessions this fall, possibly in October or November. It's been three years since the last training.
- Discussed using AdobeConnect to record the SPC training so people who cannot attend can still benefit from the training.

c) Parent's Night Out Series

- A big "Thank You" to Health Promoting Schools Coordinator Louise Poole for all her hard work and planning to make the series a great success.
- Discussed holding a session in Salmo.
- Confirmed there will be a Creston session in September on internet safety.
- Discussed holding more presentations just before DPAC meetings to encourage parents to stay for the DPAC meeting.

d) Parent Celebration

- Kendra will send personal invitations to each PAC with a follow up phone call inviting PACs to join us on June 20.
- The evening will start at 5:00 pm with a light supper as we honour parent volunteers. Regular meeting will immediately follow.

e) Bus Passes

- Discussed the traditional "green form" for students riding the school bus isn't an efficient system. The Facilities and Transportation Committee is discussing implementing a Student Ridership Information system to better track students who ride the bus. This new system could include bus passes and be connected to the collection out of catchment bus fees.
- Discussed the different types of ridership concerns: joint custody arrangements, going to a caregiver's home after school, etc.
- Discussed BCeSiS and how the ministry is revising this system.
- Michelle Lohrey, Transportation Coordinator, shared with DPAC there is a bus safety program she's like to introduce to the district. The National Bus Safety Week is October 22-26 so there is the potential for DPAC to work with Michelle to promote bus safety.

8. Committee Reports

a) Chair – reported out below.

b) Treasurer:

- Regular Account: \$557.70, approximately \$900 expected to come in from travel subsidies from the BCCPAC Spring Conference

- Gaming Account: \$42.42
- c) Education – is meeting all day tomorrow to review the first round of Learning Improvement Fund (LIF) applications.
- d) Finance – next Tuesday
- e) Policy – next meeting will be June 7.
- f) Healthy lifestyles – next meeting will be in the Fall.
- g) Facilities and Transportation – discussion items included Bus Passes and Wyndel property sale

Adjourned – 7:25 pm