

**Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 24, 2013
Nelson Board office, Go To Meeting**

Attendance:

Jenny Henri – Mt. Sentinel, DPAC Chair
Kendra Mann – Rosemont, Trafalgar – DPAC Vice Chair
Susan Wilson - Mt. Sentinel, DPAC Treasurer
Nicole Rhynold – J.V. Humphries
Ester Zdebiak – Mt. Sentinel
Julissa Goodnough – Canyon/Lister

Staff and Education Partners:

Jeff Jones, Superintendent
Sheri Walsh, Trustee

PAC Orientation

- An information discussion took place during supper.

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

2. Approval of Agenda

- Agenda approved by consensus

3. Approval of June 20 and September 26 minutes

- June 20 and September 26 minutes approved by consensus

4. District Report

The District Principal of Independent Learning Services, Heather Denhil, is no longer with our school district. This position will not be filled, but instead will be shared by two .4 principals.

A decision was made for school principals to administer independent learning programs at their schools. The purpose is to share the resources with a teacher available to students at their neighbourhood school. At the Creston Education Centre, where no principal is assigned, Joanne Beddoes and David Falconer will share the duties to oversee Wildflower, Homelinks and DESK.

DESK - Distance Education School Kootenays will be administered by Tim Hutteman from LV Rogers. The Ministry of Education has capped the amount school districts can provide to families who educate their children through distance education. The cap is \$300 per student, which is down from the \$800 SD 8 used to offer. Independent schools are not affected by the cap causing difficulties.

Graduate's transition presentations at LV Rogers. What Grads plan to do after they grad? Parents are invited to attend, this is an excellent opportunity to be impressed by our graduates.

Dr John Abbot is touring BC and will be in our district on Thursday October 31 in the afternoon and Friday November 1 morning. Dr. Abbot speaks on globalization and UN sustainability goals, connection and importance of home, community and school.

Student Voice at board meeting is being discussed. One or two students would be invited to sit with the board at public meetings to share their point of view. Students are not elected and therefore not able to actively participate in debates but can give their unique perspective on educational issues.

Salmo Secondary is happy to report they have the necessary staff in place to provide core education to the students.

5. School Reports

Mt. Sentinel – Career planning fair at Selkirk College is coming up with some Mt. Sentinel students attending. Report cards are coming home via email this year. New faces on the PAC Executive this year. Breakfast and lunch program is being served everyday thanks to students and volunteers.

Trafalgar – pilot project with boys-only classes

Rosemont – Halloween Fun Day coming up. New PAC Executive for the school year. Fund raising for an addition to the playground for physically challenged students.

JV Humphries – Halloween Day coming up. Lice issues care being discussed at the school. A popular Educational Assistant (EA) moved to Kaslo to be closer to the community.

Canyon/Lister – SD 8 Manager of Operations Bruce McLean will visit Canyon/Lister to evaluate the playground. Grades 4-7 will be going to Pines Camp in Grand Forks. New computers have been installed at the school, but there are problems with slow internet. Bus passes haven't been received yet. New PAC Executive this year.

6. Correspondence

- a.) BCCPAC Fall mail out
- b.) Letter from Larry Brown regarding changes to bus routes

7. Discussion Items

- a.) BCCPAC Fall Leadership Conference
 - November 15 – 17 at the Coast Capri Hotel in Kelowna. There is a travel subsidy for two parents to attend. The DPAC Chair meeting will also be held during this weekend, giving our DPAC three subsidies in total. DPAC will cover travel, hotel, registration fees. Contact Kendra if you can attend.
 - BCCPAC has set up monthly meetings with Deputy Minister, Rob Wood.
- b.) Barry MacDonald
 - Barry speaker topics include Gender-based learning - common characteristics of male students/learners and beyond gender to temperament and learning styles. He will be in Nelson February 5 and 6 to work with parents and teachers. The evening parent event will be free.
 - DPAC will look into grants to help offset the cost to bring him in and provide childcare and travel subsidies for parents.
- c.) Family of Schools meetings
 - Kaslo will be next, a date needs to be set. DPAC will contact the executive assistant to work out possible dates.
 - A date for Crawford Bay also needs to be set.

8. Committee Reports

- a.) DPAC Chair
- b.) Treasurer
 - \$988.59 DPAC Regular Account
 - \$667.43 DPAC Gaming Account

- c.) Education
 - Learning Improvement Fund applications were reviewed and allocated, mostly to secondary schools. Discussed changing the format on distributing these funds.
- d.) Finance
 - There was a special Finance Committee meeting on October 8 to discuss the Co-operative Savings Plan to address the CUPE wage increase. Our Board of Education voted to not send in the mandatory plan to the ministry.
- e.) Policy – next meeting October 28
- f.) Healthy Lifestyles
 - Next meeting to be announced.
- g.) Facilities & Transportation
 - Bus passes were sent to families via Canada Post. Not all bus passes have been received yet, but the Transportation Department is working hard to get them all out. This year is a transition year for the bus passes as it is the first year our school district has implemented their use. No child will be left behind if they do not have their pass.
 - The capital plan was approved by the Board.
 - There's an energy project at JV Humphries
 - Next meeting November 6 in Creston.

Adjourned 7:40 pm

Next DPAC meeting is November 28 – AGM at 6:00 pm, regular meeting to immediately follow