

**Kootenay Lake District Parent Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday October 27, 2011
Nelson Board office, video conference to Creston Education Centre**

Attendance:

Jenny Henri – Mt. Sentinel, DPAC Chair
Kendra Mann – DPAC Vice-Chair
Sheri Walsh – DPAC Secretary
Susan Wilson, DPAC Treasurer
Laura Wigen, PCSS
Candace Schechter, Yahk
Elizabeth Tarhan, Erickson
Tiffany Gorham Canyon/Lister, PCSS
Robin Woodbridge– LVR
Lori Camilleri – LVR
Ester Zdebiak – Brent Kennedy
Rebecca Huscroft, Homelinks (trustee candidate)
Paulette Franceour, PCSS (trustee candidate)
Vladimir & Iveta Certik, Homelinks (trustee candidate)

Education Partners:

Jeff Jones, Superintendent
Lenora Trenaman, Trustee
Verna Mayers-McKenzie, Trustee
Annette Hambler-Pruden, Trustee

- 1. Welcome/Called to Order at 6:37 pm**
- 2. Approval of Agenda** – by consensus
- 3. Approval of September 22, 2011 minutes** – by consensus

4. District Report

Jeff Jones, Superintendent

- Teacher job action is still in Phase 1 which is limited to classroom teaching with no administrative duties being performed. This includes report cards. Teachers will not give student achievement data to principals. Some teachers are sending home “unofficial” report cards and sharing marks with parents via email and notes going home but are not informing the principals. The government has an application in to the labor relations board to reconsider report cards and call them essential services.
- BC School Public School Employer’s Association (BCPSEA) discussed applying pressure to the BC Teachers’ Federation (BCTF) through a reimbursement of teacher’s salary from the BCTF Strike Fund and NOT out of teachers’ salaries to compensate for the additional work put on principals. The workload has increased for principals and there is an increase to the Teacher Relief account in the district. Principals wish to maintain positive relationships with teachers as they will continue to work together once job action ends.

- Excluded staff continues to support supervision of students at school.
- The government announced a playground grant for a new playground at Trafalgar School. Total amount is \$50,000 with details still being worked out by the district and province.
- Newly hired Secretary/Treasurer Kim Morris starts her job on December 1, 2011.
- Very successful Creston Family of Schools meeting on October 17. The energy was good and turnout included parents, principals, trustees and the superintendent.

5. School Reports

- Mount Sentinel – Challenge for some parents contacting teachers and principals
- Rosemont – Halloween fun day, continuing with “student of month” and will be having an open house soon
- LVR – Still doing extra-curricular, and still offering help during lunch time with science and math help. Some parents have received marks while others have had no reports or marks coming home.
- PCSS – Teachers are inconsistent when sharing marks with families. PAC is looking at starting a writing campaign to BCPSEA and BCTF lobbying for an end to the job action.
- Canyon/Lister – Parents haven't noticed any problems due to job action, everything seems to be still moving on. Breakfast program is still operating.
- Yahk – Parents will be organizing the Christmas concert.
- Erickson – Unofficial report cards received and there's a noticeable elevated stress level of the principal. Band program is up and running thanks to some innovation from the Band teacher and financial support of local Creston PACs.
- Brent Kennedy – Fall Fair was a great success.

MOTION – That DPAC write a letter to BCTF, BCPSEA, Minister of Education, Province newspaper and BCCPAC asking that the strike be resolved with the best interests of the students in mind.

Laura Wigen/Sheri Walsh – PASSED

Laura will help draft the letter with the Executive.

6. Correspondence

- Board meeting agenda packages
- District committee meeting notices and agenda packages

7. Discussion Items

- a) BCCPAC – regional conference in Kelowna was a big hit. The next one will be on the lower mainland. There are discussions about a Kootenay regional conference in Cranbrook in the Spring. **MEMBERSHIPS DUE NOW!** DPAC will pay the \$75 – please return the completed forms to DPAC. Changes are coming to the BC college of Teachers. New legislation will see a name change, a reduction of members (15 down from 20) and the disciplinary committee will not have a majority of teachers.
- b) Barry MacDonald presentation – local boys' mentoring group is looking at bringing in Barry possibly in April 2012. Susan will contact the organizer and report back in November.
- c) Family of Schools – Slocan Valley Family of Schools meeting will be the next scheduled meeting. Susan and Ester will connect with Slocan Valley PACs to determine a date.
- d) Trustee Candidate Forums – CUPE and Creston Valley Teachers' Association is working with DPAC to organize a forum in Creston November 2nd at PCSS from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Costs will be shared equally.
- e) A draft of the questionnaire was circulated. If anyone has any comments or suggested edits

please contact Susan. Responses will be posted on our website and shared with local media.

8. Committee Reports

- a) Treasurer: regular account is negative 53 cents. Gaming account \$164.57
 - Gaming summary reports for 2009 and 2010 must be completed before our \$2500 will be released.
 - Susan will make a formal request to the district for our annual support.
- b) Education – hasn't met yet this year.
- c) Finance – review audit report Tuesday November 1st
- d) Policy – November 28 is the next meeting.
- e) Healthy lifestyles – next meeting will be in January 2012
- f) Facilities planning – next meeting will be in January 2012

9. Adjournment 7:45 pm