

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council Meeting Minutes from Thursday October 28, 2010

Nelson Board office, video conferencing to College of the Rockies

Attendance:

Jenny Henri – DPAC Chair, Mt. Sentinel DPAC Rep
Kendra Mann – DPAC Secretary
Susan Wilson – DPAC Treasurer, Mt. Sentinel PAC Chair
Retha Marsden – DPAC Vice-Chair, Erickson DPAC Rep
Tiffany Gorham – Canyon Lister DPAC Rep
Gerry MacKinnon – LVR DPAC Rep
Robin Woodbridge – Trafalgar PAC Chair
Linda Verishine - Mt. Sentinel PAC Secretary

Guests:

Jeff Jones – Superintendent
Bill Maslechko – Board of Director Chair
Verna Myers Mackenzie – Trustee
Lenora Trenamen – Trustee
Peter Kozak – CUPE Area Rep

1. Welcome/Call to Order 6:25pm

2. Approval of Agenda with additions by consensus

3. Acceptance of September 23 minutes by consensus

4. District Report –

- Jeff Jones – Notices that there are a variety of needs in the community, On Oct.15, 2010 the teachers attended a pro d event with International Speaker Ruth Sutton on Assessment for Learning. He has now had an opportunity to visit all schools within the district and has had conversations with principals and staff regarding student learning. Now is a time to pay attention to the political field at the provincial level. With the premiers announcement of the new education minister and discussing strong start centres.
- Bill Maslechko – Started the year with a modest budget surplus – the Boards focus right now is not getting into a situation like we had a few years ago. The board is very pleased with the new leadership. The board and senior staff have a working session on October 29th and 30th.
- Lenora Trenamen – Electoral boundaries are being worked on and will be shared early in the new year. Information about trusteeship will go out to the PACs to encourage younger people to run for trustee.

5. School Reports

- Mt. Sentinel – Elected a new PAC Chair and PAC Secretary
- Trafalgar - Parent participation was discussed and how we get more people involved.

- Rosemont – Mini Orchard has been put in and there will be some more to follow in the spring with some financial help from Girl Guides and Brownies, Poinsettias fundraiser, and Movie Night.
- Erickson – SPC is meeting again in a couple of weeks – Grade 5's are meeting or exceeding expectations; the school is replacing some trees. They also have someone who has applied for a grant to meet with children to write a song.
- Canyon Lister – PAC meeting tonight which Larry Brown is attending to deal with transportation issues, Breakfast program has started, Bear problems this fall saw parents approach the district for a fence for the playground. Concession at Best Seniors event will be run by school and donations will go straight to the PAC – Nov. 24

6. Correspondence

- a) Board Meeting on November 2, 2010 in Creston

7. Discussion Items

- a.) BCCPAC – Kendra and Jenny will be attending on behalf of the district to the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) and fall conference. The purpose of the EGM is to vote on two resolutions to approve the newly revised Constitution and Bylaws which have gone from 45 pages down to 19 - the document has been simplified. BCCPAC is hoping to have the new education minister, George Abbot, meet with parents during the fall conference.
- b.) Student Transportation – lack of posting of the school bus schedules in August caused confusion. Full day kindergarten was also implemented in Creston which affected in the school bus schedules in addition to the West Creston bus changes. No one in the bus garage in Creston, no one returning phone calls. Some Erickson students get on the bus at 2:37 pm then go out past Kitchener to the airport and then returns to Creston and picks up the high school kids and then back to Kitchener where the students transfer onto another bus. This leaves some young children on the bus without washroom facilities or a snack. DPAC has worked on a flyer with Larry Brown explaining the process parents need to use when changes happen to their child's daily bus schedule. With the implementation of the student transportation recommendations next fall DPAC requested that there will be lots of correspondence and early notification of changes with parents. Bus safety training for ALL children is also being requested. Parent expectations and communication needs to be worked on. There was a question about why only Kindergarten students are required to have an adult meet their bus when many Grade 1 students are also very young. The district does have a form anyone can use to request a change to policy – Policy #230 Policy Development and Revision has a Pro Forma attached to the policy which parents can fill out and return to the board with their request.
- c.) Facilities Advisory Committees, update: Creston – Working on recommendation to bring to the board. They have had 2 meeting and will have 1 more. Slovan Valley: has had one meeting with lots of brainstorming and will also be bringing recommendations to the board before January.
- d.) Draft DPAC Policies Manual – We plan to discuss and vote on this on November 25, 2010
- e.) Christmas Party – December 16, 2010 5pm - 6pm in Creston meeting to start at 6pm in Nelson 7pm in Creston.

MOTION: Susan Wilson made the motion to support the Christmas party up to \$400.00 seconded by Gerry MacKinnon. **CARRIED**

- f.) SPC's – Training session November 4, 2010 4:00 – 6:00 pm at the Nelson Board office video conferencing to the Creston Education Centre.

g.) Library Collaboration – Letter has been sent out by Trafalgar PAC to request the school district open a formal dialogue with the Nelson Municipal Library, school staff and PACs to explore collaborative opportunities to benefit students who live in the City of Nelson, Areas F and south H, as well as those families in Areas E and the remainder of H who choose to purchase a library membership. This will be on the November Agenda and Trafalgar PAC’s letter will be posted on the DPAC website.

8. Committee Reports

- a.) Treasurer – No report as of yet
- b.) Education – has met twice this year – mostly reviewed school goals at the last meeting and will have the Celebration of Learning November 9, 2010. This year it is in Creston. The Creston and area schools will be presenting. Reviewed school growth plans.
- c.) Finance – December is the next meeting. No new changes at this time.
- d.) Policy – 2 policies out for field testing which end on Monday. Revised the Admin Guidelines. Currently there is a form Policy and development 230. Proforma – If you feel the policy needs changes you can fill out the form and send it to the board. They send it to the Policy committee.

Agenda Items for next meeting:

- Student Transportation Safety Drills and Code of conduct/ bus pass use
- Library Referendum update

Adjournment at 8:05pm

Meeting Schedule:

- November 25, 6:00 pm (7:00 pm Creston)
- December 16, 5:00 pm (6:00 pm Creston) – Christmas Party