

Kootenay Lake DPAC Meeting
Thursday October 30, 2008
Nelson School Board Office, video conferencing to Creston Ed. Centre

Present:

S. Wilson – WEG DPAC rep, DPAC Chair
G. George – South Nelson DPAC Rep
K. Mann – Rosemont, DPAC Secretary
T. Gorham – Cayon/Lister DPAC Rep
J. Henri – Mt. Sentinel DPAC Rep, DPAC Treasurer
C. Heron – LVR DPAC Rep
R. Marsden – Erickson DPAC Rep
G. MacKinnon – LVR, DPAC Vice-Chair
G. Pasutti – Rosemont DPAC Rep
R. Brieter – LVR

Education Partners;

Lenora Trenaman, Trustee

- 1. Welcome** – called to order 6:30 pm
- 2. Approval of agenda** – as circulated
- 3. Acceptance of September 25, 2008 minutes** – by consensus
- 4. Correspondence** – see attached list

5. Discussion Items

a.) Business arising from correspondence

- Superintendent Pat Dooley has created a weekly newsletter: the Kootenay Lake UPD8 to highlight some terrific initiatives in the district. DPAC was asked to write a few blurbs for the newsletter. The most current version is posted on the school district's web site: www.sd8.bc.ca.

b.) BCCPAC

- BCCPAC membership forms are due ASAP. DPAC will pay the \$65 fee on PACs behalf.
- The BCCPAC By-Election ballots are due tomorrow. After some discussion it was decided to vote for the following:
1st Vice-President – Stephanie Hotchkiss
Secretary – Fiona Delcourt
Director – Ida Middleton
- Gerry shared his experience at the BCCPAC Fall Conference:
 - Attended several of the Internet presentations for parents
 - Was very impressed with Merlynn Horton's SOLOS presentation. Merlynn was in Nelson just a few weeks ago.

- Was very engaged with discussion around school toxic levels, and felt parents should be aware of the possible risks to students.
- Kendra shared her experience at the BCCPAC Fall Conference:
 - Kendra shared popcorn with the group that offers a terrific fund raising opportunity for PACs – www.hevyd.ca
 - Participated in a Full-Day and Pre-Kindergarten discussion
 - Shared positive student achievements such as high graduation rate and BC being the 3rd best in science in the world

c.) Direct Access Grants to PACs

- Due to the reconfiguration of Nelson schools, this year's Direct Access Grant to PACs is unbalanced.
- South Nelson PAC voted to donate money to either Trafalgar or LVR. Other Nelson schools will be contacted about donating \$20/Grade 6 student
- Information about Gaming's raffle requirements was shared. Most notably minors (anyone under 19) should not be involved in a raffle because it is considered gambling. All raffles and 50/50 draws require a license that can be used for several draws. For more information please visit <http://www.hsd.gov.bc.ca/gaming/licences/index.htm>

d.) All Day Kindergarten

- The government has collected opinions and suggestion from around the province regarding the implementation of Full-Day and/or Pre-Kindergarten
- DPAC would like PACs to have this discussion and come back at the November meeting with suggestions, ideas and questions.
- It was suggested DPAC place a Public Service Announcements in local media to garner a broad response, and create a one-page flyer for principals to include in their school's newsletters. Possibly even an online survey (surveymonkey?)

e.) Trustee Candidates Forum

- The November 10 Forum will feature Trustee Candidates first in the opening speeches and offer the first 15 minutes of public questions devoted to trustees only.
- DPAC and CUPE are planning a forum in Nelson, on Wednesday November 12. Details to follow
- DPAC will sponsor a Slocan Valley forum on Wednesday November 5 at Winlaw School from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Local PACs will be given an opportunity to ask questions of trustees before members of the public

f.) All Parents Belong! Conference – next meeting

7. Committee Reports

a.) Treasurer:

Regular Account:

Balance: \$3,325.71

Gaming Account:
Balance: \$20.14

- b.) Executive – see attached
- c.) Budget Working Committee – *WE NEED PARENTS FOR THIS COMMITTEE*
- d.) Education Committee – next meeting Wednesday October 29 4:00 – 6:00 pm: *WE NEED PARENTS FOR THIS COMMITTEE*
- e.) Healthy Lifestyles – next meeting Thursday October 23 12:00 – 3:00 pm: *WE NEED PARENTS FOR THIS COMMITTEE*
- f.) Policy – next meeting Wednesday October 29 12:00 – 3:00 pm: *WE NEED PARENTS FOR THIS COMMITTEE*

District Discussion - 7:30pm

- Parents were encouraged to get out and vote on November 15
- Three trustees will not be running for board of education: Bob Ewashen, Pat Cattermole and Penny Tees. All the best to the outgoing trustees and thanks for their many years serving students and parents in the Kootenay Lake school district.
- There was a discussion around school fees. Some parents are still paying fees for various items such as agendas, student council, computer lab, etc. It was noted fees are allowable so long as they don't lead to a course mark. For example, you don't need an agenda to pass Grade 7. However, parents are not required to pay for these fees, either. Students can supply their own agenda, if desired. The district will be reviewing its Fees and Deposits Policy #205 and maybe creating a Hardship Policy to ensure students are not penalized for the non-payment of allowable fees.
- Trustee Trenaman shared with parents the individual school plans to improve learning (formerly School Growth Plan) are reviewed by the Education Committee. School goals are collated to create the district's Achievement Contract.

- **School Reports**

Rosemont – A focus on health promotion is on going with information being sent home to parents regularly

LVR – There are 830 students this year; Mary Hall gymnasium is being used as the LVR gym isn't big enough to accommodate all Physical Education programs; the LVR web site is updated frequently and includes an interactive spot for students and teachers

Adjourned 8:10 pm

Meeting Schedule:

November 27, 9:00/10:00 am – 11:00 am/12:00 pm

December 18, 9:00/10:00 am – 11:00 am/12:00 pm – Christmas Party to follow ☺