

**Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday September 24, 2009
Nelson Board office, video conferencing to Creston Education Centre**

Present:

Susan Wilson, DPAC Chair, WEG DPAC Rep
Retha Marsden, Erickson DPAC Rep
Jenni Henri, DPAC treasurer, Mt. Sentinel DPAC Rep
Glenda Pasutti, Rosemont PAC Chair
Ralph Goodwin Wilson, Trafalgar DPAC Rep
Lorri Langille, South Nelson DPAC Rep
Katia Dolan, Mt. Sentinel PAC Chair
Kendra Mann, DPAC secretary

Education Partners:

Larry Brown, Director of operations
Andy Leathwood, director of student learning

- 1. Welcome/Call to Order at 6:05 pm**
- 2. Approval of Agenda by consensus**
- 3. Acceptance of June 18 minutes by consensus**
- 4. District Report – Senior Leadership Team priorities and request for input**
 - SD#8 Key Successes -Completion Rates
 - Results
 - Crawford Bay Elementary-Secondary school
 - Expansion of Strong Start Programs
 - Choice of programs
 - Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement
 - Action research focus: note connection to Ontario parameters.
 - High quality professional and staff development: note connection to Ontario parameters
 - High speed internet
 - Reconfiguration plan and plans re Trafalgar
 - Community Connections: District and community literacy plans, coffee houses, transportation consultations
 - Special Ed and Transportation Reviews: input for future planning
 - Provincial reputation: BCPSEA comment, regional contribution, invitation
 - Superintendent of schools priorities:
 - Implementation of Board priorities and enhancing Board- Superintendent relationships to do our work
 - Continuing to build community connections (internal and external)
 - Leadership Development: Senior Leadership Team, principals and vice-principals, teacher leadership (district, regional)

- Support and assist Senior Leadership Team members to achieve priorities
- Modeling the way: Support and articulation around district directions (Reference: Director of Student Learning)
- Budget leadership: monitoring and planning in consultation with Secretary-Treasurer Schulte and Senior Leadership Team
- Modeling the way: Leadership of Literacy Innovation Action Research project with Director of Student Learning and West Kootenay-Boundary Network of Performance Based Schools
- Policy leadership: development, enhancement, management
- Day to day: modeling visibility, positive thinking, keeping our core work front and centre, celebrating a very good system that we should be proud of.
- Work around 3 Board goals.

Board Goals :

- Area 1 - Long Range Planning
To explore a range of possible planning processes and identify areas for focus in a long term plan, with a goal of implementing a long term planning process for 2010-2011.
- Area 2 - Student Learning
To design a process to ensure that our learning system and priorities are aligned with the needs of the district.
- Area 3 - Facilities Planning
To continue to explore reconfiguration options which lead to a long term facilities plan for our district. (e.g. continue with Trafalgar planning)

Human Resources Challenges/Priorities:

- Continue building on the successes of 2008-2009
- CUPE bargaining
- Student Centered Leadership development/involvement
- Planning for the future of the HR department (Sherri McIvor retirement)
- Moving tasks from HR to appropriate departments
- Participating in the search for a new superintendent

Student Learning Priorities 2009/2010

- Stay the course with District Directions
 - AFL
 - Collaboration
 - Action Research
 - Personalizing learning
 - Inclusion
- Build leadership capacity in schools
- Expand the role to all learning
- Re-think how we provide professional learning opportunities

Student Support Services Priorities:

- Work towards collaboration time for paraeducators to attend IEP meetings, School Based Team meetings, teacher led meetings, and staff meetings.
- Support School Based Teams to operate effective IEP meetings to meet the needs of the students, parents and staff.
- Provide ongoing staff development (i.e. Kick-Off Day, Cornerstone Learning Series, online learning modules).

- Support communication in the area of Special Education by compiling an acronym sheet and list of community resources for parent and staff distribution
- Clarify and streamline to staff and parents the referral process for school district specialists

Operations Department Priorities:

- Providing staff and students with safe, comfortable, work environments,
- Protection of public health (H1N1),
- Board adoption of the Student Transportation Services Review recommendations.

5. Correspondence

- a.) Business arising from Correspondence

6. Discussion Items

- a.) Reduction to Direct Access Grants to PACs and DPAC: letter is going to be left as an open letter and sent to media and the list of cc. Also going to speak with BCCPAC to see about doing a petition with a comment section
- b.) Elimination of the Annual Facilities Grant: Parents' support of district presentation, parents are supporting the school board in trying whatever ways possible to receive the annual facilities grant.
- c.) Parent Information Evenings – probably postponed until November a Planning committee was formed to plan out the event.
- d.) DPAC Vision/Mission statement – We are looking into developing a mission statement and vision. Pac's will receive a questionnaire to be filled out and sent back to the executive.
- e.) DPAC Meeting Schedule-
- f.) Nominations are now open for the executive team of DPAC, Any parent in SD#8 is welcomed to run for a position on the executive.
- g.) BCCPAC, conference dates are November 14, 15, and 16

Motion by Ralph to keep to evening meetings seconded by Kendra Mann passed

Motion by Katia Dolan seconded by Ralph Goodwin Wilson to send at least 2 parents to attend the conference for a total cost of \$2500.00. Passed

7. Committee Reports

- a.) Treasurer- Gaming \$362.74
Regular \$1356.48
- b.) DPAC Executive
- c.) Education- report will be emailed out by Jenni Henry
- d.) Finance
- e.) Healthy Lifestyles
- f.) Policy

Adjourned at 8:00pm

Meeting Schedule:

October 22, 6:00 pm – Annual General Meeting with regular meeting to follow
November 26, 6:00 (7:00 pm Creston)
December 17, 6:00 (7:00 pm Creston) - Christmas Party