

**Kootenay Lake DPAC Meeting  
Thursday September 25, 2008  
Nelson School Board Office, video conferencing to Creston Ed. Centre**

**Present:**

S. Wilson., WEG/Mt. Sentinel PAC, DPAC Chair  
K. Mann, Rosemont PAC DPAC Rep.  
C. Heron, LVR PAC DPAC rep, DPAC Treasurer  
R. Marsden, Erickson PAC DPAC rep  
J. Henri, Mt. Sentinel PAC DPAC rep  
T. Gorham, Cayon/Lister PAC DPAC rep  
G. George, South Nelson PAC DPAC rep  
E. Vrugteveen, Redfish PAC  
S. Pol, Redfish PAC

**Regrets:**

G. Passuti

**Education Partners;**

Becky Blair, KLTF  
Trevor Smith, Director of Learning  
Brian DeBiasio, Director of Human Resources

- 1. Welcome** – called to order 6:05 pm
- 2. Approval of agenda** – added Healthy Schools under 5 h.
- 3. Acceptance June 19, 2008 minutes** – by consensus
- 4. Correspondence** – see attached list
- 5. Discussion Items**
  - a.) Business arising from correspondence
    - District Review report is available online by visiting the school district's web site – [www.sd8.bc.ca](http://www.sd8.bc.ca)
    - 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 noted above.
    - Draft policies Food & Nutrition and Distributed Learning are currently being field tested. The web site is not updated so please see your PAC mailboxes for copies. Principals will also have copies.
    - Various fund raising information available
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b.) BCCPAC

BCCPAC membership forms are due ASAP. DPAC will pay the \$65 fee on PACs behalf.

The BCCPAC Governance Audit is now complete. There has been a committee formed to review the recommendations and come up with an implementation plan. S. Wilson is part of this committee. For parents interested in volunteering on a BCCPAC committee please visit their web site at [www.bccpac.bc.ca](http://www.bccpac.bc.ca).

The BCCPAC Fall Conference will take place on Thursday October 23 to Sunday October 26. One room is reserved and the early bird deadline is September 30. S. Wilson will send in two blank registrations to get in on the reduced rate.

**MOTION:** DPAC support parents to attend this conference up to \$1500.00.

J. Henri/K. Mann – carried

c.) DPAC meeting schedule

Accepted as circulated - the DPAC web site is updated to include the schedule:

[www.dpac.kics.bc.ca](http://www.dpac.kics.bc.ca)

d.) DPAC Constitution and Bylaws.

The revisions have been circulated several times. Most notable changes include

- deletion of the District Association from the Executive members' list because BCCPAC has since canceled this program
- removal of DPAC meetings being hosted by Creston PACs because of video conferencing equipment available for meetings

The revised document will be voted on at the October 30 AGM.

e.) School Planning Councils

There should be an SPC report at each PAC meeting – even if there's nothing to report. PACs and SPCs are to work together to help create the school growth plan.

SPCs should have met at least once so far to review the school's Class Size and Composition Report. School board policy states SPCs are to meet a minimum of three times.

The District is looking at SPC/School growth plan training for staff and parents later in the Fall.

f.) Student Bussing

Can we put a dollar value on student safety? Parents feel frustrated over the over-crowding and bus routes.

S. Wilson spoke with Larry Link, Student Transportation Coordinator . Larry suggested over-crowding lessons into October because of families' schedules (team sport starts). He also said he investigates all complaints he is made aware of. If parents have a problem with their children's transportation they should first approach the bus driver for a resolution. Failing that, parents can call Larry Link at 354-4871.

Parents raised concerns over not being told of planned delays in transporting students, resulting in confusion and unnecessary worry. Parents also raised concerns over certain bus stops. S. Wilson shared that bus stops are reviewed by the school district's transportation department and Ministry of Highways and RCMP. Perhaps parents and student could also be included when a bus route is being reviewed.

City and RDCK transit was discussed and the question was raised "Can the current systems work together to transport students to school?" It was decided DPAC will write a letter to Larry Brown, Director of Operations to discuss this option, and convey parents concerns about student transportation.

g.) Trustee Elections November 15

Anyone interested in becoming a trustee can sign out a package at the Nelson Board office, City of Nelson offices and Village of Creston offices. You must be a Canadian citizen with no previous criminal record to run. Deadline to submit nomination papers is Friday October 10.

DPAC will strike a Trustee Candidates Committee to review trustee candidate questionnaire and organize a trustee candidates forum in all areas that will see a contest. There is a possibility there will be contests in the Slocan Valley, Creston and Nelson. J. Henri and G. George offered to help. The Canadian Federation of University Women is holding an All Candidate's Public Meeting on Monday November 10. It was suggested DPAC contact CFUW to see if we could lend support.

**MOTION:** DPAC will support as many Trustee Candidates Forums as necessary up to \$300.

G. George/K. Mann – carried

h.) Healthy Schools

What is happening at schools this fall?

Secondary vending machines and canteens must now meet the Guidelines to Food and Beverage Sales in BC Schools. Elementary schools were required to be in compliance in January 2008.

Dieticians of Canada has a terrific web site ([www.dieticiansofcanada.ca](http://www.dieticiansofcanada.ca)) where parents can analyze their own recipes to see if they fall within the Guidelines. The district's Healthy Lifestyles Committee was supposed to hold an information session with principals and hot lunch coordinators last Spring. This would be a good topic for DPAC's All Parents Belong! conference.

Many agreed that the cost of healthy food is higher than less healthy food, and therefore some fund raising through canteens and vending machines will be lower than previous years.

Canyon/Lister is a peanut aware school, due to a child with severe nut allergies. Erickson is also nut aware and both schools enjoy a great community relationship with a local

convenience store who provide nut-free food for the school's meal programs. Erickson school promotes a "grow your own" program supported by Columbia Power Corporation.

## **7. Committee Reports**

a.) Treasurer:

Regular Account:

- \$200 cheque for BCCPAC Advocacy Project
- \$715 cheque for BCCPAC Membership fees
- \$300 deposit from Nelson & District Credit Union for Advocacy Presentation

Balance: \$3,325.24

Gaming Account:

- \$454.12 cheque for Parent Celebration
- \$50.00 KICS for web site

Balance: \$139.91

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**

Becky shared this was a stressful start to the school year.

Welcomed Trevor Smith to DPAC. Trevor is our Director of Learning and is new to our area. Trevor shared how happy he is to be in this district and is looking forward to working with parents.

Welcomed Brian DeBiasio in his new position of Director of Human Resources. Brian shared that enrolment is up in our district, mostly in the Creston area. Some reasons include affordable housing for families. The projected enrolment decline was 140, but as of today enrolment was only down by 75. Our district receives funding protection, so won't lose or gain any money by the change in enrolment numbers.

**Adjourned 8:10 pm**