

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Thursday, November 28, 2013

Nelson Board office, GoToMeeting

Attendance:

Parents:

Jenny Henri, DPAC Chair, Mt. Sentinel

Kendra Mann, DPAC Vice-Chair, Rosemont, Trafalgar

Susan Wilson, DPAC Treasurer, Mt. Sentinel

Tracy Barkman, Winlaw

Ester Zdebiak, Mt. Sentinel

Nicole Rhynold, J.V. Humphries

Lori Thompson, Winlaw

Jolene Shkooratoff, Brent Kennedy

Joe Lang, Brent Kennedy

Online parents:

Karolyn Whitmore, Creston

Staff and Education Partners:

Nelson:

Jeff Jones, Superintendent

1) Welcome/Call to Order: at 6:45 pm

2) Approval of Agenda – Approval by consensus

3) Approval of November 28, 2013 Minutes

4) District Reports

Andy Leathwood is leaving his position of senior leadership to become headmaster at a private American K – 12 college in Turkey. He was born and raised in Kaslo and has spent his entire career devoted to education. The entire school district will miss him but wishes him well on his journey. The news is being shared early in the year to avoid it being spread by rumour.

There was a CUPE rally in front of the Hume school today and a similar one yesterday in front of PCSS Creston. Still in bargaining position with CUPE staff but the stumbling block is that we don't have any money at the table in the absence of a savings plan. In BC a framework for settlement with CUPE was developed at a provincial level. That framework included a 3.5 percent increase over 2 years for CUPE employees, however no additional funding from the Ministry to support this increase. The boards were required to submit savings plans that would support the increase. Out of all the districts SD8 was the only one to not submit this but instead are choosing to advocate strongly that the ministry was responsible for funding this. The rally was basically about this. Negotiations with CUPE are supposed to be finished December 20th. The board is going to be meeting Monday night with a regular open board meeting that the public is welcome to attend. The board submitted a plan to the Finance board and they elected to not submit the plan. Since then the pressure has been mounting on the trustees to submit a plan and if it isn't there will surely be a strike which will shut down our schools. Letter to parents will go home tomorrow with students from superintendent outlining this.

The board has completed the first quarter of their Technology Evergreening plan. 50 laptops and several student mobile work stations have been ordered. They are ordering with consistency in mind for ease of setup and maintenance and saving money with bulk orders. The board is also looking at greening their fleet of vehicles.

There is a surplus of \$1.8 million. They are working with principal's to figure out why this is and where it should go. \$1.5 million was an allocated surplus. They are creating a plan for approval of expenditure of the other \$330000.

The video conferencing equipment that is being used is being traded in for a better quality one. It malfunctions too often to be acceptable.

When discussing fundraising, check with your principal to see how much is in the school's Trust account. Trust account amounts are to be open and transparent to all parents. There will be a Trust Account Report listing totals for all the schools in the district to be implemented in the next couple of months. The board is working

towards creating a culture in the school of full transparency. It is expected to take 3-5 years for all the different changes to be implemented completely.

5) School Reports

Brent Kennedy – The Fall Festival was incredible. There is a great community feeling within the school. Mike Hurley has been a great addition to the school.

Winlaw – Special PAC meeting was called for Nov 29. There has been ongoing challenges between PAC and principal. The hot lunch program, Halloween Howler and teaching staff are good. Haven't had enough Meet the Teacher nights.

JV Humphries – Movember is in full swing, to end on Dec 3, PJ day was today, DAG funds were dispersed at last PAC meeting, Christmas festival is coming on December 19, there is a Children's Art Show at the Langham that some of our students have submitted pieces for, Talent Show has been postponed until January.

Mount Sentinel – The Band Program is gearing up. Drama is not being offered 1st semester. The drama teacher had a baby. School is hoping to have a teacher to run it 2nd semester. 1pm & 6:30pm Christmas concert performances

Erikson – They have a large PAC this year, up to 10 parents from 3 last year. Christmas concert is on Dec 18. They are holding a free turkey lunch for all the students. They are fundraising for a new playground to replace one that is at the end of its life. They have a new principal, Mr. Simpson.

6) Correspondence and related business - teacher newsletter – "Parents Night Out" Series David Hatfield

7) Discussion Items

a) Nutritional concerns surrounding foods that are available to students in Brent Kennedy.

b) BCCPAC topics tabled until January 23

c) Playground discussion – tabled until next meeting – Email Larry Brown lbrown@sd8.bc.ca to inquire about Playground Maintenance Rotation schedule to coordinate playground equipment purchases. Try to get parents to speak at the January meeting regarding their experiences getting one installed at their school

d) Student Voice At Board Meeting – Board is interested and is now trying to determine a process how to select who is that voice

e) Christmas Party – December 12 parents and district staff invited – Dinner from 5

Motion: Motion to spend \$300 on the Christmas Party 2013

f) David Hatfield: Mentoring Our Youth – In Nelson October 25 and

Tamara Mallock at Trafalgar on January 12 and Barry MacDonald in February

8) Committee Reports

Transportation - There has been a delay getting bus passes out to some families. Bus Safety Week just went by with several schools holding events to get student familiar with the bus and teach them the basics. There are concerns there are no manifests on the bus.

A CUPE strike is a concern for parents – concerns surrounding daycare and/or lost wages – Special board meeting is being held on Monday night. Parents can have their voice heard

b) Treasurer

current accounts:

Gaming \$56.21

Regular \$643.59 (minus outstanding conference expenses)

Total: \$699.80

9) Adjournment: at 8:09pm

Committee meeting schedule (Date, locale)

Healthy Lifestyles:

Education:

Facilities Planning:

Finance:

Policy:

Board of Education: