

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council Meeting

Thursday, November 18, 2021

6:00pm-8:00pm

Video Conferencing via Zoom

Minutes

1) Call to Order, 6:01PM

We acknowledge, respect, and honour the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District #8.

2) Welcome and Introductions

Natalia Nazaroff - DPAC Chair/Vice Chair MSSS/Elev8 DPAC Rep; Kendra Mann - DPAC co-Vice Chair/ELEV8 PAC Chair; Kristi Wray - DPAC co-Vice Chair/ARES DPAC Rep; Taryn Stokes - DPAC Secretary/CBESS parent; Alexandra - Kaslo HL; Aviary Meyer - MSSS DPAC Rep; Brandy Kormany - Trafalgar; Carolin Cassar - Salmo Secondary; Clair Berland - DPAC rep Winlaw; Colleen Bayly - Wildflower Creston DPAC rep; Corinne Grubbs - BK PAC Vice Chair; Crystal Stankevich - CVSS Vice Chair & DPAC rep/ARES parent; Jane DiGiacomo - Wildflower Nelson PAC; Jen Evdokimoff - WE; Jessier Speirs - Kaslo HL PAC Treasurer; Kate Madden - CLES; Michelle Harris - BK PAC Chair; Nicole Brown - Kaslo HL PAC president; Nicole Rhynold - DPAC Rep JVH; Skye-Lea Farr - Hume DPAC rep; Tobi Hauck - Rosemont PAC Chair; Trish Smillie - Superintendent of School/CEO; Ben Eaton - Director of Instruction, Innovative Learning; Tamara Malloff - District Principal Middle/Secondary & Innovative Learning; Naomi Ross - District Principal Early Years & Elementary; Lenora Trenamen - Board Chair/Trustee North/East Shores; Sheri Walsh - Trustee Nelson/Bealby Point; Becky Coons - Trustee Creston; Heather; Dawn Wortman; Danielle

3) Adoption of Agenda

Motion to insert committee reports as number 9, move school reports/adjourn down

Motioned - Natalia, Seconded - Kate, Opposed - nil

4) Approval of Minutes

Motioned - Natalia, Second - Colleen, Opposed - nil

5) Superintendent's Report, by Trish Smillie with Guests Ben Eaton, Tamara Malloff, Naomi Ross

- On website, November link

- Highlights include enrollment update, normal dips, FSAs give info on where to focus efforts, 2 electric buses to incorporate into the fleet (grant), childcare provision in Winlaw (question about what a seamless day is), CVSS new name process

- Kaslo Homelinks funding questions: Trish Smillie has received the letter - Sec/Tres is working on a response; Principal Simpson will work with the PAC very closely; All schools received a little bit of a lower budget; Letters are posted publicly on the SD8 meeting agenda package; Expected formal response very soon, then can work with Principal Simpson on the funding questions follow-up

Ben Eaton - Director of Instruction for Innovative Learning

- Focus on continuous improvement for student success
- Framework for Enhancing Student Learning - a formalized approach for reporting = accountability
- Student agency - student voice council, student trustees, symposium
- School planning process - learning tours and planning days

Naomi Ross - District Principal Early Years & Elementary

- BC Early Learning Framework, SD8 Strategic Plan Learning Goals - literacy, numeracy, inclusion, indigenization
- Focus is on early years as it is the building blocks to education in higher grades
- Transition to kindergarten

Tamara Malloff - District Principal Middle/Secondary & Innovative Learning

- Four highlights - numeracy/literacy, career education/capstone, scholarship, trades programs
- Surveyed parents/students last year & this year will - students want career education program to be meaningful and relevant (example - incorporate into the trades program)
- Every student in 10-12 should have a 3 year grad plan
- Thinking about a scholarship equity framework - ensure diverse representation in scholarship and ensure it is as equitable as possible
- Have a district wide scholarship database
- Working with Junior Achievement BC to offer entrepreneurship training

6) Treasurer's Report

Defer report to next meeting.

Have spent some money this month on advocacy training \$1000, and about \$1500 on BCCPAC memberships for all schools in the district, waiting for info on 2 schools

7) Correspondence

Info on Joint Vancouver/Okanagan/Surrey DPAC presentation with Dr. Katherine Smart (pediatrician) on BC Kids & Covid 19 has been sent to school pac emails;

Scott Rothermel - parent education on digital, video games and how they affect our students (Nov 30), will be PST 6:30 due to show of hands vote;

Zoom accounts - no longer sponsored by MOE, work with school principals and they can make the chair a co-host;

8) SD8 DPAC - A history of support and value of parental involvement.

Presented by Board Chair Lenora Trenamen and Trustee Sheri Walsh

Both have past experience as parents on PACs in the area, then DPACs, now are Trustees

History with both the leadership manual and parent advocacy

9) Committee Reports

Finance & Ops (Colleen Bayly) - all info shared at the meeting is available on SD8 website. 90% of the laptops for grades 7/10 students were distributed (about 850 laptops), board is considering this to be a tight but balanced budget, about staffing ratios, large geographical district with medium enrolment size - we are on par across the bar in terms of ratios with other districts, merv filters, some schools also doing upgrades but she has the details

Education (Taryn Stokes) - meeting on Oct 19 - next meeting not until March. Info sharing by Ben Eaton - plans for next student symposium, student trustee process and a student voice council (gr 8/9 & 11/12), blended learning discussion - I think it came from student trustees last year to look at options - different in school instructional hours/days/maybe more online - lots of discussion from partners on different perspectives. Believe it was left with the superintendent to gather data (grand forks, others) and share info but focus primarily on student learning outcomes.

Policy & Governance (Natalia Nazaroff) - 3 policies went back for revision, 1 policy has gone out for field testing. Is on SD8 website (board tab)

10) Discussion Items

a) Susan Wilson's Advocacy Seminars was a success (phenomenal registration - 30 registered each for 101 and the Level 1, about 15-17 in each session, shows that we are serving a need)

b) BCCPAC membership - collected the list of all PAC chairs for the submission (missing information from WEG, Erikson)

c) Update on Sean Larsen session - defer to January meeting as person looking into this was not present.

d) New DL platform by MOE. Asking parents to give feedback. (Natalia spoke to these in previous meetings). Natalia/Kendra/Alexandra-KHL attended. MOE is in process of data gathering, we are hoping that we can retain our programs the way they are, hope it will widen the scope of what can be done with students, it was a parent feedback forum rather than an information giving forum, should hear more around the beginning of 2022, they will take feedback, letters, survey information very seriously

e) MERV filters are all installed across our district schools

f) Homelinks Kalso concerns about funding cuts to their program - some questions asked earlier with the superintendent update

9) School Reports

LVR - sports, question on how to communicate to parents as there are no more announcements

ARES - funding for playground equipment, starting drama/music/art program

Hume - fantastic hot lunch program starting back up, morale is good, CBALL gave a huge grant to the literacy program for indigineous children, she is really excited about it

KHL - received a private donor to help keep the weekly Wednesday group activities, nature awareness, theatre program, watercolor painting

Elev8 - working on setting up group activities for students over zoom, looking for more parents involvement

MSSS - passport to the kootenays fundraiser is in progress, hot lunch is going well - is organized by one of the teachers and students, drama club did outdoor presentation in different sections in the woods

Winlaw - HL program happening, so wonderful, ski program going to RED, halloween howler, school year has hit its stride

If you have any concerns, please email DPAC to add to the Discussion Items for next meeting

10) Adjourned at 8:06 pm PST,
Next meeting January 20, 2022