

**Southeast Kootenay
District Parent Advisory Council
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 13th, 2016**

In Attendance

EXECUTIVE: Debbie - Mount Baker Secondary (Chair), Sarah - Pinewood Elementary (Vice-Chair), Julie - Gordon Terrace Elementary (Secretary)

DPAC REPS and PARENTS: Robin - FJ Mitchell Elementary (lost connection during meeting - WebEx)

REGRETS: Melinda - Amy Woodland Elementary, Ute - Fernie Secondary, Jennifer - Steeples Elementary, Lorelle - Highlands Elementary

PARTNER GROUPS and GUESTS: Shelley Balfour - CDTA President, Lynn Hauptman - Superintendent, Chris Johns - Trustee

Call to Order: 7:05pm

Acknowledgement of the traditional lands of the Ktunaxa people

Agenda: Approved as amended

Minutes: (March 9th, 2016) meeting minutes approved as circulated

Superintendent Report: Attached and presented by Lynn Hauptman
Highlights included;

- I. Administration changes were made in Cranbrook this morning: Karen (Pinewood Elementary Principal) is retiring. Greg from Kootenay Orchard Elementary is replacing her next year. David Standing is moving from Laurie Middle to Kootenay Orchard Elementary. Michelle Sartorel is moving from Gordon Terrace Elementary to Laurie Middle as Principal. Kaley W. is moving from Parkland Middle to Mount Baker Secondary as Vice-Principal, as Dan Noble is retiring to work in China. David Doll is moving from Gordon Terrace Elementary to Parkland Middle School as Vice-Principal. Gordon Terrace positions will be posted.
- II. Mount Baker Secondary Drama Club will be presenting Mary Poppins from May 5th-May8th

Trustee Report: Presented by Chris Johns

Highlights included:

- I. Trustees had a tour of Pinewood Elementary recently. Trophy case is great example of a Legacy of Learning display - current students have parents who went to the school and have names on trophies.
- II. Minister of Education is touring next Monday - Isabella Dicken in the morning and then Mount Baker
- III. Annual Facilities Grant - total is coming
- IV. BCSTA AGM - Trustee Doug McPhee is running for directors' job

Business from previous Minutes:

- 8.1 Any feedback re; PAC Constitutions and Bylaw updates and/or PAC Procedure Manual?
 - This is for each PAC to develop as they wish. One mandatory item - all emails must be sent with recipients as BCC due to privacy act
- 8.2 "Parent as Career Counsellor" Workshop – update
 - Dates pending confirmation - notices will be going out. Expect big support from DPAC and PAC parents
- 8.3 Funding of Education in BC Question– What can we do about it?
 - Our district does not make the need for advocacy easy - well managed fiscally
 - District would like to see more money in the system. Ministry allocated \$52 per year more per student due to advocacy to a total of \$300,000
 - Parents new to the school system don't realize what the funding used to look like. Pros and cons - schools bursting at seams at times, but also more jobs existed such as custodians, school nurse, and libraries never closed. There used to be support for students for reading (with student service teacher) - unheard of now if non-special needs.
 - Every student should have access to the best possible education. Students should be thriving, not surviving
 - Our district doing an amazing job - very resourceful although still feeling funding cuts - schools do their best
 - Discussion re; developing a short survey for parents
 - Education of parents may be the best first step
 - There is a knowledge gap between educators, trustees, etc. and the average parent

- Parents/PACs could be empowered through info. How do we do this? (handout with newsletter? Not every school has a newsletter. Website link?)

Action: Trustees will work with DPAC to develop information to present/make available to parents focusing on: Basics of Education Financing and the Revised Curriculum. Chris Johns, Trina Ayling and Chair will have a preliminary conversation and then bring ideas to Superintendent, Lynn Hauptman. Report back at May's meeting - maybe have a template ready by then

8.4 Revised Curriculum Committee meeting last week to plan next event for teachers

- Talked about request for Q and A session for parents regarding the revised curriculum. Should DPAC host this session at a regular DPAC meeting? Would just be for Cranbrook. A separate session would be scheduled in the Elk Valley. June 15th - 6:30pm-7pm for DPAC Meeting, 7pm-8pm for Q and A.

Motion: That the June 15th DPAC meeting be moved to 6:30pm-7pm to accommodate Q and A

Moved By: Sarah - Pinewood Elementary

Carried

New business:

9.1 Bank Signing Authority for DPAC Accounts;

Motion: To remove Amy Cross and Marie Dawson from bank signing authority and add Sarah Czernicki and Julie Botterill.

Moved by: Debbie - Mount Baker Secondary

Carried

9.2 BCCPAC Spring Conference and AGM

- DPAC Chair meeting with MoE has been arranged with each Chair being allowed one question – Should be prepared with three. What would you like to have asked?

Discussion:

- Timely replacement of schools that are continually identified within a board's 5-year capital plan
 - How long has Mount Baker been on capital plan? At least 10 years. Built in 1951
 - Capital Plan: Where Board identifies schools in need of replacement
 - Problem: Mount Baker replacement issue will be up against Surrey's issue of schools bursting at the seams
- ii. DPAC has its own vote on all elections and resolutions at the AGM. How do we want to handle them?
- No positions are filled by acclamation - need to have at least a 50% vote. If not, board will then appoint someone to the position and possible By-election
 - Candidates filling these positions speak on behalf of all parents in our province to the BCTF, BC Trustees, Superintendent Association, Principal/Vice-Principal Association. They represent the parent voice during situations such as job action
 - We need to choose these leaders well. Research them, not just read bios
 - Resolutions - read carefully. Sometimes there may be cases of advocacy for special interest groups and or advocacy that may go wrong. Ask Questions
 - DPAC will plan for a resolution meeting to go over each resolution. Anyone is welcome who is interested. Debbie - Mount Baker Secondary and Julie - Gordon Terrace Elementary will discuss on behalf of DPAC

9.3 Applied Suicide Intervention Skills and Training (ASIST) workshop and safeTALK workshop – attached

- This item will be moved to the DPAC May meeting agenda

Correspondence:

- 10.1 Letters from the Board;
- i. Funding letter to Clark, De Jong and Bernier

Re: Provincial Budget, SSCGFS, "Prosperity Fund" & Public
Education Funding

Next Meeting: Wednesday May 11th, 2016

Meeting adjourned: 8:30pm

Julie Botterill, DPAC Secretary
2016-04-13