

## Highlands Parent Advisory Council

### General Meeting Minutes

Monday November 21 2022

**Call to Order:**

**In Attendance: 7:00**

**Executive:** Lorelle Shortridge (Chair), Natalie Brons(Vice-Chair), Tifanee Wik (Secretary), Virginia Escobar (Treasurer)

**Partner Groups and Guests:** Kristan Thompson (Vic Principal), Chris Johns (Trustee), Carmen Bergen (Teacher Representative), Brandy Cross, Kaitlyn Zacharias, Lindsay Hert, Julie Bond, Sally Macdonald (DPAC)

**Regrets:** Tifanee Wik (Secretary), Chris Catherall (Principal)

**Agenda:** Approved as circulated

**Minutes:** Approved as circulated

**Principal's Report: Chris Catherall** Via Kristan Thompson

### Student / School Highlights

- Students:
- Our total enrollment is sitting at 194 students.
- Upcoming Events:
- Thank you to Ms. Thompson and parents for getting our volleyball team in action.
- Next sport: Basketball starting in January...we are on the lookout for coaches.
- "Sledding" has begun at school.  
Classes are skating, swimming, and curling.
- Christmas Spirit Day, December 2 nd .
- Pep. Rally, December 9 th .
- Christmas Concert, December 12 th .
- PJ Day, December 16 th .

### **Trustee Report: Chris Johns**

**(See Summary of Board Motions carried attached)**

- Received letter in response to tinker time - see attached letter - put on agenda for Feb to lobby to bring it back
- New board met today - no committees were formed yet
- 1st formal meeting will be in Dec in Fernie
- Julie Bond asked how to get on the agenda for the board meeting to talk about after-school care - Chris will get back to her regarding this matter
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### **Teacher's Report: Carmen Bergen**

- Lots of sick kids, teachers are planning as they go
- Thank you for keeping your sick kids home
- Teachers are looking at how to go forward with technology and the lack on devices in the school. They have reached out to the school board on this matter. They have bigger class sizes and less devices to work with. We had 73 and are now down to 39
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### **Financial Review:**

General: \$14 188.16

Gaming: \$3542.99

Courtyard and playground : 3342.28

Hot lunch, bingo, fresh to veggie: 11 042.82

### **DPAC report**

**No report - meeting was missed**

### **New Business**

Milk and Cookie Day Dec 2 - MS Thompson will check to make sure that date is ok

District Safety Committee – Chris Johns will be on this committee - put on agenda for next meeting once committee has been formed

Staff Christmas Appreciation - Monday Dec 5th - Lorelle will get hot chocolate bar supplies, and fruit trays, get volunteers to bring soups and treats

Fresh veggie order delivery Nov 24 9-3pm - Sally MacDonald will head up the delivery  
Send out a wish list to teachers of things they would like in the school

Facebook - no photos or videos of students may be posted

Walmart has \$1000 grant for PACS - Virginia will look into that and grants for technology

### **Committee Reports:**

### **Funding Requests:**

#### **\$100 - popcorn supplies for popcorn machine**

Motion to spend \$100 for supplies put forward by Sally MacDonald,  
second by Lindsay Hert  
PASSED

#### **\$500 - Christmas concert props**

Motion to spend \$500 for Christmas concert props put forward by, Natalie Brons second  
by Lindsay Hert  
PASSED

#### **\$537.52 - Rug and chairs for youth care room**

Motion to spend \$537.52 for rug and chairs for youth care room put forward by, Natalie  
Brons second by Lindsay Hert  
PASSED

#### **\$300 for Pancake Day**

Motion to spend \$300 for pancake day put forward by, Sally MacDonald second by  
Brandy Cross  
PASSED

#### **\$300 for Staff Appreciation Christmas Lunch**

Motion to spend \$300 for staff appreciation Christmas lunch put forward by, Natalie  
Brons second by Virginia Escobar  
PASSED

**Fundraisers:**

- Disney Bingo on Thursday Nov 24 - volunteers needed

**Correspondence:** NTR

**Open question/ comment time**

- N/A

**Next meeting:** Dec 16 2022

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:17 PM

From: Dave Hill <Dave.Hill@sd5.bc.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, November 1, 2022 4:11 AM

To: Chris Johns <Chris.Johns@sd5.bc.ca>

Cc: Kaley Wasylowich <Kaley.Wasylowich@sd5.bc.ca>; Jill Carley <Jill.Carley@sd5.bc.ca>; Diane Casault <Diane.Casault@sd5.bc.ca>

Subject: Request for information from Highlands PAC

Hi Chris,

With respect to your query on behalf of the Highlands' PAC regarding the suspension of Tinker Time this year, please know that it is a program Mount Baker also values. Further, we hope to be able to run the program next year.

This year we ran into a few issues outside of our control that forced us to make the difficult decision to suspend the program. First, we had an unexpected leave of one of our shop teachers in the Spring. Secondly, after a few rounds of postings we were unable to fill the temporary vacancy in the shop. In the end, after manipulating Paul Duczek's teaching assignment such that it complied with contract language (especially in regard to FTE over 1.0), we had to decide between course offerings for Mount Baker students and Tinker Time. As the principal at Baker, my obligation is to Mount Baker students. We are still understaffed in the shops and consequently I will have to consult with some students and their parents about timetable changes in semester 2. Maintaining Tinker Time would have meant more Baker students' timetables being impacted.

I concur with the Highlands PAC about the value of hands-on experiences for students. Our reasoning for this year's suspension of Tinker Time is that the window of opportunity for that experience for Cranbrook elementary students is longer than the window for students at Mount Baker. We will, however, lobby for the continuation of Tinker Time next year.

Sincerely,

Dave

November 15, 2022

### **A “Solid Start” for the School District 5 (SD5) Board of Education**

Last Tuesday, November 8th, the new Board of School District 5 (SD5), Southeast Kootenay was sworn in by secretary-treasurer, Nick Taylor. The new Board is comprised of four newly acclaimed/elected Trustees, Sarah Madsen (Elkford), Nicole Heckendorf (Fernie), Alysha Clarke (Jaffray/South Country), and Irene Bischler (Cranbrook) and five re-elected Trustees, Bev Bellina (Sparwood), Trina Ayling (Cranbrook), Chris Johns (Cranbrook), Doug McPhee (Cranbrook) and Wendy Turner (Cranbrook).

Prior to the swearing in ceremony Nasu?kin (Chief) Joe Pierre Jr. performed the land acknowledgement and sang the public version of the Ktunaxa flag song, sharing its significance with the Board.

Following the swearing in, the Board elected Trustee Doug McPhee to Board Chair, replacing the previous, long-standing chair, Frank Lento, who retired from public service prior to this year's election.

McPhee addressed the newest Board members, calling them “a welcome addition to the caring culture of [the] board, staff and district. He also discussed the importance of bringing the new board collectively to a “solid start”, indicating that an introduction (or review) to the Board's policies and the opportunities and the responsible limitations they create should be the first order of business for the new Board.

“The previous board, with the help of staff –and under the guidance of Dr. Leroy Sloan, spent considerable time and effort to ensure District policies and practices provide clear communication and honour the responsibility we hold to parents, students, taxpayers, the School Act and to each other.”

To provide this “solid start” the Board carried unanimously the following motion.

*THAT the Board engage the services of Dr. Leroy Sloan to cover the topic of Board Governance including the Board Policy Handbook and the Administrative Procedures.*

Wasting little time, Dr. Sloan has been secured for November 21, 2022, prior to the Board's next public meeting of December 13th, which will be held in Fernie.

For more information on the SD5 Board of Education visit  
<https://www.sd5.bc.ca/AboutUs/BoardOfEducation/>

**Contact:**

Doug McPhee, Chairperson, SD5 Board of Education  
Trina Ayling, SD5 Media/Communications Committee

250-489-9622  
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