

Kootenay Orchards Elementary School Parent Advisory Council

General Meeting Minutes
Monday February 1, 2021

Call to Order: 6:00pm

Agenda: no additions

Attendees: Jo, Kim, Amanda, Paula, Courtney, Sarah, Hayley, Marie, Jess, Cathy, Judi Poole (Principal), Wendy Turner (Trustee), Ricki Thompson (Teacher)

Approval of November 2nd minutes: 1st Kim, 2nd Ricki Approved

President Report:

- PAC President has nothing new to report

Treasurer Report: *see attached*

- Budget for the 2020/2021 school year to be approved 1st Jess, 2nd Kim Approved
- No additional funds will be given to teachers this year. PAC will honour last years funds to teachers that didn't request them last year

Principal Report:

- We have been trying our best to have our students learn outside as much as possible. We have had opportunities to have Patti K. a teacher with the CBEEN Wild Voices program to come and share her expertise on animals and survival. Just last week she took our Gr. 1 class out into the back field to discover how chickadees have such great memories with regards to where they store their food in the winter! Our Gr. 4 and Gr. 5 cohort went skating at Baker park on Friday and are planning a snowshoeing day soon.
- We continue to work towards having an outdoor classroom in the back field as well – we received 31 stumps that will help to become spots for sitting as we organize and plan further what the space will look like. As well, Ricki Thomson, Angela Linardic and I had our second meeting with UBC colleagues and other teachers in the province who have been sharing their Rural Innovation Projects – the meeting was a wonderful experience, and we will continue to share our learning journey with them in May.
- Our intermediate students will be skiing in March. We were able to get feedback from another school that safe practices and fun were possible and decided that having our students going in their cohorts would be a safe way to proceed. Each cohort will have 2 days of skiing.
- Our Grade 4 students will be completing the Satisfaction Survey this week. Our Gr.4 parents have been sent the link to completing this as well. The survey closes in April 30.
- Arts in the Orchards will occur after March break
- We have hired a noon hour supervisor – Carri Mark and we welcome her to our KO community.
- Our Gr. 5 class continues to participate in the DARE program with Constable Forgeron.
- To examine further our School Growth Plan, our primary teachers (whose focus is reading) and our intermediate teachers (whose focus is writing) will be collaborating and examining student results which will allow them to determine what the next steps are towards improving results and engaging the students as well.
- Kindergarten Registration went very smoothly – as of the end of school today we received 34 registrations.
- For our morning announcements we will be having our Gr. 3 students help with how to pronounce Ktunaxa words – 1 - 10

Teachers Report:

- Ricki, Angela, Judi have created an outdoor portable classroom with students and are adding different items that have been donated throughout the community and money donated by UBC

Trustee Report:

- That changes to the Family Request for Student Placement Form be approved for use while COVID protocols remain in place.
Contact: Chairperson Frank Lento, 250-423-7607
- That the Board write a letter and send to the Ministry of Education outlining our concerns about the audit report specifically targeting the issue of adequate provincial funding.
Contact: Chairperson Frank Lento, 250-423-7607
- That the Board send a letter to the City of Cranbrook Council prior to their public hearing on February 1st, 2021 stating, please be advised that the Board of School Trustees, School District No 5 Southeast Kootenay, has considered the proposed zoning amendment for 209 16th Avenue North to accommodate a community temporary emergency homeless shelter. It is the consensus of the Board that our MBSS educational site and school operations will not be affected with the Proponent's commitment to protocols, monitoring and staffing levels.
Contact: Chairperson Frank Lento, 250-423-7607
- That the Board develop a comprehensive response to the unique circumstance specific to all School District 5 communities and the provision of apprenticeship programs in general.
Contact: Chairperson Frank Lento, 250-423-7607
- That Director Tichauer will provide a report on the Kootenay Christian Academy announcement of February 3, 2021 and bring back to committee day. And further, that Secretary Treasurer Rice will provide information on the funding private schools receive from the Ministry of Education.
Contact: Chairperson Frank Lento, 250-423-7607
- That the Board consent to three (3) readings of the Amended Annual Budget for 2020/21 on the 17th of February 2021 in the amount of \$81,726,816. (Carried Unanimously) Read a first time the Amended Annual Budget for 2020/21 on the 17th of February 2021 in the amount of \$81,726,816.
Contact: Secretary-Treasurer Alan Rice, 250-417-2054
- Read a second time the Amended Annual Budget for 2020/21 on the 17th of February 2021 in the amount of \$81,726,816.
Contact: Secretary-Treasurer Alan Rice, 250-417-2054
- Read a third time, passed and adopted, the Amended Annual Budget for 2020/21 on the 17th of February 2021 in the amount of \$81,726,816.
Contact: Secretary-Treasurer Alan Rice, 250-417-2054

New Business:

- Due to restrictions this year, there will be no handing out of Valentines Day treats or cards by the students. Staff had asked if PAC would make up treat bags for the students. Treats will be from local businesses. 1st Kim 2nd Jess Approved for \$450 for 218 student treat bags
- Purdy's Easter Fundraiser goal is \$500. This fundraiser is similar to the Christmas one we do with 25% donated to the school

Next PAC meeting: April 12, 2021

Meeting adjourned: 6:56pm