

**Southeast Kootenay School District 5
District Parent Advisory Council
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday November 15, 2023**

Call to Order: 6:32 pm

‘Acknowledgement that we are meeting on the homelands of the Ktunaxa people’

In Attendance:

Executive: Lies- Mt. Baker (Chair), Melissa- Gordon Terrace (Secretary)

Regrets: Chris -Isabella Dicken (Treasurer)

DPAC Reps and Parents: Sally- Highlands, Danielle- Steeples, Pamela- Amy Woodland, Breanne- RMES, Melissa- Pinewood, Don- Jaffray, Rianne-FJME, Jamie- Elkford Secondary, Tiffany- Sparwood SS, Milana-Gordon Terrace,

Regrets: ntr

Partner Groups and Guests: Wendy Turner- Trustee, Shelley Balfour- BCTF, Nick Taylor- SD5 Secretary Treasurer

Regrets: Viveka- Superintendent

Agenda: Approved as circulated

Minutes: (October 2023) Approved as circulated

Treasurer Report: Approved as circulated

Superintendent Report: Nick Taylor

Highlights include:

- School district is exploring partners for after & before school care
- Food Committee has been formed and would like stakeholder input like a rep from dpac and pac’s
- Board has a strategic planning meeting on Tues.
- Accessibility committee has been formed.
- Mountain View Elementary school still rented out by Teck.
- Land acquisition in Elkford is at least 2-3 year process for Crown Land.

Trustee Report: Wendy Turner

Highlights include:

- Encouraging Ministry to fully fund special education
- Study is taking place to see if an alternative education program is viable for special ed.
- The City and development companies will be involving the School District for planning for units of more than 4 units/homes to avoid catchment overloads.
- Catchment meetings with the public have taken place- good turnout at the second one. The catchment meetings did not have to have public input – not a requirement but a courtesy.

BCTF Report: Shelley Balfour

- The School District needed 23 positions filled at the end of August- have filled the majority but still some are vacant
- SD 5 Calendar should have more stakeholder input- will do so moving forward.
- District released a new “workboard” for TTOC’s so they can choose jobs. Seems to be very successful so far.
- A thank you to all involved in resurrecting the Mass Choir in December!

Individual PAC discussion:

- **Steeple:** New swing set installed. Purdy’s fundraiser moving forward despite new store at the Mall. Movie theatre night by PAC.
- **Highlands:** Christmas concert taking place. Movie theatre for a day. Indigenous Fair on the 28th of Nov., Musical bingo to take place as well.
- **Gordon Terrace:** Large bank balance- asking how to go about spending it. Movie night tomorrow.
- **Amy Woodland:** Christmas Market taking place. Christmas concert at Key City Theatre. Anxiety presentation, and hot lunch is up and running.
- **Pinewood:** Put out a teacher feedback form. Working on school beautification with murals. Had a Halloween dance.
- **RMES:** Halloween pumpkin decorating for the whole school- donated by PAC. Just received school apparel and looking to put in a gaga ball pit.
- **Jaffray:** School dances taking place. Grade 10 class may go to Toronto to see solar eclipse.
- **MBSS:** Working on getting a new scoreboard. Gaming club has a new ‘switch’ purchased by PAC. Choir performed for Remembrance Day. Nov. 22 is scholarship info night for parents. Nov.29 is grad checks to see if everyone has enough credits. Metis flag raising in Nov. 16.
- **Elkford Secondary:** Elementary had a welcome back bbq. Bringing back the Dirty Sneakers volleyball fundraiser. Also Rock a rama concert. Also working on a native plant garden. Gave money to the high school for pumpkins.

- **FJ Mitchell:** Needs more parents to come out to meetings. Would we like to bring in the White Hatter?

Information session with Nick Taylor SD5 Secretary Treasurer:

1. Workboard change- HR/ Finance. Making a big difference in positions being covered.
2. School District beginning to meet with City of Cranbrook regarding new developments so they will attend the monthly OCP community planning meetings.
3. Had 2 catchment meetings to discuss and receive feedback from stakeholders. Now the comments are being consolidated and on Nov. 27, they will meet and have more detail.
4. Mt. Baker replacement. It seems that our School District does a good job of patching it up so it is still not a priority. Accessibility issue is this: it will cost about \$800,000.00 for a new elevator but they still need to upgrade the fire suppression system to the tune of 2 million. So that is the focus for the next 3 years at \$700,000.00 each year. Annual capital funds need to be spread out. It is \$100 million to rebuild Baker. DPAC will write a letter to the Ministry of Education regarding concerns for the 70 year old building.
5. E- logs on the buses to be installed almost right away to allow them to travel to Alberta. 10 have been received and will be installed and then need staff training. All buses will be done with in the next few weeks.
6. The budget for furnishing classrooms is \$150,000 but includes desks and chairs etc. Hopefully that will increase.
7. Highlands had concerns with EA shortage in their school. It is being addressed. There is simply not enough funding to offer more without children being diagnosed.
8. School budgets are determined by school enrollment. Transportation grant also based on number of students. For example the bussing of Steeples kids to Highlands for music in about \$8000.
9. New foods fund of \$800,000. Using an advisory group to see where funds are best spent.
10. Playgrounds are usually one per year in our school district. About \$190,000.00 each year and schools are rotated.
11. Do schools have trust accounts. Yes and mostly funds come from beneficiaries and school surplus's.

Business from previous meetings:

- Please forward your by-laws and constitutions to DPAC
- A reminder to reach out for any question about anything regarding PAC

New Business:

- Consider becoming part of DPAC as each role is vacant every year and new people would be great.

Meeting adjourned: 8:22 pm.

Notetaker: Gordon Terrace-Melissa/MBSS-Lies

Date: Wednesday November 15, 2023