

**Southeast Kootenay School District 5
District Parent Advisory Council
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday January 15, 2025**

Call to Order: 6:35 pm

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

In Attendance:

Executive: Lies- Mt. Baker (Vice-Chair), Chris- Isabella Dicken (Treasurer), Lisa Rogers -Laurie Middle School (Chair)

Regrets: None

DPAC Reps and Parents: Rianne- Frank J. Mitchell, Don- Jaffray, Kaitlin- KO, Danika- RMES, Halina- ID, Jamie-GT,

Regrets: None

Partner Groups and Guests:, Viveka Johnson- Superintendent, Larry Dureski- CDTA, Wendy Turner- Trustee

Regrets: None

Agenda: Revised – funding request, investigation- exclusion of student’s public schools.

Minutes: (November, 2024) Approved as circulated

Treasurer Report: Approved as circulated

Superintendent Report: Viveka Johnson
Highlights include:

- First semester is wrapping up
- BC Ombudsperson inquiry in to why students are excluded due to lack of support
 - Partial days are due in part to students not being able to regulate for a full day
 - It is less than 0.1 % of students in our school district
 - Hopeful for more recognition from the Province for more funding for those needs
 - Presenting to the Board at the next Committee Day

- Elk Valley- purchasing Crown land for building teacherage. Nick Taylor is working with the District and Elkford
- Strategic Plan s approved and going to put on website as it is the ‘road map for the next 4 years’
- Kindergarten registration is open Feb. 3. Out of catchment requests will all be considered. New catchment area adjusted 11th Avenue South. Sending out communication this week for explanations. All current students remain status quo. Priority to keep siblings together. No grade 6’s at Laurie Middle School this year.

Questions:

- Laurie- Do students currently in their new schools need to reapply? No status quo students will stay without transfer request. Regular out of catchment students (not Amy Woodland) will have to reapply every year for transfers.
- Amy Woodland school speed zone still in effect because of bussing and playground zone.

Trustee Report: Wendy Turner

Highlights Include:

- Passed a motion to accept the new catchment as proposed as of Feb. 1, 2025
- New Minister of of Education and Childcare, and a Ministry created to support coordination of infrastructure.
- Grasmere Elementary site was requested to be used as a disc golf course and the ask was granted.
- District of Elkford- SD5 was successful in securing Crown land for the purpose of building additional living spaces for teachers in the Elk Valley.

BCTF Report: Larry Dureski

Highlights include:

- Teachers have been busy through December, especially music teachers. Typically 7 weeks preparation going in to Christmas production
- Adrienne and Larry meet weekly with Viveka and Brent to keep communication open and any problem solving required.

Individual PAC discussion:

- **KO-** Pac Chair has stepped down so Kaitlyn is now Chairperson, so trying to find replacement for DPAC Rep.
- **RMES-** They are busy fundraising for the playground. Did a cookie dough fundraiser which raised \$3800 and the Christmas Shop raised \$3600. Have had a difficult Dec. & Jan. A parent has passed away from Cancer. Then a car accident claimed 2 lives from the community, and then 2 weeks ago, 2 students lost their home in a house fire.
- **Jaffray-** December has been very busy. Fundraisers have included potted roses, upcoming spaghetti lunch, and doughnut day \$200. Meeting next week to plan new year.
- **ID-** Had a Christmas plant fundraiser. Have done a Vision Zero grant for the crosswalk to ID. Question regarding the plans for the new elementary and the grade range.
- **FJ Mitchell-** Going to do the Candy Gram fundraiser. Executive is a bit burned out from the playground fundraiser so taking a break.
- **Highlands-** Had a very busy Christmas season. Made turkey dinner for the whole school. Have concerns regarding catchment changes and pressures on other schools. Concerns with traffic safety with so many more out of catchment students being driven. Snow berms a big concern with streets being made so narrow.

Business from previous meetings:

- BCCPAC fees will not be covered by DPAC next year. It will be up to individual PACS to register and pay for their fees.
- Any updates to PAC constitution and bylaws should be communicated to DPAC and then updated sent to us.
- Any contact changes to PAC executive needs to be communicated to DPAC.

New Business:

- BCCPAC missing registration information. In order to register and without info from certain PACS, we register under dpac executive contact information
- Ombudsman feedback regarding exclusion available to give until April 1st.
- Prom request for funds to be considered by DPAC Exec.

Meeting adjourned: 7:21pm.

Notetaker: MBSS-Lies

Date: Wednesday January 15, 2024

Next meeting: Wednesday February 12, 2025