

**Southeast Kootenay
District Parent Advisory Council
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 31, 2018 In Attendance**

EXECUTIVE: Debbie - Mt. Baker Secondary (Acting Chair), Marie – Laurie Middle School (Secretary)

DPAC REPS and PARENTS: Jenn - Steeples Elementary, Krista - T.M. Roberts Elementary, Lies - Highlands Elementary, Ken – Parkland Middle School parent, Shawna – TM Robert parent, Tara – TM Robert parent

REGRETS: Tanya – Isabella Dicken Elementary, Ute – Fernie Secondary, Melinda – Parkland Middle School

PARTNER GROUPS and GUESTS: Jason Tichauer - Director of Instruction/Ab Ed, Trina Ayling – Trustee, Larry – CDTA Vice-President

REGRETS: Chris Johns - Trustee, Shelley Balfour - CDTA President

Call to Order: 6:33 pm

Acknowledgement of the traditional lands of the Ktunaxa people

Agenda: Approved as circulated

Minutes: Nov 15, 2017 general monthly meeting minutes approved as circulated

Treasurer Report: attached

Regular Account:	\$ 12,595.60
Gaming Account:	\$ 2,485.58

Superintendent Report: Presented by Jason Tichauer

Highlights included;

- I. District received the 2017 Graduation completion results from the Ministry of Education right before the holidays. We take our official rates and dig deeper to find an even more authentic completion percentage.

We can filter out non-residents and then work with schools to find the success rates of the students who left our province (currently untracked by the Ministry) but our schools do great work in tracking down their ex-students to find if they graduated from another province or not.

The good news is that we have a very good completion rate.

What needs attention, however, is that the 5-year completion rate has not changed in almost a decade.

We can be proud of our successes, while working on strategies to have those last few percentages of students become successful!

- II. December is always a very special month in the school year. While preparations abound for Christmas concerts, band presentations and choral productions, classroom teachers in the elementary schools are busy helping their students create those special presents for their parents. I had a chance to see glitter pine cone ornaments, gingerbread houses, wooden painted ornaments, letters with birch bark trim for our troops overseas and so much more. We have very creative teachers and there will be many parents who will hold onto these special gifts for years and years to come. I know I still have some in our house!
- III. As mentioned earlier, our schools do a tremendous job giving back to the community in many, many ways. This year was no exception. Approximately, \$1500.00 was raised in cash and over 1000 items were collected for the local food banks and the Salvation Army. Hampers for 30+ families were delivered the week before Christmas. Students also took part in a variety of service projects around the communities including ringing the kettle bell, students volunteering at local food banks, collected socks for the homeless, raising \$400 for the local SPCA, \$283.00 for the local fire department, secret Santa gifts for over 13 needy students and treats and gift cards for the Haven House

Trustee Report: Presented by Trustee Ayling

Highlights included;

- I. Fernie Trustee, Frank Lento, was once again acclaimed as Board Chair
- II. All trustees serve on various district Committee Boards as well as some outside Boards E.g. Trustee Ayling and Johns both sit on the Key City Theatre Committee

- III. Would like to remind all parents that District Committee meetings are held on the last Monday of the month. These meetings are where most of the Board work is done, they are public, and parents are encouraged to attend, be part of the meeting e.g. ask questions, provide ideas and suggestions on any agenda item, etc.
Meetings include; Advocacy/Education, Student Services, Policy and Finance/Operations. Agendas and minutes for all meetings are on the district website.
<http://www.sd5.bc.ca/Board/Committee%20Meetings/Pages/default.aspx>
- IV. Carried a letter of recommendation re; Reference and Regulation program
- V. Approved district calendars for the 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 school years.
- VI. Approved two reading of the Annual Budget for \$71,891,932.

Business from previous Minutes:

- 8.1 Information was shared regarding unanswered question from Novembers' presentation on Smoking/vaping by Maggie Strosher, Interior Health Tobacco Coordinator
- 8.2 DPAC, open executive positions and moving forward Discussion included
 - actual roles, responsibilities versus expectations etc.
 - several parents indicated interest in the positions, pending the PAC's approval
 - filling of executive positions to be held at the Feb. meeting

New Business:

- 9.1 BCCPAC 2018 Spring Conference and AGM – May 4 – 6 at the Pacific Gateway Hotel in Richmond B.C.
 - Mount Baker (Acting Chair) and tentative new DPAC Chair to attend
- 9.2 Larry, CDTA Vice-President shared a letter from Shelley, CDTA President re; the appreciation and benefits to them in attending DPAC meetings. They'd like to remind parents they are happy to answer questions and to make them aware of free PAC/parent presentations from the BCTF. Topics, ordering information etc. can be found here, <https://bctf.ca/parents/presentations.aspx>

Correspondence:

From the District:

10.1 Approved Annual Calendars 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 Schools years
Received/Filed

10.2 SD5 Board to MoE re; FSA and MoE response
Received/Filed

Questions:

Are PAC's entitled to know what their school budgets are?

Although it is public knowledge, this information is best shared via the Principal to allow for discussion and/or explanation re: some of the costs/amounts etc.

Next Meeting:

Moved by consensus to Wed, Feb 28, 2018 @ 6:30 – 8:00 pm, due to Valentines Day

Meeting adjourned: 7:45 pm

Marie Dawson, Secretary
2018-01-31