

Southeast Kootenay
District Parent Advisory Council
Oct, 9/2013

In Attendance:

Executive: Debbie – Parkland Middle School, Carla – Gordon Terrace Elementary, Adrienne – Kootenay Orchards Elementary

DPAC Reps: Amy – TM Roberts Elementary, Marie – Steeples Elementary, Jenn – Jaffray Elementary/Jr. Secondary, Ute – Fernie Secondary & Isabella Dicken Elementary, Tiffany – FJ Mitchell Elementary, Krystal – Parkland Middle School

Regrets: Patrice – Rocky Mountain Elementary, Kobus – Highlands Elementary

Partner Groups: Trustee Trina Ayling

Regrets: Superintendent Lynn Hauptman, Director of Instruction - Doug McPhee, Fernie and District Teacher Assoc. (FDTA) - Kate

Meeting Called to Order at 6:55 pm

Agenda: Approved as Amended

- 8.4 Direction from the Ministers Meetings
- 9.1 Recognition of long term service on DPAC

Minutes: Approved as circulated

Trustee Ayling asked for clarification on the “Ask the Board” question item:

Discussion:

- Questions could not be based on items covered by in camera meetings (Finance, ex. Union negotiations, Operations, ex. The sale of school properties or Personnel, ex. Complaints regarding staff)
- it would be possible to take most questions to the monthly Advocacy meetings
- Was suggested that parents attend special committee meetings
- Carbon offsets and Special Education Funding was discussed

Action: Trustee Ayling was asked to submit the following questions,

1. Why Do Parents Need to Know about Carbon Offsets? What can parents do?
2. Could the Board put together form letters so parents can aid in Advocacy?
3. How does the District decide Special Education Funding?

Treasurer Report:

Regular account: \$9116.53

Gaming account: \$3.45

The 2013/2014 draft budget, based on last year's funding and expenses was reviewed. See attachment.

Superintendent Report - attached

Trustee Report:

Highlights:

- October 5th was World Teacher's Association day
- online registration has been approved, which will mostly be for Kindergarten
- Policy regarding alcohol consumption was reviewed and it was decided that any offsite activities were not a liability of the schools, but it would not approve the consumption on school property; example: Highlands School fundraiser
- other policies and terms of reference were reviewed
- approved an application for combined Laurie and Parkland volleyball team on a one year trial basis
- Approved Mount Baker choir trip to Vienna and Prague, they were the only Canadian choir invited back without an audition.

2013/2014 DPAC meeting schedule – approved pending further discussion re; December meeting

BCCPAC Fall Leadership Conference:

Motion: For DPAC to pay no more than \$3500 to send four parents to the BCCPAC fall conference in Kelowna.

Motion – Fernie Secondary **Second** – Steeples Elementary
Carried

DPAC “Parents Helping Parents” survey:

Discussion:

- Preliminary survey results indicate a need for PAC conversations, learning, sharing of ideas etc.
- DPAC to host and extend invitations to all PAC Executive and interested parents
- Wed, Nov 27 at 6:30-8:30 pending the availability of the room and video conferencing equipment
- Reps to speak to their PACs regarding how many Executive/parents may be interested in attending

Minister of Education:

Action: DPAC will issue a letter of invitation to Minister Fassbender to continue the conversations that we have had with the previous Ministers. Minutes from all Minister’s meetings to be included. MLA Bill Bennett and SD5 Board to be copied into the letter.

DPAC years of service acknowledgement:

Motion: DPAC to purchase a small plaque, maximum of \$50, to hang in the school board office (pending board approval) to recognize years of service for long standing DPAC members.

Motion – Steeples Elementary Second - Kootenay Orchard Elementary

Carried

Correspondence: nil

Healthy School Mandate:

Parent request re; Clarification on the sale of “aspartame” products at the high school level when middle school level students are also in attendance? Fernie, Sparwood & Elkford Secondary, have students starting at grade 7, which is considered middle school and according to the guidelines, “Aspartame containing drinks are NOT allowed in middle schools”. The rationale given for the decision is “Removing artificially sweetened items from elementary and middle schools due to an increase in the number of

products containing these ingredients and a broadly expressed desire to minimize children's consumption of these products outside of parental supervision"

By official designation these Secondary's are actually high schools, therefore they can sell it according to the Guidelines, but the middle school aged students attending these schools now have access to it.

Discussion:

- Fresca, Coke Zero and possibly Diet Coke are currently made available in vending machines at Fernie Secondary
- Are they available in other schools?
- If so, how are they offered Re; concessions, vending machines etc.
- Was there a need to even sell these products?

Action: Trustee Ayling will seek clarification and report back to the November meeting.

Next Meeting Date – November 13/2013

Adjournment - 8:31 pm

2013/2014 DPAC Meeting Schedule

November 13/2013
December 11/2013 (pending further discussion)
January 15/2014 (late due to Board Meeting)
February 12/2014
March 12/2014
April 9/2014
May 14/2014
June 11/2014

Please note; all meetings start at 7:00pm unless otherwise noted