

FSS Virtual PAC Meeting November 23, 2022

In attendance: Tanya Malcolm, Patty Villasenor, Nicole Heckendorf, Anna Piney
Deb Martin, Erin Hay, Jodie Parker, Charlotte Sawatzky, Deb Trand, Sheri Earl
Nancy Reid

Meeting Called to Order 7:01pm - Patty Villasenor

Land Acknowledgement - We are honoured and thankful to live, work and play on the traditional homelands of the Ktunaxa people.

Request for agenda additions - Jodie Parker would like an update on the sick policy.

Adopt the Minutes of the October Meeting - 1st Sheri, 2nd Patty

School Board Trustee Report - Nicole Heckendorf attended a lengthy and informative trustee orientation session. There are 9 Trustees on the SD5 Board.

Some of Nicole's orientation takeaways - Board of Trustees is an oversight committee. Governance could be compared to a corporate business model, the School District is like the corporation. There is dual authority by the Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer. Both those positions report to the board of trustees. (They're like the CEOs and the Board is like the Directors) Any individual trustee has no power, but collectively as a group they have the ability to create, change and shape policy; give direction and guide leadership as a board and through the executive administration to the district. A Trustee's loyalty is to the board. Once any decision goes to a vote then it is the trustees job to support and advocate for the decision.

District AP = Administrative Procedure and can be managed by SD5 Administration

District Policy is managed by the school board.

AP - allows for more flexibility for change for certain rules and regulations (Student Cell Phone Use is an example of a District AP)

The school board hires the Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer - with the help of a consultant. The school board manages the budget, and it doesn't change, meaning the school district has an 80 million dollar budget if they want to increase funds allocated to a certain line item, an equal amount of funds have to be decreased from other line items.

Indigenous Education: Amanda - not present

Treasurer's Report Sherri Earl (See Financial Report)

Some recent spending brings the gaming account balance to approximately 8,490 dollars
As of today the Chocolate fundraiser is at \$629, which is more than last year already. The fundraiser ends November 30th.

Jr. Boys basketball coach has requested a gaming licence to host a Raffle on February 6th. They want to start selling tickets at the home games prior to the draw date, There is about a 2 week waiting period before obtaining the licence. As soon as the licence is approved, he

will be notified and explained rules that are required to be followed under the license. For example, tickets must be purchased by residents of BC.

President's report - Patty Villasenor Purdy's fundraiser pick up is the 15th of December.

Principal's report - Erin Hay FSS administration has been focusing on developing the School Growth Plan, School Goals and setting Personal and Professional Growth Plans for the leadership team. Why we've chosen what we have

Student behaviors that have percolated up and the response

Two main school goals:

1. cross curricular numeracy skills
2. local indigenous language and culture.

The School Growth plan budget will support activities to help achieve the goals. Extra supplies that enhance everyday numeracy skills - two teachers recently attended a professional development program hosted by the PSA (Provincial Specialist Association) with a focus on Math. The conference took place in the lower mainland - staff have the opportunity to learn about new teaching methods, best practices and initiatives and then come back and share their learnings and resources into the FSS math department.

The focus on Indigenous language and culture is to help students understand and appreciate a deeper understanding of truth and reconciliation and what it means and looks like in our community

This framework has a focus on literacy and numeracy.

Leadership Team Professional Goals:

Erin Hay

1. Target vulnerable readers and improve learning outcomes.
2. Mike Kelly Sparwood Principal is a leadership accountability partner and professional development reading partner focusing on books about improving school culture and navigating rapid school growth. They discuss initiatives and push each other to achieve higher level thinking and leadership.

Rachel Romaro

1. Focus on creating the procedures connected to the core competencies new reporting system. Student assessment of core competency how to make it more relevant and to bring deeper meaning to the assessment process.
2. Assessing and exploring opportunities for improving parent teacher communication and touch points.

Parents can connect with teachers anytime during the school year by emailing their child's teacher and scheduling a meeting. The intention is that these meetings are meant to be flexible - so that is the work that Rachel is going to do.

Student Behaviour and Cyber Bullying - challenging behaviours with some of the younger student body that the FSS Administration takes VERY seriously. Some recent measures that have been taken to address the issues:

- Invited student services to gain extra support for teachers and staff because some of the students have existing IEPs. We believe handing out discipline is just a band-aid, but we're exploring - How do we get to the root and the nature of the problem to prevent it from happening again?
- SD8 Safer School Coordinator, Scott Rothermel has been notified of the challenges and will be in consultation with the FSS Administration team.

Support from staff and parents to mitigate the behaviour is needed. Group chats are not healthy forms of communication and are a common space of online nastiness. Administration believes most of the negative and damaging communication is happening outside of school hours and over the weekend, which has led to a cycle of poor behaviour on Monday mornings.

Erin has been very clear with teachers - please don't allow cell phones in class.

Parents are encouraged to audit their child's cell phones, look for apps with group chat and vanishing message functionality. Be thorough, app menu bundles can have multiple pages of apps to swipe through where kids are hiding apps in far menus.

Check channels in Discord App
Snapchat
Instagram
Whatsapp
Messenger

Anonymous letters from parents to FSS cannot be addressed or resolved - well intentioned parents can be assured that the FSS Administration also feels dissatisfied with the negative impact cyberbullying is having on FSS youth and a team effort is required to make change. Parents aren't seeing the work happening behind the scenes because many measures that are being taken are kept confidential for the individual students and their families.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to reach out to FSS administration with any concerns, especially in response to online behaviour. This will give the admin team the opportunity to have conversations that communicate "we have set some measures - here's what I need to know and here's what I need to learn if behaviour continues" Without key information and communication from parents, there continues to be gaps that are increasingly difficult to bridge.

A letter will be going out to inform parents of all of this information.

Report Cards when home on Wednesday November 23, 2022

FSS PAC to present at the staff meeting in January.

DPAC report - Anna Piney The District PAC meeting took place on November 10, 2022 The Superintendent reported that the new school board was voted in with five returning trustees and four new trustees - the new Board Chair is Doug McPhee. CUPE negotiations are coming up and the board will be busy focusing on those negotiations.

[BCCPAC](#) website is available for PAC Executives and interested parents to access resources. It is a "PAC 101" website to support parents to understand all the roles, how the governance works and contains rules and extra support resources.

Anna noted an interesting spending report from the DPAC Rep from Mount Baker - 4xs the # of the student body. MBS spends \$4000 on scholarships we spend \$1000 \$3500 to Prom we gave \$1000 - it is noted that our spending seems to be in alignment in relationship to our school population.

School website and district website are all managed under the same software suite and there is no knowledge of any change to that software in the near future - so if we want to make any changes to the school website, we can make them within the existing templates.

Other Business - Jodie Parker Where are we at with the sick policy? Erin Hay reported: The BCCDC and K-12 COVID-19 Guidelines have been updated to note that starting November 17, 2022, people who have COVID-19 are **no longer required to self-isolate**. It is still important and recommended for people with symptoms to stay home as much as possible to assist in reducing any potential spread of illness until your fever is gone without medication and you feel well enough to return to your regular/daily activities. The BCCDC notes that "feeling well enough" should be compared to how you manage other illnesses that you do not get tested for like cold and flu.

This updated language applies to both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals so there is no isolation period for either group of individuals.

If you do not have symptoms, you do not need to stay home or avoid others, regardless of test results.

Masking continues to be optional in K-12 settings and the choice of students and staff who choose to practice additional personal prevention measures should be respected.

New business

1. Funding request from teachers - Patty Villasenor

The teachers have always had a 'sunshine fund' which is used for special occasions like gifts for teachers expecting a baby or special events to enhance staff rapport.

Teacher's need more connection and belonging and have been organizing opportunities to get together. For example they have been practising yoga once a week before school. They have requested funding for a holiday social. The funds would be used to rent the Art Station. We can contribute to a request like this through our 'non-gaming' account. Patty motioned to support the \$150.00 request. All attendees voted in favour.

Action Item - Patty to use the new FSS Parent Volunteer email list to request volunteers to provide food for the teacher's holiday social.

2. Intramural Sports Program - Nancy Reid

Nancy has made significant progress working towards a lunch hour intramurals program. The following are the talking points that have been worked through so far.

Schedule - Work with the BC School - Season in Play Calendar, offering the same sports to align with this calendar.

Time & Location - FSS Gymnasium 11:40 - 12:10 (Start with 2 Lunch hours per. week and hope to start the Intramurals in conjunction with the change in the Season in Play, starting with Basketball.

Volunteers/Faculty Support - Create a Google form that can be emailed to parents and faculty to see who might be interested in volunteering to help with an Intramurals Program in addition to a variety of other volunteer opportunities.

Volunteer Requirements - Min 2 Volunteers per session. Volunteers sign in at the office upon arrival and will be issued a key to the equipment room. Volunteers need to arrive 15 mins prior to start time to get equipment out to be ready for play at 11:40.

Intramural /Team Structure - Plan for a basic skill to be demonstrated each session and then form random teams that will be assigned at each session.

The next step will be to build a list of parents who are interested in supporting the lunch hour intramurals program.

A special thank you goes to Anie Hepher for editing and opening up the volunteer sign-up form to all parent volunteers.

Next Meeting: Wednesday January 4th.

Meeting adjourned 8:24