



## **MBSS PAC Meeting Minutes**

**DATE:** 7 May 2024

**TIME:** 7:00pm – 8:00pm

**LOCATION:** MBSS Library

**CHAIR:** Lori Nicli

**SECRETARY:** Patricia Whalen

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Dave Hill, Chris Johns, Lori Nicli, John McDonough, Christina Hall, Patricia Whalen, Lies Salvador

**Regrets:** Jen Morrison

### **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:**

- Lori opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

### **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:**

- The minutes of the 6 Feb 24 meeting were previously deferred for approval until this meeting as Patricia had changes to be incorporated; changes have been made and a motion to approve the updated minutes was made by Lori seconded by John all in favour. The minutes from the 5 Mar 24 meeting were reviewed, and a motion to approve the updated minutes was made by John seconded by Patricia all in favour.

### **SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE REPORT (CHRIS JOHNS):**

- During the April school board meeting, no motions were passed, which is a first in Chris' term as a Trustee. There were no committee meetings over spring break. The Secretary Treasurer, Nick Taylor, had developed a handout in the fall of 2022-23, which was updated with new numbers by hand. The handout showed a 3.4% increase in funding, which is insufficient for the board's needs. Due to the upcoming October election, there will be no Select Standing Committee presentation this year, which is usually held in June. The board is trying to raise awareness about the funding deficiencies. Approximately 85% of the district's budget goes to salaries and benefits for about 1,600 employees, leaving little room for discretionary spending. The board is also concerned about the aging buildings and the slow progress on the new Fernie Middle School. Chris also touched on the high number of portables in Surrey and the need for more funding for special education, which takes over 10% of the general operating budget. Chris advised the board continues to advocate for more funding and better facilities.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (DAVE HILL):**



- Dave provided updates on various athletic activities. Rugby is ongoing and will conclude with a tournament on the 15th, with the seven sides likely advancing to provincials. Soccer is wrapping up this weekend, and track and field funding is set for the 14th, with a busy May ahead, including an invitational and zone qualifiers on the 22nd. The golf team is also active. Scholarship selections have just been completed, with the scholarship night scheduled for May 28th at 7 PM. Additionally, the Cranbrook Area Engagement Night will be held on the 23rd from 6 to 7 PM in the gym, featuring growth plans and next year's plans. The meeting also discussed the impact of losing PAC scholarships, noting a drop in contributions but acknowledging the community's generosity. Graduation assessments will run from June 10th to 14th, with regular classes continuing the following week. Plans for a grad assembly in mid-May and the Amazing Race event in early June were also mentioned.
- Lastly, there was a discussion about the suggestion to have grade 11 parents handle prom preparations, similar to practices in Kimberley. A discussion also focused on the extensive efforts put into decorating for the Prom, with this year's theme inspired by the Met Gala and Hollywood. The need for additional items like chandeliers and leather furniture was highlighted, with suggestions to post these needs on the 2024 Facebook and Instagram pages to reach a wider audience.
- The conversation then shifted to the scoreboard, with a preference for an LED option that could incorporate language features. The current quote seemed high, so alternative suppliers like Selkirk Signs were recommended by Patricia. The possibility of funding through a trust account and potential contributions from the board office were also discussed. The discussion concluded with a note that the scoreboard project is still on hold, pending further proposals and funding options.

#### **DPAC REPORT (LIES SALVADOR):**

- Lies noted that it was decided that DPAC would sponsor all the grad classes in the district with a donation of \$7.50 per student to the grad committees, which has been well-received. This donation is intended to support prom activities. Additionally, two delegates were sent to the BCCPAC conference to represent the district and will provide a report at the June meeting. A PAC chairperson will attend the public education conference at the request of Shelley Balfour. Gaming grant applications are now open. Lies announced that this is her final year and emphasized the importance of finding a successor to prevent DPAC from folding. The discussion highlighted the improved structure and communication within DPAC, the value of networking among PACs, and the need for continued advocacy and support. The discussion also touched on the challenges of parent involvement due to time constraints and other commitments, and the importance of clear communication about the role and benefits of DPAC.
- There was also a discussion about a letter written by DPAC regarding the replacement of Mount Baker and other important issues. The letter, primarily authored by Chris David, the treasurer, was reviewed and edited to ensure it was effective and not inflammatory. The letter includes detailed information, such as mercury poisoning and structural concerns, and will be circulated once finalized. The conversation also touched on the historical significance of Mount Baker and the need to preserve certain elements, like ceiling tiles create in Art Class, in the new structure. Copies of the letter have been shared with key individuals, and the team is awaiting final approval from Viveka Johnson before wider distribution. The discussion concluded with a consensus that the letter was well-written and effective in addressing the issues at hand.

#### **TREASURER REPORT (CHRISTINA HALL):**

- **Balance of \$\*\*\* 5935.48**
- (From Mar 24 minutes) Rotary donated \$600 last year that still needs to be allocated to a specific school project, Christina will check with Kristy to see where story walk is or what else is in the works. Thank you notes will be issued once funds earmarked.



- Christina was noted that there have been no changes since last month. The climbing club has spent a portion of their allotment, and the remaining funds are expected to be used soon, though receipts are still pending. There was uncertainty about the continuation of the crocheting and knitting club due to Denise being on leave. Cheques have been written for various projects, including \$700 for the Story Walk project and \$500 for prom, funded by a donation from the Legion. Christina noted she is still awaiting receipts for these expenditures. The gaming grant application is in progress and needs to be submitted by the end of June. There was a discussion about the high costs associated with prom, with parents contributing their own money and the need for additional funding. It was suggested to apply for grants and approach businesses for donations.
- A motion was made by Patricia and passed by John for PAC to provide an additional \$500 for prom expenses.
- The discussion also highlighted the challenges of rising costs and the difficulty in securing discounts from local businesses.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Funding for Scoreboard:** Sean looking into monitor/LED operated by another device via Bluetooth; allows for highlights, versatility. This will hold for now, there is \$4,000 currently set aside (in trust account paid out March 2023) to put towards the new scoreboard, before proceeding PAC will need an update from Dave and Sean to confirm what funds are still required.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Track and Field Volunteers:** There was a discussion about organizing volunteers for the track and field event, specifically for the concession stand. Christina mentioned that she could help set up and buy the food but needed to leave by noon for another meeting. It was suggested to involve leadership students and to send out a school-wide message to recruit more volunteers. The conversation also touched on the need for an adult to be present with the students.
- Additionally, there was a brief discussion about the DPAC representation for the next year, with Lies willing to continue if nominated and voted in.
- The meeting concluded with a confirmation that the \$5,400 in gaming funds could be carried over to the next year, as long as the gaming funds are used within the required timeframe to avoid complications.

#### **MEETING ADJOURNMENT:**

- Meeting adjourned – 8:02pm

#### **NEXT MEETING**

- 1 October 2024 – MBSS Library

