

EIDES PAC Meeting - March 2, 2021 7:00pm

In attendance:

Nicole Heckendorf, Carolyn Doyle, Terry Paterson, Lenka Hawrys, Frank Lento, Jodi Erbacher, Janet Kuijt, Charlie Sawatzky, Jane Johnson, Kristina Wakeford, Ed Gillespie, Tanya Malcom, Ruby Yan, Tanya Bossio, Kevin

1. Adopt Agenda: *item to be added under Other Business: 10 d) "Walking School Bus"
1. Jodi Erbacher 2. Charlie Sawatzky

2. Adopt January Minutes: 1. Tanya Bossio 2. Lenka Hawrys

3. Actions from previous meeting: no action items to review

4. Principal's Report:

Janet Kuijt:

Both the modified Valentines Day and Pink Shirt day went well last month, the school is continuing the theme of embracing kindness into the month of March.

There have been a few updates to the Covid Protocols within the district and now teachers and all staff are required to wear masks at all times. The school has also asked parents to not have students arrive before 8:45 and to not play on school property after school is out at the end of the day. This is similar to how we started our school year to avoid congestion on school grounds.

The Budget review and planning is happening in March for 2021/2022 school year.

The teachers have also had a meeting allowing input and ideas for the new expansion to be brought forward.

With spring in the air, more outside activities and learning will be able to take place as weather permits.

Question was asked on School Skiing for this winter. Due to the number of students that normally attend this program and the hands on help some of the younger students need through out the day the school was unable to offer this program safely this winter.

5. Treasurer's Report: *please refer to treasurer reports for numbers

Paid out this month from account: Classroom supplies, Gift for Laura Lee Phillips, Outdoor Classroom, and 1 Xmas plant refund.

Money in this month: Chocolate Easter Fundraiser

Outstanding cheques for this month: 1

Gaming Account:

Paid out this month: Running Club, Nordic Society Trail Use Fee

No other items to report at this time

6. Trustee's Report: Frank Lento

The Board has written a letter to the minister of education this week to ask for priority with vaccines for staff and teachers.

Next years budget planning is currently underway and the district is also reviewing all policies. In doing so we hope to address the issues with the Bus program.

The EIDES expansion is now fully underway and Frank will now focus attention back to getting the new middle school moving forward. Charlie Sawatzky will be reporting monthly to the PAC on the progress for expansion.

7. DPAC: Tanya Malcom

The last meeting for DPAC was Feb 17, 2021. They are currently advocating for support for mental health for teachers and staff. While also hoping for more support for Students that require special needs.

Tanya reminded us of the Hot Lunch Program that some schools are able to offer in the district and also brought forward some fundraising opportunities. Family Pizza Night (to do with a local pizza shop)

There was also some information on ECE programs, Fernie has historically been quiet ahead in this area compared to other schools in the district, they are looking at getting more information to improve the early education programs.

Reminder: Please bring forward any questions or concerns you would like addressed at the DPAC to Tanya.

8. EIDES Expansion Update: Charlie Sawatzky

Charlie shared the preliminary drawings to the the PAC committee. Some of the areas that they are currently trying to improve and work on are:

Bus pick up/drop off loop will be moving to off 2nd Ave in front off main office and they will be extending the length of the current pull through as the Strong Start Portable will no longer be in that area. Still concerns for parent and traffic issues as this area is currently very congested.

Bike Path to be added on 13th Street.

Project goals and deadlines: relocate portables summer 2021 to their new location.
September 2022 new extension to be finished

Planners will be meeting with the City of Fernie to facilitate access for buses on 1st Ave and 14th Street.

To be included in the new expansion: 4 KG classes, multipurpose space, special education space, bathroom and mechanical room. ** This is still a work in progress and designs will change throughout the process.

Long term plan is to have no portables on location when the new middle school opens.

9.FUNDRAISER:

Easter Chocolate Fundraiser was well received for the first year, Nicole and Jodi are hoping that we end up with between \$1000-\$1200 in funds.

10. OTHER BUSINESS:

a) Safety:

The situation with the two Grade 1 students that left school grounds was discussed. Janet informed the PAC that once the two students were reported missing they immediately did a hasty search and contacted both the parents and RCMP. The search time was approximately an hour. The school sent home a summary to parents of the class that contained the two children

Biggest lesson that day was to make sure that it is clear to young students that they are expected to stay at school for the day and they are not allowed to leave the school property. Staff spoke to students to make a clear understanding of the exceptions and boundaries with outside recess times. The following day staff and teachers had a meeting to debrief and talk about new ideas and improve on current practices that are in place. They now have a new class count system and also spoke with outside monitors to make sure the zones are being overlapped. EIDES is also in the process of creating a new protocol for missing students and conducting searches.

b) Spring Bike Rodeo/Book Fair

The Bike Rodeo should be able to happen this spring as it is an outside activity. Lenka to follow up with Janet K to get a plan in place.

Book Fair - Terry Paterson/ Janet K will pick a date to launch a 2nd virtual book fair this spring.

c) \$500 funding request for Reading Log Programs. Motion to vote for \$500 to be given to the reading program was brought forward by Charlie Sawatzky and 2nd by Tanya Malcom.
Vote Done: All in favour

d) "Walking School Bus" - This concept was brought forward by Nicole Heckendorf. The idea would be that it would be similar to a leadership program for the older student to pick up young students on their walking route to school.
This idea was well received and Nicole, Amy, Ed Gillespie and Charlie agreed to try and start a basic model of this to test this spring.

**On a closing note Tanya Malcolm added a website link engage.rdek.bc.ca/cbt this is for public input on grants submission for CBT.

Meeting adjourn: 8:17pm

Next meeting: April 6 , 2021 - 7pm

