

DPAC Minutes General Meeting

Thursday January 24, 2019.

1. Call to order @ 6:01 p.m.
2. Attendants: Carl Cooper, Corryn Grayston, Erna Jacobs, Nikki van der Meer (through ZOOM), Melissa Parmenter, Amanda Toms, Kari Wilkinson, Christy Wright.
Guest: Trustee Marty Gibbons.
3. Motion was made by Corryn G. to adopt the minutes of the general meeting November 27, 2018, seconded by Christy W. and all attendants were in favour.
4. Business arising from the minutes:
 - Kari W. intends to contact June Stewart of the Shuswap Children's Association to follow up on "The Loft" situation.
 - AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators) will be pursued by the District. Erna J. raised the issue at the Partner Group Table and the DPAC meeting in November. The Health and Wellness Committee at the District have discussed AEDs in school buildings. It was decided that a draft with recommendations (made by the OH&S manager of SD83 to have AEDs installed at 27 schools in the District) will be presented to the Board at their next Board meeting.
 - South Canoe Elementary has a crossing guard in place at the school's site. Nevertheless, crossing the 97B is challenging, coming from Ave 10 SE going to South Canoe Elementary for cars and pedestrians. There were no pedestrians noted when the site was surveyed. Although the City of Salmon Arm and the Ministry of Transportation are aware of the situation, no progress has been made so far in terms of slow down signs, flashing lights etc. South Canoe has a strong community whose members have been writing letters to draw attention to the situation and to call for action.
5. Carlin PAC Highlights:

Carlin PAC has all new members, who form a good cohesive group and have good energy. They offer fresh ideas and many people attend the meetings. PAC allocates \$150.00 to each teacher who has each their own envelope at the office where they can store their receipts for items spend on their students. The Carlin Country Market has been a great success in the past and it is being discussed to put it on again and make it more manageable. The concern for burn-out is there, as this is a very small group to take this on.

6. Points of Discussion:

- Money from two different PAC accounts in the Central Okanagan School District has disappeared. RCMP and Provincial Gaming Officials are investigating the disappearance. Our DPAC wants to raise awareness and stress the importance of good financial practices. We put together a list for every PAC to consider and put into practice as much as possible. See addendum.
- DPAC wants to put some training sessions together about best practises, general PAC 101 and succession planning for which a funding request to put this together has been submitted to the Board and Senior Staff of SD83. Materials will be pulled together to help PACs out with guidance, suggestions, and info on succession. When every person is new to a PAC, there are some challenges to address.
- FTE cheques, which every PAC in this School District receives, are meant for parent education. We have sent out a plea recently to PACs to share with DPAC. The accompanying letter that comes with the cheque doesn't clearly explain how the money should be spent and we request the District to put that into writing in the accompanying letter. The question also is: What are PACs doing for parent education when PACs are not sharing their cheques with DPAC?
- DPAC wants to put some workshops together concerning sexual health and substance use in youth, including vaping. It is necessary to educate parents on vaping, as it is not as innocent as it looks like. We want to bring the workshops in two parts of the District and include Interior Health, RCMP and local PACs. The intent is to bring two workshops before the Spring Break for just parents. We also like to receive some feedback from PACs on this.

7. **Report Mr. Carl Cooper, Assistant Superintendent:**

- Only 4 Districts are still on CIMS (Our School District included) and all the other districts in the province are on "My Education BC", which is the provincial student information system to manage school and student data. The Ministry is putting pressure on the Board to move to this new information system. CIMS has some functions and features that the District would like to keep and work will be done to integrate some of these functions and features. The Board has approved the implementation of MyEd starting in the 2019/2020 school year. It will be a year-long process before going "live" in January 2020. A team has been put in place to make this change happen. It will also change how the District communicates with parents.
- Education Plan has been approved by the Board and will hold the District accountable, locally and provincially. This plan establishes and maintains learning priorities. Achievement goals have been set to reflect the learning needs of the students and their progress. The Provincial Literacy and Numeracy Assessments are still in their formative stages, and the Foundation Skills Assessment has been revised recently. These assessments show how our students are doing. These are the current results: Writing (strong results, but with the biggest gap between indigenous and all students); Reading (less success than in writing, but a smaller gap between indigenous and all students); Numeracy (lowest results and the most challenging for indigenous students). The Six-Year-Graduation Rate is well-established and has been used in the province for a number of years which has dropped in our District. Core Competencies which are Thinking, Communication, Personal and Social competencies are all in the emerging and on-track stage. Characteristics of students entering school looks at physical literacy (D-), socio-emotional factors which are part of the early development index. These can be predictors for later development. Additional assessments and strategies will be added to the Education Plan in response to

changing results and in consultation with educators and other stakeholders. All of this influences the budget process and decisions that are made.

- Sorrento experienced some challenges with establishing a playground. As some mistakes have been made in the past, Operations has been asked to make a checklist with the help of Sandra Major, who is the past-president of Hillcrest Elementary. They received a Grant for building a playground last year. District has to apply for the playground Capital Grant.
- Carlin Elementary/Middle School is the first school in the District to have a Library Commons in its building. The District would like to develop more of these spaces in other schools and the Library Learning Commons Committee, which consists of a team of educators including several librarians, are looking at the concept of moving from a traditional style library to a Library Learning Commons which has a greater emphasis on team-teaching, use of technology and becoming a student learning centre.
- The Curriculum Implementation Team has been working on parent curriculum nights and will be coming to several schools throughout the District for parent information nights about how numeracy, literacy etc. will be taught.
- The Board of Education has approved the expansion of the outdoor learning program at South Canoe Elementary from K-6 to a K-7 configuration.
- School District 83 is conducting 3 reviews: Music Program, ISP and the Indigenous Education Program. The music program review is being done by Sandra Jones, a former superintendent of schools and former music teacher. Several stakeholders are being interviewed and consulted this week e.g. students and student focus groups, teachers, music teachers, principals, and DPAC. An online survey will follow.

Of great concern to parents, Carlin Elementary/Middle School and Silver Creek Elementary didn't have a music teacher at the beginning of the school year, as 2 full-time music teachers retired previous school year. With the help of the District's Music Co-ordinator, 2 new music teachers have been hired of which one with a Letter of Permission, as this teacher is in the process of completing teacher training this year.

Parents fully support a music program, as it builds community and builds an environment of inclusiveness with many other benefits. However, choice of instruments to play in the Band/Jazz Band course can be limited, as certain instruments are not allowed on the bus to be transported to school. If a student wants to play a certain instrument other than allowed on the bus, parents need to bring the instrument to school, which can be an obstacle for various reasons.

Trustee Marty Gibbons expressed that the Board of Education has the intention to fully support comprehensive music education in all schools throughout the School District now and in the future.
- The second review which will be conducted this year will be one on the Inclusive Support Program (ISP), which is essentially in its third year. The review will probably be done internally and will be completed by the end of the school year. Six schools have the ISP, 2 middle schools and 4 elementary schools. These programs have been developed to help our most challenged behaviour students get the appropriate support to learn the skills they need to get back into the regular classroom. For those schools without an ISP, there are other behaviour supports in place.

- With a new Principal of Indigenous Education, it was a good time to review the program. A consultant came in to the district and a series of conversations and interviews with stakeholders were held. The District is now in the process of collating all the data and will present the findings back to the board.

8. Financial Report:

➤ Gaming Account :

Balance as of November 30th, 2018: \$2,702.39

Income \$0.21 interest;

No expenses.

Balance as of December 31st, 2018: \$2,683.63

Income: \$0.22 interest.

Expense: \$19.98 babysitting at Carol Fullerton workshop.

➤ General Account:

Balance as of November 30th, 2018: \$184.43

Income: \$0.08 interest. Expense: \$1,063.72 BCCPAC Summit Travel expenses Kari W. & Erna J. Cheque written to Kari W.

Balance as of December 31st, 2018: \$184.43

No interest revenue and no expenses for December 2018.

Motion made by Kari W. to accept the financial reports for both gaming and general account; Christy Wright seconded; all in favor; Carried.

Motion made by Kari W. to move \$7.60 petty cash back to general; seconded by Melissa P., all in favor; Carried.

Cheque has come in from BCCPAC and they have reimbursed all the expenses made for the BCCPAC Summit in Richmond.

9. Round Table:

Trustee Marty Gibbons mentioned that the Board is always looking to send out a positive message. They will send out a letter of appreciation from the Board of Trustees to businesses throughout the District as they are an enormous contributor for scholarships etc.

Playground Grants will be a topic for the Partner Group Table.

10. Next meeting: February 21st, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. at South Canoe Elementary.

Other meeting dates are set for April 25th, May 23rd, and June 20th.

11. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erna Jacobs
DPAC Secretary

