



District Parent Advisory Council
School District #73 (Kamloops/Thompson)
1383 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC, V2C 3X7

Minutes District Parents Advisory Council
Tuesday, June 13, 2006
Henry Grube Centre

Attendees:

Rio Bates	828-2257	riobates@shaw.ca
Caroline Connor	374-2891	carolinejconnor@shaw.ca
Lesley Davidson	374-8225	l2e2d2@yahoo.com
Arnie Kidner	554-3284	arniekidner@telus.net
Sharlene McIlwain	374-9305	dskmcilwain@telus.net
Paula Schmidt	377-3002	sdynamics@telus.net
Andy Slizak	851-8345	slizak@mail.ocis.net
R. Dean Watts	314-6756	WattsD@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca
John Harwood (Trustee)	674-3270	harwood8@telus.net
Meghan Wade (Trustee)	319-6516	mwade@sd73.bc.ca

Meeting convened by Paula Schmidt at 7:00 pm.

Adoption of Minutes:

Arnie motioned that May 16, 2006 minutes be adopted. Caroline seconded. Carried.

Adoption of Agenda:

Call for additions to the Agenda. Rio motioned that Agenda be adopted. Caroline seconded. Passed.

Financial Report:

- Caroline reports, as of May 31, 2006 that we have again been charged the \$5.00 "Statement Prep Fee" and that we have:
 - \$ 2,267.26 in the current account
 - \$ 6,437.60 in the GIC (every 6 month turnover reported)
 - \$ 366.20 in the gaming account
- The new signing authority at the Hong Kong Bank has to be set up.

Arnie motioned for acceptance of the Financial Report. Dean seconded. Passed

Correspondence:

- “2004-2005 Sustaining Improvement” provided to DPAC. **Dean recommended that the District provide a copy of this report to every PAC/ PAC Chair. Seconded by Arnie. Carried.** Informed it is posted on the School District web site in a PDF file.
- BCCPAC has provided a resource guide for parents regarding employment of children less than fifteen years of age. Children less than 15 years require consent from parents.
 - BCCPAC's Fall Conference will be held in Kelowna November 16-19, 2006. We would like to encourage at least 2 parents to attend. The themes are “Building Capacity and Parent Leadership”. Conference at the “Grande Hotel” Kelowna. No gaming funds to be used in encouraging parent participation. Perhaps a previously experience attendee may encourage a new participant to the Fall Conference?
 - The 2008 Conference will be held in Kamloops.
 - BCCPAC renewal of membership due by July 17, 2006 for actual membership September 1, 2006. Cost \$65.00 per PAC.
 - **Dean motioned to renew DPAC membership right away. Caroline seconded. Passed.**
- On invitation from T. Sullivan, a letter was sent from DPAC outlining qualifications and experience that would be valuable in a new Assistant Superintendent - Support Services. We were informed by J. Harwood that Marilyn Hoff is our new “Assistant Superintendent – Support Services” from the Twin Rivers Education Centre (TREC).

Old Business:

- Trustee John Harwood states the School Board will match the \$366.20 DPAC has indicated they would like to put towards a September education session for all parents. Proposed topics would include: “**New Direction**” the “**Provincial Distance Learning Policy Update**” released May/06 (for further information www.MyBCschool.gov.bc.ca) This “initiative” permits shopping by parents and students to choose courses/schools/acceleration opportunities.
 - This September education session would be Video Conferenced to rural communities.
 - The “New Direction” is on the September 1, 2006 School Board Agenda regarding the workshop and parent exposure.

Committee Reports:

BCCPAC AGM – Caroline reports that results are available on web site. Main focus was the new board with 9 directors. Caroline presented some of the resolutions and resource information:

- In 2005 the province had 1573 PACS, up from 971 PACS in 2004;
- 30 % still are not participating and expressing their views;
- www.bcdpac.org

Chairs Remarks:

Paula spoke of appreciation of John Howard, Mark McVittie, Megan Wade and the Superintendent's representative participation in sharing information with DPAC. The parental DPAC group requests time to discuss particular parent concerns in imminent school settings.

Trustee Remarks:

- We were informed that Judy Arnold of the Ministry of Education, has encouraged taping of Chase and Raleigh's School Planning Council this very day, and relaying of Vavenby's resources, via a newsletter, in promoting "best practices in the province". Congratulations on your accomplishments Chase, Raleigh and Vavenby.
- Representatives from SD #73 attended a Ministry of Education seminar inviting school districts to participate in a pilot of School based SD #73 Board has decided not to participate in the pilot for a variety of reasons including a concern that administrators will spend less time in the classrooms – SD #73 School Board has clearly articulated a position that administrators spend time in the classrooms. As well, only 7 districts attended out of 60 and there is currently not enough data to prove that school-based planning will impact student achievement.
- CUPE 92% acceptance of 4 year agreement.
- Science and Technology school of choice. School Board is currently gathering information: Do we have interest within our boundaries? Staff? Funds?
- School's SPCs reveal schools are looking for encouragement in; literacy, numeracy, fine arts, nutrition and science.
- 50 teachers are retiring
- 3 administrators are retiring
- Gender work – Parkcrest Elementary; obtaining trend data and increasing boy orientated reading materials with Grade 3 focus. Brocklehurst Secondary making accomplishments too.

New Business:

- Accountability in PAC and school monies generally discussed.
- Our two Trustees left the DPAC meeting.
- Potential BCTF job action discussed.
 - Resource links to all parties discussed.
 - DPAC key message discussed.
- Information from Arnie that "The Power of Speech", being offered to classrooms in our District, Note: PACs should not be using gaming funds to finance this training as it is part of the curriculum around portfolios.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm by Paula Schmidt.

Next Meeting:
7:00 p.m. Tuesday September 19, 2006
Henry Grube Centre
Room # 4