

**Mount Sentinel Secondary PAC  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday February 2, 2009  
Held at Mt. Sentinel School**

**Attendance:** Katia Dolan, Susan Wilson, Wendy Niminiken, Nat Barabonoff, Bard Lindsay (Trustee)

Regrets: Jenny Henri, Jan Brown, Sally Mackenzie

**1. Welcome/Call to order/Additions to agenda**

- Katia Dolan, welcomed those present at 4:00 pm. Added #14, Crescent Valley Youth Centre to agenda.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

- Approval of minutes from January 12 by consensus. It was noted that PAC is not a place to discuss personal issues between parents and school staff. Parents are encouraged to speak directly to your child's teacher if there are any questions.

**3. Principal's Report**

- Semester turn around — we have started Semester 2 today. Last week, we wrote provincial and class exams in some grades. An interesting trend is that very few students are choosing to write Grade 12 Optional exams (students only have to write Communications or English 12, with all other exams optional). Many universities are waiving the requirement to write them.

The first week or so of the semester is very chaotic, as we are switching classes around to address issues of class size and composition.

- New courses — if parents have questions about the courses students are now taking, please contact the classroom teachers. They should expect course outlines to come home within the next couple of weeks.
- Cafe Jazz — Thursday evening at 7 pm at Mt Sentinel in the Multi-Purpose area. Mr. Lingard will also be taking a small group to the Moscow Band Festival later in the month.
- Report Cards — our next report card will go home on Friday, Feb 13.
- Project Guatemala — due to some recent safety concerns, the trip to Guatemala with the Global Perspectives class has been cancelled. We are in the process of re-routing the project to Cuba. At this point, it looks like we will be staying with two families in a town in the mountains, and helping re-build houses ravages by hurricanes.
- Non-instructional Day — our next NI day will be on Friday, Feb 27. Teachers will be meeting with others in their subject areas to work on collaborative projects.
- Basketball — all basketball teams are practicing and playing games. There is a senior girls basketball tournament here on Friday, Feb 13 and Saturday, Feb 14.
- The drama class will be travelling to Grand Forks this week to do a presentation.

**4. Treasurer's Report**

- Gaming - \$6473.84/ Regular - \$3175.03

**5. Secretary**

- Correspondence:

- Fund raising literature
- BCAA Traffic Safety Foundations' presentation for parents
- BCTF Teacher Magazine

## 6. DPAC

- Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA) begins today, February 2 and will be administered throughout the month of February for Grade 7s. Each school is responsible for scheduling their classes. There are four tests ranging from 60 to 90 minute testing periods. Students are given extra time if they require.
- DPAC is putting a resolution forth to BCCPAC asking the ministry to mandate the use of seat belts on school buses. In light of the recent bus accident in Creston, parents feel students would have had far fewer injuries if the students had been buckled in. The resolution asks for 3-point harness.
- Next DPAC meeting will be on Thursday February 26 6:00 pm at the Nelson Board Office, 570 Johnstone Rd. Everyone welcome ☺

## 7. Trustee

- Lots of new things to learn, and lots of sitting in meetings and food!
- Barb is on the district's Finance, Policy, Healthy Lifestyles and Transportation Review committees.
- Barb participated in an Elluminate "class" – Elluminate is an online meeting room, where people from all over can share documents, vote on motions, etc.
- Barb's very excited at the recent Community Connections grants that have been awarded not just to our district, but also to the Slocan Valley. City of Nelson, RDCK, Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy (CBAL) and SD 8 have entered into a pilot project to offer library services to residents in the Slocan Valley. Winlaw School will be the spot for families to drop borrowed books off, pick up books ordered online through the Nelson Public Library and there are plans to have the library come to Winlaw School once a week for a wide range of books for the public to view. There's another round of granting opportunities which the board is currently applying for and needs ideas in which to fund. Anyone with an idea can contact Barb - [purebarb@hotmail.com](mailto:purebarb@hotmail.com)
- Barb is learning about the BC Public Sector Employers Association (BCPSEA) which deals with bargaining and recruitment and retention of employees.
- Barb is looking forward to the Destination Imagination events currently planned. There are six teams being lead by parents from LVR, Mt. Sentinel and WE Graham. There will be a Destination Imagination event at WE Graham on Saturday February 28.

## 8. School Planning Council (SPC)

- Next SPC meeting will be February 10 at 4:00 pm.

## 9. Gaming Funding Update

- Do we want to spend the money in the regular account? Courtyard, Destination Imagination were a few areas discussed

## 10. Healthy School Committee

- Andy will inform PAC when the next meeting is.

### **11. PAC Survey**

- The survey was sent to Andy to share with staff, see if they have questions they'd like to ask of parents.

**MOTION:** To purchase a digital camera or digital camcorder as a draw prize for the survey up to \$250.

Katia/Wendy – Carried

- Wendy will look into the purchase of the prize.
- Susan will update the prize section of survey.

### **12. Grad citizenship bursary**

- Need parents to review bursary applications: Nat and Katia volunteered.
- Susan will change the date on the applications to May 29.
- We have \$1000 for the bursary this year. Will decided amounts at next meeting.

### **13. Next meeting location and speakers**

- It was decided to hold April's meeting at Winlaw school. Time will be determined at next meeting – maybe 7:00 pm?

### **14. Crescent Valley Youth Centre**

- The attendance at the Youth Centre has dropped, so board is looking at ways to increase participation and maybe fill gaps in the community.
- The Youth Centre hired a Youth Worker and coordinator.
- There are lots of things for youth to do at the centre: TV, pool table, foos ball, board games. It was suggested parents could hold birthday parties there because of the central location and large space.
- Susan will include a blurb in the Parent Reminders asking Mt. Sentinel parents what they'd like to see with the Crescent Valley Youth Centre.

### **Meeting Adjourned 5:35 pm**

The next Mt. Sentinel PAC meeting will be Monday March 2, 6:30 pm.