

**Mount Sentinel Secondary PAC
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday February 2, 2010
Held at Mt. Sentinel School**

Attendance: Katia Dolan, Susan Wilson, Kathie Varney, Stacy Kabatoff, Wendy Niminiken, Nat Barabonoff, Jan Brown, Marilyn Ayers, Glen Campbell (Principal), Blair D'Andrea (Vice-Principal)

1. Welcome/Call to order/Additions to agenda

- Katia Dolan welcomed those present at 6:30 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Approval of minutes from January 11, by consensus

3. Principal's Report

- Sequoia Alternate Education Program: Has been in development since Spring 2009 and opened its doors in November. Sequoia offers a unique learning experience including team building for the entire Slocan Valley. There are 12 high school students (grades 10-12) with a waiting list. Sequoia staff collaborate on the learning for each individual student to ensure the program meets their needs. The alternate program at WE Graham Community School and the GAGE program at Mt. Sentinel have been moved into the Sequoia program.
- District Learning "Block" Class: The school has designated a block for independent study for students taking online courses. There is no charge for Grades 10-12, however students are expected to be focused and determined to finish their course. There is high success rate for students in independent study, as they are allowed to work at their own pace. Students may take longer to finish a course, but most are successful.
- Finish of Semester 1: Report cards will go home February 12.
- Haiti: Staff is relieved everyone is home, safe and sound. Transitioning back to a "new" normal is different for everyone. Crisis experts are working with Students and families, along with local trauma counseling being offered. Financial support from the provincial government will continue to the end of the school year. Quest for Community program is over so students will be starting a new semester in February. It will be good to have some closure.
- Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA): This is the first year Mt. Sentinel teachers have sent home letters to families. Seven students opted out of the FSA. Parents and staff oppose the ranking of schools by the Fraser Institute.
- Microwaves: PAC purchased two microwaves and an extra, used, microwave was offered to the school. There are a limited number of plug-in available. Staff will ask Sequoia if they need one and PAC will look into returning one.

4. Treasurer's Report

- \$2861.85 in regular, \$4872.36 in Gaming.

5. Secretary

- Correspondence:
 - BCTF Teacher magazine
 - Playground catalogue

6. DPAC

- The next DPAC meeting will be Thursday February 25 starting at 6:00 pm at the Nelson board office.
- Larry Brown shared the progress on the Student Transportation Review Recommendation implementations. The Board will have to move quicker than expected to eliminate out of catchment bussing. A timeline has not been released yet, but it's expected Larry Brown will share with the public the new bus stops and routes.
- BCCPAC AGM will be April 17 and 18, 2010. DPAC voted to send two parents. Watch for BCCPAC Proxy Vote form and resolution booklet coming soon.

7. Trustee

- Barb sends regrets.

8. School Planning Council (SPC)

- Next meeting will be held before Spring Break.

9. Gaming Funding

- There are easy to install, moderately priced benches available through playground equipment manufacturers.

10. Celebrate Successes

- Katia will approach Sequoia for ideas in way PAC can help support student successes.

11. PAC Parent Survey

- The next planning meeting will take place Wednesday February 10 at Sleep is For Sissies in Winlaw. Committee will finalize the survey and give to staff for insertion into report cards.
- PAC will also offer the survey online through SurveyMonkey at a cost of around \$20.
- Committee recommends there be three prizes this year, instead of one, and they be one each \$50 gift certificates to Frog Peak Café, Boston Pizza and Redfish Grill.

12. Haiti

- PAC would like to support an initiative put forth by Quest by way of sharing their experience in Haiti. It was suggested the students could present a power point slide show and PAC could organize the concession. Katia will approach Don Warthe to see if this is something the students are interested in.

13. Slocan Valley Facilities Planning

- There was a meeting held last night at Winlaw school which saw many trustees and most senior staff present three options to Slocan Valley parents: close WE Graham Community school or close Winlaw or reconfigure Winlaw to K-3 and WEG 4-10.

- Winlaw and WEG PACs both held meetings to discuss how this announcement will affect them. There will be a Slocan Valley PAC meeting on February 10 to discuss options for the next Facilities Planning meeting on Tuesday February 16 at WEG.

14. Bullying

- Further to the conversation at the last PAC meeting on January 11, Jenny is looking for information to share with families.

Meeting Adjourned 9:10 pm

The next Mt. Sentinel PAC meeting will be Monday April 5, 2010 – NOTE: meeting will be held at Winlaw school.