

**Mt. Sentinel PAC
Meeting minutes
Monday May 3, 2010
Sleep is for Sissies, Winlaw**

Attendance: Jan Brown, Kathie Varney, Marilyn Ayers, Nat Barabonoff, Wendy Niminiken, Katia Dolan, Kathleen Brown, Laura Moll (Brent Kennedy principal), Glen Campbell (Principal) Barb Lindsay (Trustee)

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

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

2.) Acceptance of minutes

- Approval of April 12 minutes by consensus

3.) Principal

- Glen circulated a new Rubric for learning skills. Some teachers used it with the most recent report cards and will use it for interim reports. Staff will adopt this Rubric for next year's report cards. Rubrics give parents and students the opportunity to see the criteria needed for effective learning behaviours.

4.) Treasurer

- Regular Account: \$2862.14
- Gaming Account: \$4851.37

5.) Secretary

- Slocan Valley Facilities Advisory Committee is being formed. First meeting is May 18 at Winlaw School and all four Slocan Valley PACs are asked to provide a parent representative.
- There was discussion around broadening the membership to this committee to include Early Learning, members of the business community and students.

6.) DPAC

- Next meeting is May 27 at the Nelson Board office starting at 6:00 pm. All parents are welcome.
- The Slocan Valley PAC meeting was held on April 28. Two topics discussed include defining "special circumstances" for student transportation and the terms of reference to the Facilities Advisory Committee. Notes are attached to these minutes.
- School calendar was circulated at the President's Meeting earlier today. After a lengthy public consultation process the recommendation going to the Board is to have a two-week spring break (1 week Ministry break, with 5 school closure days) for the coming school year. The board will vote on this at their May 11 Board meeting in Nelson.

7.) Trustee

- Barb has been busy with community consultations both in Slocan Valley and Creston. The process was very valuable with lots of great ideas presented. Barb's happy there will be an advisory committee to come up with a collaborative solution
- Superintendent hiring went well, and a candidate has been offered a contract. There will be an announcement when the district and candidate have finished negotiating a new contract.
- Barb attended the BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) AGM this past weekend - great experience! Compared to other school districts ours is doing well in regards to handling declining enrolment and shrinking operating budgets. All resolutions that dealt with meeting the needs of rural education and properly funding public education were passed unanimously. There was a resolution passed requesting the elimination of independent school funding from the Ministry of Education.
- Grand Opening of Sequoia last week. Barb was impressed with the new alternate education program and is happy to see students' needs being met.
- There will be a regional library services meeting at the Slocan Park Hall on May 6 6:30 pm to determine if people want an expansion of library services which may include a referendum to raise taxes to incorporate library services in Slocan Valley
- Possible interested former student for the Slocan Valley Facilities Advisory Committee

8.) School Planning Council (SPC)

- Next meeting Wed May 12, 3:30 pm. The focus will be on organizing school planning day Monday May 31.
- Recent announcement from the ministry regarding surveillance in schools must be vetted through the SPC.

9.) Gaming Funding

- Updated spreadsheet to include stove for Sequoia.

10.) Mt. Sentinel PAC Grad Bursary

- It was approved at the last meeting that the Grad bursaries will be \$1500, allotted to three or four students, as determined by the Grad Bursary Committee who will meet on Friday May 28 at the Dam Inn Pub 5:00 pm to review the applications.
- Deadline for applications from Grads is Friday May 21. All Grads are eligible to apply and are encouraged to do so.
- Retired Principal Marion Hunter will be creating a \$500 bursary for Grads who've participated in Destination Imagination. Details will be available at the counselor's office.

11.) PAC Parent Survey

- PAC is putting the finishing touches on the final report, which will be available on the web site soon.

12.) Meeting day of the week - poll on web site

- From the PAC Parent Surveys it was suggested Mondays are not good meeting days for most parents. Susan will create a poll for parents to indicate the best day of the week for them to attend PAC meetings.

13.) Vision and Mission statement

Notice of motion: Parents accept the proposed Vision and Mission statements as presented below:

Proposed PAC Vision Statement: Happy Healthy Educated Children

Proposed PAC Mission Statement: Mt. Sentinel PAC is committed to every student by encouraging parental and community communication, education, and involvement. A dynamic link between home, school and local community is vital to all students.

- Vote will take place at the June 7 PAC meeting.

14.) Celebrating student success

- Discussion around how to engage students in participating in Student's Council, Yearbook. Maybe encourage volunteering at the Elementary school level.
- PAC could recognize those students who help in the community, for example Junction Church's Thursday Kraft Dinner lunches.

Adjourned 8:12 pm

NOTE: meeting at Sissies was a great success. PAC is pleased to be accessible to parents all across the Slocan Valley.

Next Meeting: Monday June 7, Dam Inn Pub 5:30 pm.

NOTE: this will be the last PAC meeting of the school year so there will be a little business and lots of social time ☺

Slocan Valley PAC meeting

Wednesday April 28, 2010

Notes taken by Susan Wilson, 250-226-7751 susanwilson@columbiawireless.ca

Attendance: Susan Wilson, Jen Popoff, Barry Stoochnoff, Sheri Walsh, Jo Buckland, Glen Campbell, Nat Barabonoff, Stacey Kabatoff, Kathie Varney, Laura Moll, Brent Cross, Jan Brown

Called to order at 6:40 pm.

Two items on the agenda:

- 1.) special circumstances in regards to bussing and
- 2.) terms of reference for Slocan Valley Facilities Advisory Committee

1.) Special Circumstances

a. Walk to Stop/School limits

The district is proposing walk to stop and walk to school limits. Elementary students, 2.5 KM and secondary students 3.0 KM. Anyone living within 2.5 or 3 KM of the school will be expected to get themselves there. Bus routes will be organized to be 2.5 KM apart so students would be expected to travel 1.25 KM to a stop.

Special Circumstances:

- How will the KM be calculated - as the crow flies, or actual road KM?
- Road conditions: narrow shoulders, blind corners
- Central pick up locations: will they be widened to accommodate cars and several children waiting for a bus?
- Medical or handicapped needs

b. Out of Catchment Bussing

The district has recommended the elimination of out of catchment bussing. This will not take effect this September, so there is time for parents to provide feedback to both DPAC and the transportation department.

Special Circumstances:

- What about district boundaries to SD 20? Is Shoreacres/Glade considered in catchment?
- Will out of catchment children be allowed to ride with in catchment siblings?
- Shared custody – can students be registered on two bus routes?
- Programs of choice such as Russian and VWP – bussing is provided to families to attend the BK Russian Program but not provided to families who choose the VWP program
- When is a school full? Is it capacity or when staffing has been assigned?
- Suspension or expulsion of a student

Several people present liked the idea of placing bus route signs at designated bus stops indicating which bus route and bus number stops at that particular location. This would give families a clear understanding of where each stop is.

Several people present also liked the idea of posting school catchment signs at the edge of boundary areas, again for clarity.

Current school catchment boundaries were reviewed and it was determined they did indeed need updating. Several new homes and subdivisions have sprung up since the catchments were reviewed, as well families from the Shoreacres and Glade areas feel Brent Kennedy and Mt. Sentinel are their local schools. It was recommended members of the district Policy Committee view current aerial photography, such as on Google Earth, while determining new catchment areas.

2.) Terms of Reference

Susan shared a draft Terms of Reference with the group. There will be a meeting with Superintendent Pat Dooley and school principals in the Slocan Valley on May 18, so if people had any comments or additions to the circulated terms of reference please let Susan know soon.

Considerations to Terms of Reference:

- Important the committee chooses its own Chair. Someone who has the time and ability.
- Important the parent reps are from a PAC executive, due to Code of Ethics embedded within their Constitution and Bylaws. Parent reps need to be open minded and inclusive when speaking on behalf of the parent community.
- Important resources are made available – photocopying costs, availability of reports, etc.
- Important the committee meets regularly – monthly – to ensure thorough and broad consultations happen.

Next Slocan Valley PAC meeting to be determined – Brent Kennedy to host