

MOUNT SENTINEL PAC

Meeting Minutes

Monday February 3, 2014

ATTENDANCE

Maria Klement

Linda Verishine

Carrie Reilly

Ester Zdebiak

Darlene Falle

Sheri Walsh

Glen Campbell

Randy Stewart

Jason Taylor

Stacey Kabatoff

Shellie Maloff

1. WELCOME CALL TO ORDER/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Maria Klement welcomed those present
- Introductions of everyone
- Meeting called to order @ 6:35 pm

2. Additions to the Agenda

- a. No additions to the meeting

3. Review/Approval of Minutes

- Meeting minutes of Monday January 13 – accepted with corrections

4. Reports – Principal & Vice Principal Reports

- o **Staffing - New additions! Welcome to Mount Sentinel!**
 - Jake Middleditch – Drama
 - Sada Kinakin – Russian language class
- o **Report Cards**
 - scheduled for Friday Feb 14 to be released
 - Reason for delay of report cards is to allow teachers to put their full attention into their reporting and to also prepare for 2nd semester. This time tends to get hectic and the extra time allowed gives the staff a bit of breathing room to do their reporting properly
 - Intermediates will receive their report cards in the BceSIS format
- o **February 20 – Principals of Small Rural Schools gathering**
 - focus of this group is to re-think the role of small schools in rural communities within the large education picture and where these schools would like to be in future education
- o **Talking Tables Group**
 - tentatively scheduled for around February 10
 - Senior Administration, principals and trustees to meet and discuss current and future learning, education and financial
 - the group would like to make the focus here a “brainstorming” session of ideas to look at for the future
- o **VP Tour of Small Schools BC**
 - Learning about changes and how they affect the “small rural school” community throughout BC
 - The things considered were enrolment numbers, sharing of problems within the small schools and their accomplishments, education programs and other ideas
 - Tour promoted a major sharing and comparing of notes within the small schools which allowed the group to come away with new ideas, a positive outlook that “we are not alone” in some of the problems the small schools face here in West Kootenays.
 - Problems encountered by other schools have given way to answers to help solve problems within our own small schools here
 - The attitude that developed from this trip was that small schools and low enrolment numbers can be a positive and what can we do to embrace this?

School Planning Council Report

- **Student Survey**
 - Student expectations results need to be studied
 - Staff were surveyed too with results still pending.
 - Focus is to put the survey to the parents and see how/where this will take Mount Sentinel education.
 - Question arising from this is: *Are the students prepared to meet the outside world after graduation?*
 - From this questions, a new discussion and focus will begin.

Reports – Trustee Report

- **Board Meeting of Budget Presentations**
 - meeting scheduled for February 4
 - 4 to 5 groups are asking for funding
 - suggestion to schools from our trustee is to seek out “outside sources” and grant monies to gain additional funds for school projects and needs. There is money out there, it just has to be researched.
- **BCTF Supreme Court Decision**
 - school boards financial budget plans are may be affected as the Ministry of Education indicates they may appeal this decision
- Survey regarding Spring Break
 - The question put forward to parents is when should it be?
 - Results on the 3 choices given favour the last 2 weeks of March
 - No final decision has been made yet and will be up for further discussion.
- **2 Draft Policies are posted for comment**
 - Policy #1 – WIFI in the schools
 - Policy #2 – computer Networking/Internet User Agreement
 - Please review and comment by March 14
- **Discussion about Fragrance Free policy in schools**
 - there has been a growing awareness of overpowering scents and cleaners in our schools to which some people are not tolerant. It has been suggested that this issue be reviewed to see what ramifications there are and what can be done.
 - Strong scents have lead to some students/staff in various work environments to take time off due to illness caused by overpowering scents
- **Reconfiguring of Committees**
 - scheduled meeting February 28 to discuss
 - also considering a “student trustee” into the group to hear the student' side of issues. However, this will be delayed until after the new committee structure is functional

Reports – Treasurer

- PAC Account: \$1,664.77 as of January 31, 2014
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- Gaming Account: \$31,973.92 as of January 31, 2014
 - all monies are allocated with 1 outstanding item still be cleared

Reports – Secretary

- Teacher Magazine for January/February 2014
- Thank you card from the Interact Club
- Simply Delicious frozen food fund raising brochure (similar to Mom's Pantry)

Reports – DPAC

- Thursday, February 27 - next meeting to be held at the Board Office in Nelson
- Last week of February - Boy Smarts Presentation with Barry McDonald in a Parent night out event

5. New Business

PAC ad in the MSS Yearbook

- Prices for ad: full page = \$100, 1/2 page = \$50, 1/4 page = \$25
- Motion requested by Ester Zdebiak to put in a full page ad at \$100.
 - Motion seconded by Darlene Falle
 - Motion was accepted all in favour

PAC Survey

- nothing received so the question put forward is: Do we still pursue this survey or should the survey be redone.
- Question: How do we entice/encourage more parents to participate in PAC.
- Idea: Provide a teleconference or a video conference option for those parents not wishing to attend in person but still want to participate from home.
- Idea: Assign or have a volunteer “Parent” Class Representative for each grade or a combination of grades
- The reasoning behind this is to encourage “Fresh” faces with “Fresh” ideas into the mix at PAC meetings
- Survey will be combined with the SPC survey

Letter from Redfish Elementary

- A letter was written by concerned parents addressing the issue of Trafalgar school, its ageing issues and the current welfare of the students.
- The concern of the welfare of the students in this school has become a highlight and great concern.
- The “middle school” concept at this time is being questioned.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20pm

NEXT PAC MEETING: Monday March 3, 2014

ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE MEETING!