

Highland PAC Meeting

January 16, 2017

Call to order: 1905

Welcome and introductions: Tonia Frawley, Chair

Attendance:

Dean Patterson, Tonia Frawley, Kim Moore, Lisa Thomas, Emma and Adam Thompson, Andrew Gray, Kevin Howe, Pauline Rae, Penny Kampen,

Approval of previous minute's motion to approve Lisa Thomas 2nd Pauline Rae

Approval of agenda motion to approve Penny Kampen 2nd Kevin Howe

Correspondence – No current correspondence

Reports

Chair – Reviewed executive members Tonia Frawley – PAC chair, Kim Moore – vice chair, Co-Treasurer – Andrew Gray, Co-treasurer – Pauline Rae, Secretary – Lisa Thomas.

A representative for DPAC is still needed. Tonia has stepped down from this role and asked if anyone wanted to volunteer. No names put forward.

Treasurer's report - \$372 raised at grad desert night. No withdrawals from the account this month

Administration – Dean Patterson

1. Inquired about the parent portal and if parents and students were accessing it and finding it helpful. Positive feedback from those present.
2. Parent teacher interviews – Dean asked if parents found the interviews to be useful. Some parents advised that emails with the teachers are all that is necessary to review student progress. Others felt that making the connection and meeting the teacher face to face is a useful activity.
3. Christmas Hampers – two big totes given to two 28 families in need at Christmas. Every year it gets more challenging to fill the hampers. One of the teachers took a leadership class down to the sorting depot where donations are organized. Some students chose to participate in more than just the initial phase of sorting. This proved to be a beneficial activity for the hamper program and the students involved
4. Exchange – Chinese exchange students have been here and they left on Sunday. This exchange was a huge success. The kids from Highland are looking forward to getting to go on their exchange.

5. Find your fit – January 13 grade 8s went to Lake Trail to attend the find your fit program and feedback was very positive
6. Model UN kids going to conference in Vancouver. All of the kids represent a country and have to present their proposals. Students attending are looking forward to going.
7. January 26 is end of term. I day is on January 20 and 27 these days are from previous years when students needed time to prepare for exams they can be used now for catching up on assignments that are not completed.
8. Open house at NIC on February 16 this is an opportunity for grade 11 and 12 students to start looking at post-secondary education options
9. Highland has heart assembly in February
10. The BCTF has won a Supreme Court ruling after 15 years regarding how their contracts were handled. This ruling means that contracts will return to old contract language and result in \$50 million in funding returning to BC. This means \$700,000 for this district. Class limits for shop and foods classes will return to 24. Teacher librarians will be restored and have their hours increased. There will likely be new electives for next semester but there will be time pressure to hire and prepare in time for the next semester.

Trustee – no trustee present

Old business

– Tracy – Exam week – interest expressed in returning to the exam week. Academic kids will be done a disservice when they get to College/ University and have no experience with writing exams

Tracy – concern expressed about the fact that students were not warned about the suspicious incident involving a woman asking a female student if she needed a ride. Question about how administration decides on how the information is shared with students/ families when these events occur. Dean advised that he takes his lead from the RCMP and if they felt the situation was a safety risk for others he would advise the student body. Concern was expressed about the fact that an email had been sent home to parents about the situation but the other students were unaware.

Penny – inquired about the flex block on Friday and how attendance is going. Dean advised that attendance was initially good but it has become apparent that the less block is not as well attended. There have been some positive outcomes from the flex Friday including a grade 9 student starting an investment club. Some students want more flex blocks so they can attend more club.

New Business – Motion to accept Andrew's standing nomination as co – treasurer Tracey 2nd Penny

Next Meeting – Monday February 20, 2017

Motion to adjourn – Pauline 2nd Tracy