

## Highland PAC Meeting

February 20, 2017

**Call to order:**

**Welcome and introductions:**

**Attendance:** Tonia Frawley, Penny Kampen, Emma and Adam Thompson, Kevin Howe, Dean Patterson, Kim Moore, Andrew Gray

**Approval of previous minute's:** Motion: Penny Kampen; 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam Thompson

**Approval of agenda:** Motion: Kim Moore; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Emma Thompson

**Correspondence** – No new correspondence

Presentation from Jim Tattrie about the imaker program. Discussed tech companies and future growth/employment opportunities.

Imaker – takes students with varied backgrounds (some from ENTER, some not). Program starts with 10 day challenges to expose the students to different topics such as robotics, programming etc. Kids learn through completing tutorials and then have opportunities to apply the knowledge they have acquired. After completing the challenges they have to complete a passion project.

Students have to complete daily blogs to discuss the challenges/successes with completing their challenges. This helps keep students on track.

Program is an SD 71 program but it has an application process and fee of \$300

Discussion about the diversity in the program ( some students focus on art/ creative side with animation etc others focus on code/programming) and helping students to see what the future could hold within the tech sector.

Definite sense of community in the classroom. Kids work together to solve problems and work through content.

## Reports

**Chair** DPAC Calendar for next year continues to be discussed and needs to be approved by the board.

## Treasurer's report: Report submitted

### Administration Dean Patterson

1. With increased funding Highland got \$ for three FTE's. New staff members are: Charlie Mathews, Dylan McRae, Christa Petch, Heather McLeod another teacher is also coming from Vanier. Three part-time teachers have had their hours increased.
2. Grade 9 has a new division to reduce class sizes to 24.
3. Planning for next year is starting. Programming guides are being prepared. Getting students to pick classes for next year will likely be done after Spring Break. Course selection can be done through the portal and this should make the process easier and faster.
4. Term 2 – 28% of students had an A average  
46% of students had a B average  
26% of students had an average below 73%  
The number of students in danger of failing is lower than it has been in years.
5. Art start came in and gave a presentation from a first nations hoop dancer. Presentation was set up for grade 8's and it was well received.
6. Grad fund raiser at the prime chop house raised approx.. \$1100
7. Geography challenge coming up
8. Grade 11's went to NIC open house. Feedback was very positive.
9. RCMP coming in to do a presentation to grade 11's about family violence.
10. District musical is March 5. New sound system purchased for the multipurpose room.
11. March 12 – 25 students going to China for their exchange. Final organization going on for this.
12. Grade 12 bursary booklet has come out, deadline is March 7. Workshops coming up to educate students.
13. Ministry of education has advised that there is 3 million dollars in additional funding coming to help students with the cost of supplies (approx. \$50/child)
14. April 12, volunteer recognition banquet. PAC received tickets need to RSVP.
15. Lock down drill completed and went well.

**Trustee** No trustee present at the meeting because there isn't one at present. Janice Caton is the chair of the board so she is deciding who the trustee will be.

**Old business**

**New business**

**Next Meeting** : March 20, 2017