

Highland PAC Meeting

March 27, 2017

2017

Call to order: 7:02 pm

Welcome and introductions:

Attendance:Tania Frawley, Tara Colborne, Lisa Thomas, Penny Kampen, Kim Moore, Pauline Rae, Ian Hargreaves, Andrew Gray, Kevin Howe, Dean Patterson, Tracy Richards, Brad and Lisa Torry

Approval of previous minute's: Motion: Penny Second Kim

Approval of agenda: Motion : Pauline, second: Tania

Correspondence – No new correspondence

Reports: Special guest Tara Colborne from the ILC, see handout

Chair Reviewed budget planning for next year and reminded those attending that we will follow up with this at next month's meeting

DPAC – there was a DPAC meeting tonight and Paul Berry was there reviewing health and safety Invitation for members present to attend DPAC, no interest expressed in attending

Treasurer's report See attached sheet detailing expenses

Administration – Mr Patterson reported about a recent trip to Victoria to visit the Pacific school of Innovation and Inquiry. No classroom, no schedule, no time table, no schedule. Six teachers for 90 students. Kids arrive and decide what they are going to learn and how they are going to learn it. All students have to write a book and play a musical instrument also. Students are in grades 9 – 12.

District musical was a hit. Students did a fantastic job and received positive feedback for a job well done. Highland benefited from this by getting a new sound system. Next year's musical will be at Isfeld.

Course programming information went out today for grades 8 – 11. For the next couple of weeks parents are welcome to come and get help with planning. All of the information is available on line also. Tomorrow students will get an extended AG to get help with planning their courses. With the MyEd software students can enter their course selection on Wednesday and Thursday and parents can review their selections through the portal. It is not a guarantee that their selections will actually be the courses they get it depends on numbers and schedule planning.

Lisa Torry asked about the availability of electives and wondered why there were no new electives for students going into grade 10. Mr Patterson advised that even though it is the same elective (IE foods) the meals they would be preparing would be different and focus on different material from the grade 9 elective.

Brad Torry questioned why there was such an emphasis on the trades and wanted to make sure that for those students focussing on academics and looking forward to University that there were enough courses offered.

Pauline spoke of the different programs offered for students in the Comox Valley (NIDES, Enter, Imaker etc) but pointed out that there are only 6 honours classes for all three high schools. There seems to be a lack of courses available for those kids.

Ian said that the school district will look at programs if the school/ principal identify it. Ian said the School district is interested in looking at creative solutions to try and meet the needs of all students.

Dean spoke of the IB program and how it was designed to appeal to this group of students.

Fashion show April 10 tickets \$5.00

Trustee

I first addressed the he question of; can PAC members can email me questions for me to address at the PAC meeting? The answer is yes, if sent far enough ahead to allow the time necessary for a researched response where required, and if a response is possible. I then reported on what has happened in the District since the Last Board Meeting:

- Superintendent Dean Lindquist Reported on News from around the District,

1. Seussical the Musical - run March 7th - 11th

2. Assistant Superintendent made a presentation on the School Instructional week plan for next year and reported on the School Calendar which will be posted on the website for 30 days consideration.

- the Superintendent is holding meetings with each of the High School and Middle School teachers to try and find a common ground on instructional time going forward.

- three round table discussions will be held to get user group feedback and to highlight the changing landscape of education and the changing needs that are required.

- Wednesday March 15th – Isfeld – Student Session [1:00 – 3:30 pm](#)(canceled)

Monday March 27th – Lake Trail – Parent Session [6:30 – 8:30 pm](#)

[Wednesday March 29th](#) – Isfeld – Parent Session [6:30 – 8:30 pm](#)

[Wednesday April 5th](#) – Highland – Parent Session [6:30 – 8:30 pm](#)

- the benefits of the Alternative Instructional Week for students were highlighted by the Secondary Principals at a previous Education Committee Meeting and the two additional afternoons, as PLCs in previous years utilized the other two afternoons, provide a needed opportunity for all teachers to work collegially on the Implementation of the new revised curriculum, as the fundamental changes made to the curriculum require significant time for discussion and planning.

2. Finance Committee Reported:

- the Secretary Treasurer, Sheldon Lee reported he has started the 2017/2018 budget consultation process with the various stakeholder groups. So far he had met with CUPE, DPAC, P/VP, and the CDTA.

- the intention is to meet with all the stakeholders again before March 9th

- a third meeting will be set up with each group as needed. Then he will meet with all stakeholders as a group a couple times in April..

- Sheldon has made a commitment to discuss the 17/18 budget at the April DPAC meeting.

- a public information session will occur [on May 17th](#) at the Board Office (time to be announced).

- the exact amount of the Student Learning Grant and the criteria for distribution and accountability is yet to be announced and all schools PACs and administrators will be advised when all of the details are know. Equitable distribution of all moneys is first. Noted to, direction from Victoria at this time is that the monies would be for a two year period but as indicated the rules are not clear yet such as do we get all of the money at once or split between the two years. Two Million has been pledged for Rural School Districts to help with teacher recruitment and retention. Again the rules, dates etc have yet to be given. Generally, there are a lot of "unknowns" as of yet.

3. Committee Reports:

- last Education Committee meeting was Mar. 14th at Queneesch El.
- next Education Committee meeting April 11th at Denman Island School.
- Next Board meeting [March 28th at 7:00](#) in the Board Office.

Old business no old business

New business no new business

Next Meeting April 18, 2017