

Highland PAC Meeting

December 15, 2014

Call to Order: 7:10 pm

Welcome and Introductions: Tonia Frawley , Chair

Correspondence: Letter from CV Food Bank thanking PAC for the donation of four food boxes and just over \$15 collected at the Christmas Band and Choir Concert.

In Attendance:

Tonia Frawley (Chair)	Andrew Gray (Treasurer)	Blythe Reimer (Secretary)
Lyneita Swanson (Princ)	Lee McKillican(Vice-Princ)	Andrew Black (Teacher Rep)
KathyDyck	Heidi Tobiassen	Sina Berndt (Presenter)
Janie Roelants		

Presentation: Sports Leadership presented by Sina Berndt. About 25 members make up the core of the group. They do things like set up the gym, keep score for school sporting events, even referee some games. In the fall they organized the Terry Fox run. They keep up the athletic bulletin board. They put posters up for the various teams and for Valley sports. Mr. McKillican added that this counts for credit for the students and it is an excellent way to build some life skills.

Approval of (November) Minutes and Agenda:

Motion for minutes – Kathy Dyck, 2nd Heidi Tobiassen - CARRIED

Motion for agenda – Heidi Tobiassen, 2nd Janie Roelants - CARRIED

Reports:

1. Chair – Nothing to report since last month

2. Treasurer

-Met with Kathy Dyck for the handover of information. All the records now stored electronically.

-Tonia mentioned the issue we had with the grads and the gaming license. There is a meeting of the grad potluck committee on Jan 7th. Blythe, Tonia, Kathy and probably Andrew will attend.

3. DPAC –

-Have started the calendar committee meetings. Next one is tomorrow. Lee McKillican is also on the committee. There will be more information to follow.

-Next DPAC meeting is Monday, December 24 at Courtenay Elementary School, Library, 6:30. This will also be the DPAC AGM and four people have put their names forward for positions. A few ideas have been suggested for speakers including Barbara Coloroso. Also looking at Barb Collwell who has presented on student anxiety and will now be speaking to how parents' anxiety affects students. Also hope to have an internet safety speaker, Darren Laur. It's a challenge to get speakers who can relate to all the types of schools in the

district and their variety of needs. Looking at “Odd Squad”, a team of undercover officers from Vancouver, who will address some of Highland’s specific challenges.

4. Teacher Representative:

- Moral is as normal for this time of year. Students and staff are ready for a break.
- There is concern about the behavior of some of the grade 8 students. The staff has been making efforts to control these kids in classrooms and there seems to be a lack of clarity on the part of students as of what is expected of them in the classroom environment. There has not been the “leadership” example from the older years as there has been in the past.
- What was the general feeling of the parent teacher interviews? The teachers found it a bit different as they found they were talking about report cards that hadn’t been issued instead of how the students were performing
- EAs are not being replaced on their first sick day.
- There has not been any action on the school elevator. There appears to be a general slowdown in the general upkeep of the school.
- The lab aide position is still “up in the air” for all of the schools for next school year. The idea of a “department head” has been suggested as a title for this position but this could come at a higher cost. The aid actually saves the district money. Both trustees have been invited to come and see what the aid does but have failed to respond.

5. Administration: see attached December 2014, Newsletter.

http://www.highlandsecondary.ca/sites/default/files/December_2014%20_Newsletter.pdf

To supplement:

- At lunch today was “Highland’s Got Talent”. Friday at 2:00 will be the winners. Governor General’s award will also be presented.
 - Assessment week- changes to schedule. First week of February is assessment week. Will be discussed at next staff meeting. Greg Kochanuk is working on a schedule for the week as there will be no regular classes for students unless they are in IB or grad 8 or 9.
- News from the IB Programme: Meeting will be on January 19th for potential new students. Hope for a big cohort next year.
- Still exploring the possibility of an X block alternating with PLCs. Possibility of this X block on opposing Wednesday. Looking at amending AG time to make up for lost teaching hours. A variety of suggestions have been made but the discussions are continuing and will be explored at the staff meeting tomorrow.
 - Heidi Tobiassen has volunteered to work with Paul Berry to get the emergency storage container to a useable state. Need to fill it. Would like a generator and some burners to be able to boil water. Also need first aid kits. Heidi will work on a proposal so PAC can determine what kind of funds will be required.
 - Ms Swanson attended a workshop in Vancouver. Main topic of discussion was kids with autism or who are challenged socially - “the science of making friends.” Also the title of a book. This was a two day course in Vancouver which focused on these kids. The presenter was discussing how, by using scientific method, students can learn to make friends.

6. School Trustee Representative – no rep tonight

-Tonia as DPAC chair offered information that Tom Weber is the new chair and Janice Caton is the new vice chair. There are several committees and organizations to which they belong. They can express which schools they would like to attend. Peter Coleman has expressed an interest in attending Highland PAC meetings. Tonia suggests that we petition the board for a new trustee with a new perspective to attend our meetings. Tonia will send the request.

- SD71 Website: Please check frequently as it has important information including: Comments/Emails for Public, Info. on Emergency Preparedness and Snow Days, as well as School Links.

Old Business: None at this time.

New Business: None at this time.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 19th, 2015.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 p.m.