



**MARK R. ISFELD SECONDARY
PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MINUTES

Monday, March 14, 2016
7:00 PM

Attendees:

Sheila McDonnell, Arla Calman, Loretta Fedor, Lisa Taylor, Ian Langmann, Natasha Taylor, Julie Shields, Jeff Taylor, Tammi Whelan, Rob Bonar.

- 1) Call to Order 7:04
- 2) Approval of Agenda - Loretta, seconded by Ian
- 3) Approval of Previous Month's Minutes – Arla, seconded by Ian
- 4) Reports
 - a. Principal's Report – Jeff Taylor

Athletics: Senior boys' basketball have just returned from Langley after placing 6th in the provincials. This is the third time in a row this team has reached the final tournament, and they are helping establish Mark Isfeld as a school with a successful athletic program. The junior girls also returned from provincials with a 2-2 record, finishing 13th. For a team not expected to make it off the island, this was an impressive result. Currently, the spring season is underway with girls' soccer. The team was rained out last week but will play this Thursday at Vanier. Girls rugby is also hoping to build on last year's success, and they played in some miserable weather on our field two weeks ago and will play today at Vanier.

The Arts: The Grad Dessert Night is this Wednesday, and this is an opportunity for our grade 12s to show off some of their talent. The rehearsal yesterday indicates that they will put on a good show for parents and TA teachers. The Destination Imagination Regional Tournament took place March 5th, with Isfeld placing first or second in every category in which we competed. Mr. Gravel reports that the local public speaking contest has concluded and this year the field of grade 8s were particularly strong. They will compete at the district level in Concours D'Art Oratoire on Wednesday.

Citizenship: The Nicaragua trip has come together and will be doing volunteer work there and donating supplies. Ms. Parsons' class has been undertaking numerous citizenship activities, including food bank, SPCA, polar bears and others. To enhance school spirit, we are reviving a sense of fun competition between the houses. This week, in honour of St. Patrick's Day we are featuring Green vs Green. On May 1, the

grads will be putting on the Drive One for Charity event, which fundraises for Relay, YANA, and supports paying of grad fees. On Thursday of this week we will be holding the Cultural Awareness Fair, which involves displays created by our French Immersion, Aboriginal and International students. Au Coeur de l'île, Robb Road and Puntledge Park students are invited to this event.

Academics: We only had provincial exam results from grade 11 and 12 this January, but they were favourable. Our Français Langue 12 results were above the provincial average for the first time in four years. Our English 12 results were 7% above the rest province. There were mixed reviews from teachers about the value of the first Curriculum Day. There is still much trepidation about the implementation of this new curriculum, but the day served to underscore that many teachers are well underway. At Isfeld, the Socials department is committed to implementing the new curriculum in the optional year, and some piloting of the new Socials 10 curriculum is taking place already.

Changes that may be coming in the district that affect Isfeld:

- The potential closure of Puntledge Park will trigger boundary changes that will affect us.
- Thursday evening there is a curriculum meeting at Isfeld Gym

b. Trustee's Report – Sheila McDonnell

There have been a lot of consultations going on at this time; difficult to keep track of all of them. Boundary changes proposed have brought to light issues. Changing Robb Road to dual track has issues. Alternate shortened week may work or not and may not save money. Either day schedule would result in teacher layoffs. The trustees do not have clarity in any of these issues. Consultations and openness to other options than the 4.5 day vs 5 day week continue, looking for ways to not impact the students or the learning outcomes. We need to find ways to engage kids and save money. Or, declare bankruptcy and be done with it. How do teachers feel about the change to 4.5 day week? Some are hopeful and open to the idea of 4.5, but the teachers union says no; there cannot be a 4-day week because it would not fall within the teacher's collective agreement.

c) Treasurer's Report – Mary-Jane Douglas- Mary- Jane could not attend tonight. Report indicates sports disbursements of \$4,289.83 and \$20 for Gaming licenses for the dessert night. Balance remaining \$13,178.51

Approval of report - motion by Lisa, seconded by Ian

- d) DPAC Report – Ineke Burritt –could not attend, will be posted when available- not part of minutes.
 - e) CPF Report – Cabane au Sucre was a great success. 8 Isfeld students volunteered to help. A great time and great party was enjoyed by all. It was attended by 500 people! 400 tickets were sold. Concours d’art oratoire is Wednesday, and Isfeld will be sending students. École Robb Road hot dog lunch sales that have supported CPF for years, is being withdrawn. New opportunities will arise.
- 5) Old Business

Pac motion approved last meeting – is the motion stated below still necessary in light of the meetings at Isfeld called by the acting Superintendent? The motion stated:

‘As a PAC we will plan a school-wide meeting, inviting all parents, teachers, and administration, as well as trustees and School board staff, in order to communicate and discuss the issues affecting Isfeld around education budget cuts and a possible shortened school week; student achievement; new curriculum and student assessment; and parent involvement in supporting student success in a 21st Century learning model.’

Discussion ensued. Jeff asked the parents for our support of whatever the school decides to do. Need to make sure the students are motivated to attend Friday half day.

A decision was made to delay the above meeting until the district and Isfeld are further along in the process. This will be in May 2016.

- 6) New Business- PAC Relay for Life team-
- PAC Relay for life team-Dave Taylor has signed up a PAC team with Brenda Hunt, and any parents who are interested can let Dave know. (24hourfarmer@gmail.com). The date is Saturday, June 11, 6pm-6am.
- 7) Adjournment motion: Lisa, seconded by Tammi @ 8:53 pm

Next Meeting: Monday, April 11, 2016.