



Mark R. Isfeld Secondary PAC

MINUTES

Monday, Mar. 13, 2017
7:00pm

Attendees: Lisa Taylor, Mariah Moraes, Bruce Carlos, Lorne Taylor, Annette Schmidt-Schweda, Arla Calman, Mary-Jane Douglas, Tammi Whelan, Jo Payne, Ian Langmann, Jeff Taylor, Sarah Hoffman (12)

1. **Call to Order**- Lisa at 7:03
2. **Approval of Agenda**- motion Mariah and Lorne seconded
3. **Approval of Previous Month's Minutes**—motion Mariah and Lorne seconded
4. **Presentation: Bruce Carlos – SD71 District Principal for Aboriginal Education** – presentation of an overview of Aboriginal Education in the district and at Isfeld, and a chance to ask any questions about this program. – Bruce gave a PowerPoint – the students in this program are self-identified – there are 1210 students in the Ab. Ed. program ~ 20 Comox First Nation, then Metis 320, and the rest a mix of other First Nations . Link from SD71 website – click on logo to go to the Aboriginal Studies website. 100 students at Isfeld who get support from Ab-Ed support workers – like EAs, with a minimum of 1-year EA training. They attend Isfeld, but have available to them extra support. The workers are CUPE workers. The Ab. Ed. Program has a 1.3M (Provincial) budget in addition to the regularSD71 budget. A self-identified child can be any child who identifies as Aboriginal – they do not need to be status. No one will be turned away. Much of the budget goes to food, featuring aboriginal foods. Ab-Ed has forwarded a package to PACs with information about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. There is also an exhibit from Alert Bay, regarding the closure of the Saint Michael's Residential School, which will be coming soon to Mark Isfeld and SD71.
5. **Reports:**
 - **Principal's Report – Jeff Taylor**
Highlights from last month
Achievement in Athletics: Our senior boys' basketball team have returned from their fourth consecutive appearance at provincials. They lost two and won two to finish 13th. We had two wrestlers go to provincials, who came back 8th and 9th in their weight class. Our boys snowboard team placed 6th in the province at Whistler. Currently, we have started girls' soccer at the junior

and senior level. Girls' rugby has become immensely popular, with over thirty girls on the team. On the boys' side, we can't field that number and Isfeld will again be part of a combined Isfeld/Vanier team.

Citizenship check: The Interact Club just finished their support of a Rotary Gala event that raised \$5000 to support school projects in Honduras. Our Grads took part in a Spin-a-thon, raising money for Jumpstart for Kids. Grad Dessert Night helped raise money and kick start our Relay for Life fundraising. This will continue with our Drive One for Charity event and our Tailgate Bar-b-que. Students seem to have an appetite to see staff versus student competition, as evidenced by the enthusiasm generated by our recent soccer game. European handball seems to be in the works, prior to the Tailgate hockey game.

What's up with Arts: The Destination Imagination Regional Tournament took place on February 25th at Isfeld. Participation from all over the island is increasing while our school participation is in slight decline. Of the three teams representing Isfeld, we finished with two firsts and a second. These teams will be representing Isfeld at the DI Provincials on April 8th. Geoff Hynds and Madeline Rissling won the Television and Media event from Skills Canada Regionals in Campbell River. Their topic was *Creativity and Innovation Come from Failure*. The run of Seussical has recently concluded, and the many Isfeld students on the cast report that they thoroughly enjoy working with their like-minded counterparts in other schools.

Academics: At the district and school levels, considerable soul-searching around differentiated instruction is taking place. At its core, the primary issue is trying to engage more students to put more energy into and take more joy from their schooling. As laudable as that goal sounds, it is remarkably difficult for people to see school as something more than necessary evil to get over with. District organized sessions involving students and parents are being held at Isfeld in the coming days and weeks to inform what next years' iteration will look like. Past students have told Jeff that she would have liked to have been taught more time management skills. Goals for Fridays are to scaffold the students beyond the basic work and strive for goals and dreams. There will be room for student leadership and teacher leadership opportunities.

Upcoming Events-

- Spring Break March 20th to 24th
- Parent Info Night regarding Course Selection March 28th
- AIW Parent Session March 29th
- CPF Meeting at Isfeld April 3rd – Room 100
- DI Provincials on April 8th
- Volunteer Recognition Banquet April 12
- Drive one for Charity event at Isfeld April 30th
- Bowling with Special Olympics Athletes May 4

- **Trustee's Report** – Sheila McDonnell- was not in attendance sick – She wanted us to know that the sessions for parents to attend giving their opinions on the 4.6-day school week plus the future of education in SD71 are: Monday March 27- 6:30-8:30

at Lake Trail; Wednesday March 29, 6:30 -8:30 Isfeld; Wednesday April 5, 6:30-8:30 Highland.

- **Treasurer's Report** – Mary-Jane Douglas- attached-Mary-Jane approved, and Lorne seconded. Lorne suggested a screen shot of 2-3 months of the actual bank balance. Arla raised a question about whether the teacher spearheading the Girls who Code club could qualify for PAC money; the answer is yes, as it fits into the academic pillar of funding.
- **DPAC Report** – Ian Langmann- Ian reported on the DPAC news, along with Lorne, who is now vice-chair of DPAC. DPAC has decided to put out a 'Hot Topic' each month to each PAC, in order to solicit feedback on what parents are thinking about each topic. The Hot Topic for this month is bullying. Mariah challenged DPAC to define it first, as one cannot measure something that has no definition. Another question from the PAC: 'How is Ian meant to gather and present the data?' The PAC requested Mariah to send DPAC a definition of bullying. There was also a suggestion that DPAC should give each PAC the Hot Topic a month in advance, so that parents have a chance to think about it, and bring their thoughts to the next PAC meeting. There is a DPAC link on the SD71 website.

- **CPF Report** – Lisa Taylor
 - Cabane a sucre – was a great French cultural event and well attended
 - Concours d'art Oratoire was also well attended – 21 students and lots of parents - 6 students will have the opportunity to continue to the provincial level
 - CPF Meeting at Isfeld April 3rd – Room 100.

- 6. **Old Business:**
 - Need for a DPAC representative from the Isfeld PAC – Ian Langmann agreed to let his name stand as primary DPAC rep to the Isfeld PAC, and Lorne Taylor volunteered as secondary rep. Lorne made the motion and Mariah seconded.

- 7. **New Business:**
 - PAC Relay for Life team – Relay for Life will be on June 10, 2017, from 6pm to 6am. Last year we had a vibrant and successful PAC Relay for Life team, which helped the grad class raise thousands of dollars for cancer research. This year, if any parents are interested in joining a PAC team, and/or organizing a PAC team, the opportunity is open. Tabled for now, until next meeting.
 - Review of our lockdown procedure, as Mariah raised the point that new teachers may not know the procedures. Jeff Taylor spoke to the procedures: drills happen twice a year- in September and they are due for another one soon. Stages of lock down are – 1. Remain In Place; 2. Stay and Secure (lock exterior doors); 3. Lockdown is when all doors are locked and students are moved to an area where they cannot be seen from the outside and they must be silent. Jeff agreed that a review of the procedures may be in order for new staff and students.

- 8. **Adjournment** : Mariah moved and Mary-Jane seconded
Next PAC Meeting: April 10, 2017 – guest presenter – Dean Lindquist, SD71 Superintendent.