



Mark R. Isfeld Secondary PAC

Minutes

Monday, Nov. 14, 2016
7:00pm

Attendees:

Mary-Jane Douglas, Arla Calman, Sheila McDonnell, Joanne Payne, Harvey McDougall, Ian Langmann, Lisa Taylor, Jeff Taylor, Shannon Aldinger, Sarah Hoffman, Annette Schmidt-Schweda, Ineke Burritt

1. Call to Order- Lisa at 7:01
2. Approval of Agenda: Ian approved, and Arla seconded
3. Approval of Previous Month's Minutes: Mary-Jane approved and Ian seconded
4. Presentation – Tom Elwood – Teacher, Mark Isfeld Secondary : Opportunities teacher- for any student whose behavior gets in the way of their education; now includes disengaged students; using project based learning; example – socials 11 student did a project for each of 8 units, and wrote exam – 87 %. He works with students in detention, who are behind, who are on in school suspensions; open at lunch, peer tutoring happens; leadership class also being taught, and sports psychology, basketball, etc. It is a place for students to be supported in an alternate type of way. There is also a boys group, was born of the talks from Dr. Clare and the 'Man up' presentation; after that, the students requested a similar group here at Isfeld; to encourage challenging the 'off base attitudes' on how to treat girls; to counter the culture– and have discussions, grad, what's next; Mr. Taylor took them on a tour of down town east Vancouver;
All grades welcome – and there is a balance male/female. Lisa Thanked Mr. Elwood for the presentation.
5. Reports:
 - Principal's Report – Jeff Taylor PAC Meeting – Principal's Report 15 Nov 2016

Athletics: Both the senior boys and the junior boy's volleyball teams competed in the North Islands last weekend, and they both came first, which would be remarkable except they did the same thing last year. Our senior girl's team placed third in the North Islands and will be going to Islands next weekend. Our Senior boy's soccer team played very well at the Islands and came fourth.

The Arts: The Grad Fashion Show upped the bar from the last year or two, and we had even more grads out than last year. The Comox Valley Music and Choir Festival is running next week, shortly after Remembrance

Day, and it sounds like Lindsay Duncan has the band ready. New this year was a twelve trumpet performance of Last Post, which I have a recording of. The Improv team continues to rehearse early on Friday mornings and we have the Canadian Improv Games coming out to provide a workshop this Friday. Destination Imagination continues to grow as fast as the number of team managers we can recruit. Team manager training will be conducted by webinar later this month, but this training is only meant as a support and not a requirement to manage a team.

Citizenship: The Interact Club is actively looking to support a legacy project in the school. So far, covered bike racks are on their radar, but they are still entertaining other ideas. The Environment Club is still active despite the extended leave of their primary teacher sponsor. Students are starting to clamour for clubs and we are seeing the emergence of debating, wrestling and others.

Academics: Term 2 started today. We continue to make changes in how we deliver curriculum to meet the new requirements, and we are meeting with some success. Students are liking the system, to keep up and stay on top of their work and the students have not progressed to the level of curiosity and pursuing learning for its own sake. Parent polling indicates that moving to continuous reporting has been positively received, and we are working through the bugs as fast as we had hoped. Teachers are still partially on board. Two of our students have been nominated for the Loran scholarship, which is significant in that only 8 will be nominated from Vancouver Island and most schools will not have a single nominee.

- Trustee's Report – Sheila McDonnell- news that the BCTF won the court case regarding class sizes. Minister of Education will be here Nov. 24 to talk about the wonderful things they are doing for education – specifically the rural districts–the new superintendant finds this valley is very risk averse- he wants to change this. Miracle Beach school is using Friday for applied design – problem solving, evaluating their choices etc. Hornby students plan their projects at the beginning of the year. This district is may now released from funding protection- will know for sure by next meeting; no budget figures are available yet. The NIDES students are variable wrt FTE's and this is the unknown. If we are not out of funding protection, we are 1.8 million in debt. There are trustees and parents who are encouraging everyone to get involved in this election year to push for more money for education. There is a website 'Comox Valley Families for Public Education'. Jeff explained that the operating budget of the school has been cut by 20k each year for the last 4 years and he is having to use the trust to supplement the operating budget;
- Treasurer's Report – Mary-Jane Douglas- request was put forward from the Environment Club for a gaming license – for a raffle. Mary –Jane had to deny them due to it having to be a within BC project – Grad fashion Show raised Lisa approved the report – and Ian seconded it;
- DPAC Report – Ineke Burritt/Joka Belyk – Ineke will forward the minutes from the last DPAC meeting; Jeff said that tomorrow there will be a recorded webinar about 'Learning to Choose and Choosing to Learn';
- CPF Report – Lisa Taylor – Next week is the meeting Monday November 21, 2016

6. Adjournment - Lisa 9:01- pm
Next PAC Meeting: January 9, 2017