



# Mark R. Isfeld Secondary PAC

## Minutes

Monday, Sept. 11, 2017  
7:00pm

### Attendees:

Lisa Taylor, Jeff Taylor, Mariah Moraes, Tom Mason, Brad Tobacco, Sheila McDonnell, Mary-Jane Douglas, Lauren Lan, Tammi Whelan, Dolores Plante, Connie Fowler, Bobbi Rowntree, Shannon Aldinger, Stacey Fussell, Ingrid Whetter, Jo Payne, Arla Calman, Dawn Sheppard, Ian Langmann, Johanne Moreau, Pamela Saunders, Andrea Lang, Jeff Watkins, Ana Garcia Bandala (24)

1. Call to Order Lisa 7:03
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Mariah moved, Ian seconded
3. **Approval of Previous Month's Minutes** – Mariah moved, Ian seconded
4. **Reports:**
  - **Principal's Report** – Jeff Taylor: I will usually report from a Four Pillars perspective, but as the school is only in its fourth full day in session, the September report will be more generic.
  - School start went well, and enrollment is up significantly. We are officially at 1013 students. Staffing has been a challenge, with some positions offered, accepted, and then declined, causing a repeat of the process. Yesterday, we had a teacher turn down a job offered to her just before Labour Day, so we still have one teacher to hire for this semester.
  - The timetable has been loaded with students, by our standards, very successfully, but there are two major wrinkles this year. The first is the legislation around class size and composition, which is very rigid. The second is that the Explore program has come to rely on French Immersion students to fill out its ranks, and it is increasingly difficult for students in one program of choice to have their timetable contort to meet the restrictions place on it by another program of choice. Students will always have issues about being in courses they do not want or failing to get into desired courses, but given our staffing constraints, we are in a very good place. We have two portables now on site that can't be ready soon enough, because we are completely out of room.

- The district is in better shape than it has been in years. Enrollment is rebounding. Finances are back in order. At Isfeld, we are making it a priority to recognize that we have turned a corner and most of the dark days are behind us.
- We are up and running with Cross Country running, boys soccer, boys and girls volleyball at grade 8, junior and senior levels. We are still looking for coaching in field hockey and aquatics. On the club scene, we have started improv, casting for the district musical, GSA, Destination Imagination, Environment and Interact. Terry Fox planning and fundraising is underway. Hundreds of our students are already involved in extracurriculars.
- Two new vice principals – Ms. Taiji and Mr. Jon Bos
- Wednesday afternoons – Project Time: Grade 8-9 will be working on Inquiry Projects during this time. Grade 12 will be working on Grad Transitions this year, during first semester. Grad Transitions will be phased out this year – as of next year, the grad requirement will change to Careers 11, Careers 12 instead and a Capstone Project. Grade 10-11 will be working on Capstone Projects in this time, to prepare themselves for their Grade 12 requirement; if Grade 11 students complete the Capstone Project this year, they will not have to complete it next year. All Capstone Projects will be presented to the public either in January or June 2018.

#### Upcoming Events-

- School Photos today
- First project day- Sept 20
- Meet the Teacher – Sept 20, 6:30-8:06
- Grad Parent Meeting – Sept 25, 7:00 pm in MPR
- Terry Fox Run Sept 26
- School Planning Day Sept 29
- Thanksgiving Day Oct 9
- Photo Re-takes Oct 13
  
- **Trustee's Report** – Sheila McDonnell- Trustees received a briefing from the staff at SD71- enrolment is up by 69 students- hired 50 new teachers; teachers brought their children which boosted numbers; initiated a centralized registration to help people; there is an issue with neighborhood schools being full and children having to go elsewhere; financially in good shape; going to the 4.5-day week last year avoided having to cut the counselor and school librarian positions. Board is focusing on making sure resources available to all children. There is a new student health center at Glacier View – multi-disciplined services available to them. Isfeld is initiating a once a month meeting for students with anxiety.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Mary-Jane Douglas- there is \$100 in the bank account – MJ has applied for all the grants. Budget will be presented and passed in October.
- **DPAC Report** – Ian Langmann/Lorne Taylor- there is a DPAC meeting tonight – Ian is here- Lorne may be there. DPAC is having a 'Hot Topic' every month and is requesting PACs have a discussion about it at their meetings.

- **CPF Report** – Lisa Taylor- Next meeting is on October 2, at 7:00 pm, in Room 100 at Isfeld.

**5. Old Business**

- Educational documentary – “Most Likely to Succeed” – Report and update: Tammi Whelan  
The film was presented last June to an audience of approximately 50 people. The superintendent, Dean Lindquist, and Isfeld principal, Jeff Taylor spoke and answered questions afterwards. It was inspiring to all who attended, in no small part because the speakers addressed how SD71 is already adopting some of the ideals presented in the movie. We will attempt another showing this year perhaps including more students this time.

**6. Adjournment** – 8:24pm – Mariah moved, Ian seconded

Next PAC Meeting: October 16, 2017.