

## **C.R. District Parent Advisory Committee Minutes of Meeting Held Wednesday, November 19, 2014**

**Present:** Mike Savoie (President), Karen Worsley (Secretary), Kate Morgan (Vice-Chair), Violet Shade (Treasurer), Cheryl Chatterton, and Kelly Clark.

**By Invitation:** Dave Harper (CRDTA), Nevenka Fair (SBO)

**Regrets:** Christine Szaflik (CUPE)

Mike Savoie called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

Just had elections and has met with two of the new Trustees. Already discussing with them the trustee meetings/involvement with the schools. We would like the Trustees to be more of an advocate for students and their families, rather than having the perception of being Board-led. Parents don't know who trustees are and would like them to be more involved.

### **Minutes from Previous Meetings:**

Draft Minutes from the October 15<sup>th</sup> were earlier emailed, copies sent to all schools, and copies were also circulated for review at the meeting. Minor revision noted to correct Mme Wong to "Mme Hwang". There being no further revisions, additions, deletions, or business arising, UPON MOTION made, seconded and carried, the October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014 meeting Minutes were APPROVED as presented.

It was noted that certain attachments, as mentioned at the bottom of the draft minutes, still need to be provided and attached to the final Minutes.

### **Agenda:**

Agenda for tonight's meeting was circulated. Addition: under "Unfinished Business", (a) Workshop Ideas/Themes. There being no further additions or revisions, tonight's Agenda was APPROVED.

### **Correspondence:**

Mike received an email from Lyn Logan at the SBO, dated November 19, 2014, looking for a DPAC representative to attend the annual scholarship selection meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Kate Morgan volunteered on behalf of DPAC.

### **School News & Reports from PACs:**

- EDM – family fun night was a success. New learning support teacher in place.
- Phoenix – seismic upgrade almost done and looks very nice. Staff has made it work very well throughout the entire construction.

#### **A. Treasurer – Violet Shade, Treasurer (arrived at 7:30 pm)**

- Bank statements have not yet been received, so unable to provide new balances for gaming and general accounts. It was noted that we haven't spent any money since the last meeting.
- There were no questions.

#### **B. District Diary – Nevenka Fair, Assistant Superintendent**

- Presented her District Diary – change in Trustees from election last Saturday. Looking forward to working with new members.
- Collaboration with NIC, students have opportunity to get dual credit, can start their post

secondary education early. First year English and Psychology done in the past, trying to expand to include other courses. Want to do some work with transitioning the students. Students interested in taking NIC courses while still in high school should talk to career counselor at Timberline/Carihi.

- The Ministry of Education is in the process of collecting some feedback to revise their K-12 Accountability framework. Handout (attached) “Draft Principles to Inform the Development of an Improved K-12 Accountability Network” was prepared by Ministry group (Dean Goodman). See Brainstorming questions on the reverse. The former framework has been in existence for many years and as we move forward looking at 21<sup>st</sup> century practices as well as our values, the government believes that the framework should reflect both our practices and our values/beliefs around student learning. In addition to teachers and school based leaders, DPAC will be represented in a meeting that will be facilitated before the holiday break and our input will be forwarded to the Ministry of Education. Efforts will be made to ensure a balance of involvement of parents from all school levels.
- Discussion ensued regarding the above. What is student success and how is it measured? We have to look at different ways for students to demonstrate what they have learned, instead of relying solely on test scores.
- Powerpoint that was provided to administrators of middle/secondary schools will be forwarded to DPAC.

**C. Board of Trustees** – Joyce McMann (arrived at 8 pm)

- Mike introduced Joyce to everyone, and asked how do we make trustees more visible and friendly, and our advocate at the administrative level, so that they are an extension of the parents' voice?
- Joyce advised that she felt it was important to maintain communication to keep apprised of concerns, etc. We now have a whole new Board, need a chance to get to know each other. She is very grateful to have kept her seat and be involved again. Trying to create a forum where more than one school could be involved and it would be based on a certain topic, rather than just on one school visit in the format that was done in the past. Could exchange ideas about what matters to parents and trustees.
- Question: would Trustees be open to an invitation to come to PAC meetings? Yes, but more to gather information to take back and share, rather than give an opinion which may be representative of just one Trustee.
- Mike noted, for vast majority of parents they don't know who to call, need to humanize the position of Trustee and make it a more welcoming environment for parents. Discussion ensued. Mike thanked Joyce for coming out tonight.

**D. Teachers' Association** – Dave Harper, CRDTA Rep.

Handout from the United Steelworkers: lock-out happening now at the CR gaming facility, Playtime Community Gaming Inc. Adults should be aware of what happens to generate our gaming funds. Discussion ensued re gaming funds given to PACs. Important for parents to be involved on PAC on each school so that funds get to the kids. There were no questions.

**E. CUPE** – Christine Szaflik, President

- Not present

**F. BCCPAC** ([www.bccpac.bc.ca](http://www.bccpac.bc.ca)) – Michael Savoie

- No news at this time.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

(a) Workshop Ideas/Themes: Nevenka put Kate in touch with Rhona Soutar to discuss and plan a workshop around math. Will probably happen in January between 6-8 pm on a night before the DPAC meeting. She is most comfortable with K-8, but we want to find a way to include a discussion from someone at the high school level as well. Could branch off into different groups that evening. Kate to do up an information sheet and send it out to schools when information has been confirmed. How can parents help to facilitate/support math learning for their child. Session will be for parental education only, not students. What are the resources available, beyond what is available on the school websites? How does the math program split once you get to grade 10? What are the ramifications of each choice?

Need more parental involvement in picking high school courses – not totally dependent on the student to choose.

Suggested that the question should be: is one semester long enough for students to absorb/learn all of the material in the math 10 program? Do the students know all of the foundations from the previous years and gained enough confidence to proceed successfully through this program? Should this be a semester program or linear? Problem also that students can go more than one year between math classes (first semester one year and second semester next year). Timberline does offer one linear program for grade 9 math (marks count in 2<sup>nd</sup> semester) – program is full. Look at the success of this program.

Still open for PACs to provide their ideas for any further workshop ideas/themes. Contact someone on the DPAC Executive to convey any ideas.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

UPON MOTION made by Kate and seconded by Kelly, authorization to spend up to \$200.00 for coffee and treats for the upcoming draft principles meeting in January was APPROVED.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 7 pm in the Robron Library (no meeting in December).