

PAC MEETING MINUTES

April 9, 2015

Attendance: Leilani, Christine O, Katrina, Corrinna, Valerie, Ali, Becky, Clare, Diane, Erika, DeDe and Lorin

Meeting was called to order at ~6:30 pm.

MOTION by Clare that the minutes from the February 18th, 2015 PAC meeting be accepted as presented, 2nd by Becky. CARRIED

No additions to the agenda.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Academic Report - The 1 to 1 math program started this week. This program was developed by Lisa Carr in which Westsyde Secondary students are trained to come in to DT and help students that struggle with math but do not have an IP program in place for them. The mentor students are in Grades 10, 11 and 12 and are enthusiastic about helping out, however, some scheduling conflicts occurred in which they could not participate this week. The program is 3 days a week and revolves around basic skills such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The Westsyde Secondary principal, gave Mrs. Carr 2 days of TOC in support of the program so she could work with WSS students. DT may cost share as well.

DT received approval for an increase in teaching time for Ms. Sierra Haw. Her time was increased by 1 day for reading support.

Administration - Lorin will be away for 2 weeks starting next week. Tiffany Hawkins will be filling in starting next Wed. as acting Vice Principal. She is coming from Summit Elementary.

Senior Administrators at the school board office informed DT admin that the 34 kindergarten students currently enrolled for next year was not quite the number that was expected and were told to plan for one less teacher in 2015_2016. DeDe stated that as we learned from the start of this year, there may be many more students coming to the school that won't register until September, so it is possible that the lost division would come back if the numbers increase in September.

Sports - Relay Fest was held yesterday. Ali reported that the kids were well behaved and good DT representatives. There were around 11 schools at the Relay Fest. Out of 8 DT teams, 5 made the finals and 4 teams won the bronze medals. The relay teams were open to Gr. 4 to Gr. 7 students and there were try outs to make the teams.

PAC MEETING

April 9th, 2015

Page 2

Boogie the Bridge: Training sessions are currently happening at the school. Friday April 24th is the DT Race. RCMP contacts will be present to make sure it is safe for students when crossing Westsyde Road for the race.

Swim Meet: Happening on April 22nd. The swim club has 40 kids involved and Mrs. McCauley is their coach. Westsyde pool gave them 4 training times.

Jump Rope for Heart: April 21st is the assembly to get kids pumped up and May 15th is the event day, with Mrs. Webster taking charge of this event.

Mrs. Hansen has injured her knee during Spring Break and she is off now and waiting to hear from the doctor for a return date. As she is a large part of this school and does a lot more than just teach, her absence is being felt.

School Activities - There was a First Nations Assembly on Tuesday the 7th. Gold signage has been added around the school that shows Shuswap language as well as English. The Chief from Whispering Pines came and did a great storytelling about being respectful, etc. DeDe's mom came and taught counting at the assembly and told a story in the Shuswap language and again in English. Great assembly.

Library - Battle of the Books Zone Battle is happening on April 16th. DT has 3 teams participating and has good prospects for moving on to the District Battle at the Henry Grube.

There will be a Book Fair at the end of May. As always, Mr. Toews will be looking for parent volunteers to help out!

Housekeeping - DeDe reported that Tim was not able to come to the school last time, but she has emailed him and is waiting to hear back regarding what playground dimensions are available at the school.

DeDe also reported that all of the window screens were working together now.

DeDe also reported that the scooter racks have been ordered but they have not arrived yet.

Ali raised the question of transforming the DT field into two mini soccer fields as one of the soccer goal posts had been removed this past summer. It would be a good way for the district to generate some revenue as the KYSA is always looking to rent out fields.

PAC MEETING

April 9th, 2015

Page 3

Behaviour Support Team - Mr. Martin has 3 class times to work as the behavior support teacher. He is focusing on positive class environments and attending a Play is the Way workshop on the upcoming Pro D. He is also working with individual students. The team is also looking to rework the matrix for next year.

Play first lunch hour: Some children are happy with it, some are needing food before the scheduled eating time. The children will be asked in late May how they like it, but the school would like to give it more time before evaluating how it is going.

Pro D - Aboriginal Math Conference happening on the next Pro D day April 20th

There was discussion at this point regarding the 2 week spring break. Some parents perceived it as being too long, mostly because they are working parents and had to find care for their children over that time period. Some parents enjoyed the 2 week break. DeDe encouraged parents to give their feedback to the District. She would look into putting a feedback how to in the next newsletter and provide a link to send feedback on the school web page.

Westsyde Family Meetings - The next meeting is at DT tomorrow morning. They will be discussing how to improve the transition experience for kids between elementary and high school life.

District Information - The results of the Thought Exchange Survey for DT, showed that the majority of negative comments were in regard to the parking lot.

School Improvement Plan - Mr. Toews is working on the SIP and setting goals for next year. Anticipating that it will be complete by the end of the month.

Parent question - A parent asked if we knew how we did on the FSAs. It was reported that the results would be going home tomorrow. Parent also wondered about how the school did as a whole. DeDe and Lorin were unsure if the results were ready at this time. It was noted that the FSAs are just one measure of school performance and success. The parent agreed that it was just part of the picture, but felt it was an important part. Another parent asked if some students opt out of writing the FSAs and it was answered that yes some students do opt out.

Erika asked Mr. Toews if he was attending the Battle of the Books, Mr. Toews answered that yes he was.

PAC MEETING

April 9th, 2015

Page 4

Teacher Liaison:

There was a request for funds from Miss Yeast regarding a Eureka! Science workshop for every class. Christine reported that this was already set aside in the budget and that no vote was necessary as it was approved earlier in the year.

Ali also reported that Mrs. McCauley was requesting PAC pay for a bus to bus 40 children to the swim meet on April 22. Gaming money could be used for this. Cost was approx. \$80. Christine commented that she could see it being quite difficult to organize parent drivers for 40 children.

MOTION by Christine that PAC pay for the bus to transport the swim club to the Swim Meet on April 22nd. 2nd by Clare. CARRIED

Also a request for bussing from Mrs. Petty, Mrs. Bentz and Mr. Martin to the Big Little Science Center for the Stars and Planets portable planetarium. Requested 2 buses with an approx cost of \$200 and \$136 for admission.

There was a question regarding why not use the money that has already been allocated to each classroom. It was answered that most classes use the \$300 in funds to go on end of year field trips with the kids and some tend to be farther distances away.

MOTION by Corrinna that PAC pay up to \$300 for the bus and admission to transport Mrs. Petty, Mrs. Bentz and Mr. Martin's classes to the star dome at the Big Little Science Centre. 2nd by Diane. CARRIED

DPAC REPORT:

Valerie reported that there would be Portable Defibrulators coming to Brock middle school.

Valerie also reported that most of the discussion centered around the Thought Exchange Survey. She had asked about finding out Aboriginal results but there was no way to distinguish answers. It was reported that there were a few glitches this year regarding confidentiality concerns, but that they would be working them out for next year. It was commented that the surveys were better than any other tool they have used in the past. Valerie expressed concern about Administrators taking parts of parent comments out of the results. She also felt that the District at times make decisions regarding things like school boundaries and then asks parents for feedback and input after the decision has already been made.

PAC MEETING

April 9th, 2015

Page 5

Valerie also reported that the DPAC AGM would be held on April 21st and that the Treasurer and Secretary positions were up for nominations. She noted that DPAC members were on the decline.

TREASURER'S REPORT (see attached):

Leni could not attend however, she sent the financial paperwork (see attached), she also commented in her email that we still have a healthy balance but that we should refrain from any large purchases as we have not yet paid for everything we have already committed to.

COMMITTEES:

Hotlunch updates - Christine reported that there had been some quality control issues recently with Pizza Hut not sending correct orders, salads being quite skimpy etc and that Miss Yeast has been in contact with Pizza Hut regarding these issues and if the next pizza day continues to have issues, we may look at a different vendor for next year.

OLD BUSINESS:

Scooter Racks - ordered, not arrived

New Playground Equipment - already covered this topic in Principal's Report

Yoga Mats - the yoga mats are now at the school. Leilani reported that Brennan was still short 5 mats for a full class set. She has asked for more donations from Kamloops Hot Yoga. It was suggested we send an email request, Leilani explained this had already been done and it resulted in 2 mats being donated.

PAC room shelving - Christine had no report as she has not measured up the PAC room yet.

Karate update - Ericka reported that she was in the process of setting up the next set of karate classes for primary students in Gr. 1 to Gr. 3. The instructor kindly requested not to include the kindergarten classes at this time. She is again planning a 4 week session starting Wed. May 6th at 5:30pm to 6:15pm. Flyer will be going home soon. Erika said she has received very good feedback about the instructor and said that some parents approached him to perhaps do an adult class!

Fruit Program - DeDe checked with Mr. Wood and he said that the trays belonged to the school and that we could do with them whatever we wanted.

PAC MEETING

April 9th, 2015

Page 6

Yoga - Leilani reported that the yoga classes were full and starting up. Participants would meet in the library and then perhaps move to the gym if nothing is happening. Classes are from 2:45 to 3:45.

Waste Audit - Leilani explained the waste audit process to parents. Marcia coming in on the 21st of April and will be sorting garbage by classroom. Leilani has arranged for the media to be present as well as some city councilors. There will be an assembly in May for the results and there will be a 4 week challenge and activities for classrooms.

NEW BUSINESS:

Movie Night - Happening on April 24th. The movie is Paddington and the Henry Grube will be coming to help us set up a really good system for us to use. It was decided that the Movie Night donations would go to the Harlock family.

PAC planning - Clare explained that she had struggled this year in determining what the goal of the PAC was and thought that we should take the opportunity for a June meeting for a brainstorming session for future goals, fundraising objectives, etc. She also thought we might be able to get more people involved through creating a possible survey that would provide the PAC with feedback on various topics. Clare also thought about having a school facebook page that could be used for PAC meeting announcements, questions from parents about class trips, homework assignments, etc. It could also be used to foster the feeling of community within the school. Clare said that she would commit to being the Group admin and that there would have to be some restrictions on the site. Christine cautioned that there may be some negative comments on the site and that they would have to be dealt with appropriately and thought we may need District approval to start one up.

Payment for Hotlunches - Christine reported that payment was due for hotlunches.net for next year. She reported that it was very helpful in maintaining student orders and payments. There is also a \$50 price reduction if we enroll before June 30th. The cost to enroll is \$367.50

MOTION by Christine that PAC pay \$367.50 to re-enroll on the hotlunches website for 2015_2016. 2nd by Diane. CARRIED

PAC MEETING

April 9th, 2015

Page 7

MISC DISCUSSION:

Leilani brought up that there needs to be dates set for the Teacher Luncheon and the Family BBQ. There was discussion regarding which night would work best. It was decided that Friday night would work best because there is no soccer that night. June 5th was chosen as the Family BBQ date. Leilani said that she would check to see if Quinton was available for that date. She thought we might contact Emma Humphries regarding bouncy castle rentals. Clare asked about the possibility of inviting new families to the BBQ as well.

Next meeting Wednesday May 20th, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

(Minutes recorded by: Christine Ony)