

**PARENTS' ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE
DAVID THOMPSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

1051 Pine Springs Road, Kamloops, B.C. V2B 7W3

Phone: 579-9228

Fax: 579-8346

October 18, 2017 Meeting minutes,

Attendance: Coralee, Valeria, Krysty, Christine, Jen, Kelly, Kelley, Shauna, Krisitin, Kimberly, Leilani, Barb, Jocelyn, Valerie, Becky, Leni and Katrina.

6:35 meeting got underway, was a mention that back to school barbeque went well.

Approval of September meeting minutes:

Christine motioned

Valeria seconded

Addition to Agenda:

Leilani wished to add new Logo under "New business."

Thank you cards:

Mrs. Bentz for Cross country.

Principals report:

Enrolment is at 436 with 19 Divisions. New staff member CEA Ms. Raaby.

FSA's will be finished next week.

Sports - thanks to Mrs. Bentz, Ms. Blacquiere and Mrs. Jorgenson organized the running group for Gr 3-7. Mr. Marchese is coaching the Tier 1 boys Volleyball team, Ms. Blacquiere is team sponsor for the girls Tier 2 team, Mrs. Poirier is the team sponsor for the Girls Tier 1 team. There are parents coaching the Tier 1 and 2 Girls teams.

Leadership- sponsored by Mr. Martin, Ms Blacquiere and Mrs. McCauley. Tomorrow is the first theme day - Throw Back Thursday - 1980s.

School Wide Behaviour Expectations - about 1/3 staff are working together to guide the school towards common language and expectations.

On Monday we received a report from a parent regarding her daughter being approached by a stranger. The incident was reported to our RCMP liason and the SBO. Once we were given the permission to notify parents we did. In situations such as this one, we have to follow district policy.

Upcoming;

October 20th - Provincial Pro D

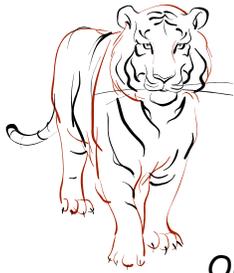
October 23rd -Edge Program for Grade 6

October 23rd - DEAR

October 25th - Retakes

October 26th - Early Closure - Parent/Teacher interviews. Online interview bookings available. Coralee will have paper for those parents who do not have internet.

Oct 31 - Halloween - Black and Orange Day



**PARENTS' ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE
DAVID THOMPSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

1051 Pine Springs Road, Kamloops, B.C. V2B 7W3

Phone: 579-9228

Fax: 579-8346

Oct 31 - Odd Div to YPC - All students will attend 2 concerts instead of 4 and the money saved will bring performers to the school.

Nov 10 - Remembrance Day Assembly 10:45

DPAC Report

An email had been forwarded prior to the meeting by Valerie regarding the following:

Substance Abuse Training for Parents Oct 19 and 20th at the Henry Grube Education Centre

Lions Quest Committee of SD73 Free World Café Style Public Forum Oct 21, at Henry Grube

Foodsafe Course October 27th.

Valerie attended the BCCPAC Aboriginal Parent Engagement Ad-Hoc Committee meeting which discussed concerns about lack of Aboriginal parent engagement with the schools. Valerie read the following statements:

"The AD-Hoc committee's purpose is to explore and draft recommendations to the board and increase Aboriginal Parent Engagement.

The end result will be drafting recommendations to bring to the board and upon approval the recommendations will go to the 2018 AGM as a resolution.

Member statements:

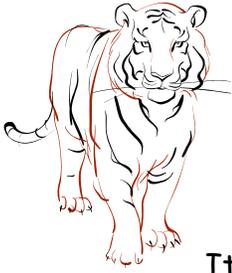
The intent of this committee is to gather information from each district for the purpose of increasing Aboriginal Parent Engagement province wide. We want to know specifically, what is working for each PAC/DPAC on their path to increase parental engagement and how they got their results. We also want feedback on what didn't work and why. Please share with us about your PAC/DPAC'S challenges and successes when it comes to Aboriginal Parent Engagement. If you have any other suggestions please forward them as well.

By gathering info from PAC/DPACs on how we can improve communication and engagement all levels from PAC/DPAC/BCCPAC we strengthen our community."

Valerie then asked for input and suggestions.

A discussion was held about perhaps asking the Aboriginal support worker for suggestions and input on the topic. A parent asked what are the barriers to Aboriginal parents attending school functions. The question was asked how can PAC have the parents feel more welcome? If PAC has a better understanding what the barriers are then PAC can reach out to those families. Valerie made the suggestion that the Aboriginal Education Principal could be invited to the school to educate the PAC.

A concern was made that perhaps the focus of PAC was too financially swayed and not humanitarian focused. Suggestion for more Parent information sessions.



**PARENTS' ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE
DAVID THOMPSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

1051 Pine Springs Road, Kamloops, B.C. V2B 7W3

Phone: 579-9228

Fax: 579-8346

It was commented that those sessions had been made in the past but not well attended.

Christine quoted the constitution that PAC's focus is not just financially focused and does encourage parent involvement.

The question was asked if we understand the issues underlying why Aboriginal Parent Engagement is low. It was asked how many Aboriginal students attend DT and there are 63, meaning approximately 20 families.

It was asked if there was a day for Aboriginals and there is Suwewtwecw Day. It was suggested that perhaps the Aboriginal support worker or Valerie could approach the Aboriginal families and find out more information from the families themselves and bring that information back to PAC for more understanding of the issue.

Valerie stated that there needs to be more humanitarian discussion at PAC and less on financial issues, and that Aboriginal families are reading the PAC minutes and the DPAC minutes of the meetings.

Valerie made the point that she has been trying to bring Aboriginal content over the past to the PAC meetings and it was expressed that her efforts were appreciated.

Halloween Dance

Family dance next Friday, information going home with students tomorrow by paper. Dance is on Facebook and on the DT website. 6 - 8 parent volunteers are requested. Found a DJ but might need \$100 more than budgeted for. Charging \$5 family admission. \$2 per piece of pizza and water for free, later a parent pointed out that should charge for water.

Pumpkin carving contest, with 3 prizes. Jump 360 for 4 including socks, Funfactory/Laser tag and Movie passes. These prizes were all purchased.

Ms. Linfitt will judge pumpkins at 7:15. Parents need to attend dance with their children. A sign up sheet for volunteers was passed around.

Budget

See attached from Leni

Leni presented the budget. Gaming was discussed first. 19 divisions usually budget for \$300 per class for use of busses for field trips etc.

Christine mentioned that she would like to purchase another year book camera approx. \$600.

Possible cost of swimming lessons was discussed an amount of \$2,000.

Gaming money cannot normally be used unless it is not part of the curriculum but was mentioned that if it is stated that swimming is not mandatory then Gaming money can be used.



**PARENTS' ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE
DAVID THOMPSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

1051 Pine Springs Road, Kamloops, B.C. V2B 7W3

Phone: 579-9228

Fax: 579-8346

Was mentioned that PAC pays for buses to skating.

Was mentioned that Gaming money needs to be used in 2 years.

It was mentioned that once something is in the budget it no longer needs to be approved in future meetings.

It was mentioned that a couple of teachers have already asked for funds for field trips but it they were answered with the suggestion to wait until they had used up their allotted \$300.

Looking at General budget, not sure which fundraisers at this date PAC will be participating in.

Other/miscellaneous is allotted for when teachers apply for funds to be approved.

A parent asked what is the school responsible to pay for and what is the PAC responsible to pay for.

Mr. Toews answered that School District is responsible for education of the students and PAC is responsible for extras ie playground equipment, or example Chrome books or special requests as such made by teachers.

Christine suggested that the money allocated to LAT be increased in the budget to \$400 and those extra monies be made available for the use of the Aboriginal Support worker for the goal of connecting with Aboriginal families regarding Aboriginal family engagement with the school as previously discussed.

Fundraisers in regards to the budget

School clothing not supposed to be a fundraiser, nor Yearbook.

Are we keeping all fundraisers? Fresh is Best will not be continued.

A suggestion was made that the PAC be presented with information on 1 or 2 fundraisers per meeting instead of all at once.

It was decided to stick with what is in the budget and add fundraisers as they came forward if they are presented to PAC. Leni mentioned that PAC is supposed to be non-profit.

Cakes/retirement up to \$500

Sports equipment needs to be replenished, decision to allocate money for that.

Valerie asked if possible to get an itemized list of what was purchased with the school's Grant that the school received regarding the teacher's contract. Another parent mentioned that there should be transparency.

License for hot lunch is \$400

Parent education program briefly discussed in regards to beginning discussion regarding Aboriginal Parental involvement, decided that it should be kept in the budget.

Juice boxes \$1,500 - a mention that this cost is actually down due to the generosity of SAVEON foods.



**PARENTS' ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE
DAVID THOMPSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

1051 Pine Springs Road, Kamloops, B.C. V2B 7W3

Phone: 579-9228

Fax: 579-8346

The Water fountain was mentioned. Christine motioned to purchase two water bottle filling stations. Asked if they flush out the lead, answered yes. They are \$1,500 each.

A discussion then was held about sinks being available in the classroom, and would the stations actually be used. It was mentioned that water bottle stations can be found in many places and people are becoming more used to using them.

Kristy brought up the fact that when Dallas Elementary school installed their water bottle filling station, that in the first month 2000 bottles were filled.

Asked if the funds could come out of Gaming.

Asked if still want money in the budget for juice boxes if PAC purchases water bottle filling stations.

A parent made the suggestion that instead of giving out juice boxes on the usual occasions, perhaps empty water bottles with DT logo could be given out instead.

This suggestion was positively received generally as a good idea.

Amount to purchase water bottle filling stations was placed into budget.

Christine motioned for budget to be accepted.

Krysty seconded motion.

No against or abstain.

All in favour, motion carried.

Krysty mentioned that she sold over 200 coupon books, which made approximately \$1,100

Next meeting to think about what we want to use money on.

Craft Fair

Need volunteers - baking table, raffle and advertising.

Was mentioned that last year one parent took care of the logistics of the bake table.

Signs for the fair are already made, they just have to put up.

There are no more tables available, the fair is sold out for Vendors.

Valeria asked if students who have done the baby sitters course could help out on the day.

Kristin will coordinate the bake sale table.

Yearbook

Christine mentioned that with 19 divisions year book is running out of pages and will need to increase the number of pages. This will increase the cost of yearbook, but at \$15 per book, it should still cover the costs. General consensus was that it would be fine to increase the number of pages.

Water bottle fill stations

Covered and approved in budget already.

New Business



**PARENTS' ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE
DAVID THOMPSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

1051 Pine Springs Road, Kamloops, B.C. V2B 7W3

Phone: 579-9228

Fax: 579-8346

Mr. Martin requesting funds for Smartboard. Mrs. Hansen moved hers out to the portable.

Another quick discussion about how much money is made available from District. The school received \$60,000 from District.

Christine motioned that \$1,200 be approved for Mr. Martin to purchase a Smartboard. Seconded by Leni. All in favour, motion carried.

New Logo

Leilani brought forward a proposal to change the school's logo. The logo would still be a Tiger. A parent of one of the students made the suggestion and is assisting with coming up with a new logo which will be brought to PAC when ready.

Jocelyn put forward a list of suggestions that have been emailed to her. It was suggested by Leni that those points be discussed at future meetings as it was getting late.

A parent brought up the fact that she has been made aware that there are some kids whose families are financially hindered in allowing their child to fully participate in some programs at the school. A discussion followed mostly centred on Hot Lunch, but also around skating, that being that a child may not have skates, or swimming as a child may not have a swimsuit or a towel.

Further discussions on how to assess need continued as it was mentioned that the Principal last year made efforts to find out which families were in need of extra financial assistance. Discussions were made about children being singled out if a token system were used. Also it was mentioned that sometimes families would do without so that their children were able to fully participate. It was recognized that it can be difficult to assess the need and the PAC do not want to decide which families should receive possible assistance.

Jocelyn put forward the idea of creating a "community support fund" of about \$500. It was questioned, however, who would administer this fund and what are the guidelines of possible fund.

Valerie mentioned that in a school in Calgary there was a bowl of fruit in each class room that any child could have as a possible idea.

Another parent asked about lunches that she has already paid for but will not be here in January, can those lunches be donated?

It was mentioned that perhaps on a regular basis perhaps 5 extra lunches can be ordered. A point was made that on the days of Farm to Table, the extra food that is available is given out to kids who want it.

A question was made about if there is a possibility to communicate extra skates that might be available for example in the school community and the point was



**PARENTS' ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE
DAVID THOMPSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

1051 Pine Springs Road, Kamloops, B.C. V2B 7W3

Phone: 579-9228

Fax: 579-8346

raised that there are many skates at the school and perhaps not everyone is aware of that fact because some kids still go skating and have no skates.

Kelly MacDonald put forward the motion to set aside \$500 for a "community support fund" second by Jen Edgecome.

Christine was opposed because there is no guidelines for those funds

Katrina abstained

Motion was carried.

This matter will be discussed in further meetings.

Valerie wished to put forward that PAC should make time for more humanitarian discussion and less discussion of finances.

Jocelyn asked if we should as Joe Small to come at a separate time other than regular PAC meeting as time is an issue for discussion.

Meeting closed at 8:30

Next PAC meeting Thursday November 16th 6:00pm.