

**Minutes GFSS PAC Meeting
Nov 6, 2007**

Attendance: Cindy Strukoff, Fara Enquist, Luba White, Tracey Boyd, Susan Lavallee, Cammy Dalamore, Wanda Konken, Yvonne Johnston, Scott Stewart, Louise Popoff, Carolyn Andrews, Teresa Rezansoff, Sandra Owens, Donna Scown, Terry Nuyten.

Special Presentation:

Angela Soukoreff from Grand Forks Credit Union explained the Community Builder Mortgage program, that can be used for fundraising. Effort to enroll is minimal: application form, mailer home to students to advise parents that we are now enrolled, then making letter of introduction readily available on PAC board.
Approved (all but one in favor) to enroll in program.

Minutes of the October 2nd Regular meeting - Approved (M/S FE/CS)

Treasurer's Report:

Cindy presented the Treasurer's Report, as follows:

Balance of accounts:	Gaming Account-	\$ 15,550.33
	Chequing Account -	\$ 1,776.80
	Plan 24 Account -	\$ 11,048.57
	Bond Buster 98 -	\$ 1,260.35

Cindy will research locked-in, higher interest-earning options and report at next meeting.

Correspondence:

Oct 29, 22007 reply from Shirley Bond (read aloud) regarding request for Mobile Trades Training received, thanking us for our interest and offering advice about partnering with local post secondary institutions.

Business Arising From the Minutes: None

New Business:

1. Copy of **trades survey** distributed and reviewed by all members. A few minor suggestions were made and will be made by Tracey, who will then email to Scott for distribution. Unanimously approved to distribute with changes made.
2. Yvonne raised interest in **ACE IT/SSA** possible grant money to institute funding for our schools to support trades training. Yvonne suggested that because we are a small district, perhaps working regionally may be more fruitful.
3. Donna expressed interest in having students transported to **career fairs** such as the large Kelowna career fair (aimed at all types of post secondary training) and the Trades Raves that occur annually within the Kootenays.
4. Tracey raised idea of having a central source for information about trades training occurring at other schools in the province. This occurs in other districts, with students billeted in other communities for training. Questions about whether extra funding would be attached to students entering such programs.

SPC + DPAC Report: None given

Board Report:

1. Board recently submitted accountability/achievement plan for the district, focused on improving literacy, numeracy and social responsibility. Next year, this document will be called an achievement contract and will be due in July.
2. Work has begun on a transitional literacy plan, district is now working with existing partners to develop a plan by Jul/08.
3. Had recent visit from Supt Achievement, Jackie Taylor, who will soon be replaced by Rod Allan. Conversation with current supt regarding facilitated literacy plan, healthy schools, aboriginal education, school fees, appeal process, achievement contract and “green” agenda (that will see schools required to have a neutral carbon footprint. Of particular note were discussions about the mid-year funding change, which will not affect SD51 due to funding protection currently in place.
4. Board is currently having budget meetings to determine how great an impact the future loss of funding protection will present. Current surplus has been set aside for future expenses. With local labour market issues, could potentially lose 25% of students.
5. Theresa responded to question from Yvonne on how Board feels re trades training. Theresa mentioned that the Board has been trying to work with Selkirk. However, a lack of heavy industry in our region will present difficulties. Options are currently being examined.

Principal's Report:

1. Newsletter recently distributed.
2. Cafeteria services have ended, due to lack of profit when junk food was prohibited from menu. No tender for this service, as considering operating a culinary arts program with students providing lunches.
3. Recent visit to Nelson to explore the culinary arts program. Considering operating cafeteria through student training program. Working with Fred Walker staff on this. LVR operates a program, but is proximate to Selkirk College for attending training. Rossland high school will also offer with a Nelson instructor traveling there twice a week.
4. Daily exercise (30 min) will become mandatory in Sept 08 for all grades. Not sure how this will be implemented, will find out if can be accomplished outside school hours.
5. Scott noted that the changes to the funding formula will have a direct impact. Awaiting clarification soon re specifics. For example, how would spares be viewed? What counts?
6. Recycling revamp underway through efforts of students, school staff, RDKB. New recycling centres are available wherever a garbage can is situated.
7. Student Advisory Council in conjunction with Scott have revised the Student Handbook and Code of Conduct. Now online.
8. Exterior camera policy. Fara has reviewed the survey from last year, and notes that 26/37 were in favour of exterior security cameras. Fara will attend the next DPAC meeting Nov 19th and explain to Michael that our PAC conducted a survey on Camera surveillance and that even though the responses were all over the map, in general the respondents were more receptive to exterior cameras set up in areas prone to violence.

9. Grad transition package is done. Three parts to package: link to adult life, volunteerism – 30 hours, physical activity log. This begins in grade 10 and culminates in an exit interview, much like a job interview. Grade 12s have already received copies, Grade 11s will soon, with Grade 10s covered in Planning 10.
10. Developing Trades Preparation 12 curriculum, outline distributed tonight. This course will start in Sept 08, duration is one semester. This course will give a broad base of exposure/training for those considering trades.
11. Noted that part of the difficulty in offering trades training in our school is a lack of Red Seal certified instructors (who also require teacher's certification).

Grad Report: PAC requires representative from Grad Committee, none present tonight.
Carry over to December agenda.

Adjournment: 8:30 pm

Next Meeting: December 4, 2007