

**Minutes GFSS PAC Meeting
Oct 2, 2007**

Attendance: Linda Caron, Paz Alguire, Cindy Stukoff, Fara Enquist, Luba White, Tracey Boyd, Kelly Fitzpatrick, Susan Lavallee, Cammy Dalamore, Wanda Konken, Yvonne Johnston, Scott Stewart, Robb Stevenson, Terry Nuyten.

Minutes of the June 5th Regular meeting - M/S KR/CS to approved as circulated.

Treasurer's Report: Cindy presented the Treasurer's Report, as follows:

Balance of accounts: Gaming Account-	\$ 16,001.05
Chequing Account -	\$ 1,776.50
Plan 24 Account -	\$ 11,048.57
Bond Buster 98 -	\$ 1,260.35

Correspondence:

Business Arising From the Minutes:

1. Gaming Funds Committee update.

The committee reported that all of the qualifying request were approved this year. Some requests could not be granted because they did not meet the criteria. The major items which were approved included soccer nets, grad gowns, scholarships, and sheet music for the band/jazz club. The proposed budget for 2006/07 was approved (M/S LW/TB) and is attached.

Scott noted that one of the items that had been approved was goalie equipment for the field hockey team. There is no field hockey team this year, so these funds will not be spent and could be reallocated.

Fred Walker has requested \$500 for a digital camera. This request was not submitted in time to be included in the budget, but there are sufficient funds to honour the request.

2. Trades Initiative.

In follow-up to the discussion at the June 07 meeting, Yvonne talked about the idea of a Mobile Trades van for the Kootenays. There are 2 such units operating in the province. Yvonne has drafted a letter to Shirley Bond requesting a unit for the Kootenays. Two different versions of the letter were submitted, which Fara will review before submitting 1 on behalf of PAC. Copies of both versions are included in the minutes binder.

There was a discussion about how this would work in terms of the school year, and how participating students would be able to meet their academic requirements needed for graduation. Scott said that he wasn't sure of the logistics, but that he didn't see any harm in sending the letter.

Scott reported that they had had an initial meeting with Community Futures, industry reps, parents etc last spring and that the school is currently working at building a curriculum for a Trades Transition Course, which will be implemented in Sept 2008. At the meeting there was a discussion about the need for an apprenticeship like situation for students, but the size of the community and limited opportunities in industry and at the college were limiting factors. In the end it was the feeling of both industry and the school that a Trades Transition course was doable and would be valuable. Tracey said that from the Community Futures point of view, it would be very beneficial for students to have some basic “pre-Trades” training, such as Basic First Aid and that it would be good if the school could help facilitate this as part of the Trades Transition course.

SPC Report: A meeting was held on Sept 25th, and the committee signed off on a copy of the School Growth plan, which outlines the schools’ goals and objectives for 2007/8.

The 4 goals are:

- To improve student achievement in the area of literacy
- To increase opportunities for students in non-academic areas
- To improve student social responsibility
- To improve student math skills

A copy of the Growth plan was provided and is included in the minutes binder.

SPC elections will be held at the AGM. Meetings will continue to be held after every 2nd PAC meeting.

DPAC Report: Luba provided a report on the Oct 1/07 DPAC meeting, a copy of which has been included in the minutes binder. Topics of discussion included the tobacco ban, the district literacy plan and accountability contracts. DPAC meeting dates have been set for 2007/8. This information will be posted on the district and school websites. The next meeting is set for Monday Nov 19th, 4 pm at the School Board Office.

Board Report: None given

Principal’s Report:

Scott reported that the first newsletter has been sent home. If parents are not on the email list, then they should call the school office to have their name added to the list. The school is trying an automated callout system, for attendance and for delivery of messages like Night Maze. This system seems to have improved attendance at Night Maze this year. Many parent-teacher interview were scheduled.

Funding has been made available from the district to implement a study support system called “Study Hall”. Study Hall is held at lunch time and gives students an opportunity to get homework done and to get help with their homework. Some teachers are referring students to Study Hall, if they feel extra help is needed. Food is available for those students who are coming to school hungry.

Because of new “junk food” restrictions in place, the school cafeteria is having difficulty turning a profit and the future of the cafeteria is in jeopardy. A chef training program through Fred Walker is being considered, to allow the cafeteria to continue.

Scott reported that the school is encouraging email as a method of contacting teachers and that many teachers have included their email information on course outlines. Terry noted that email was a time saver for teachers in passing out missed homework and assignments. Scott also reported that the school is implementing a consistent school-wide approach to grading. Teachers have been given grading standards guidelines. A copy of these guidelines has been included in the minutes binder.

The question of cameras being installed outside at the school was raised. The school is interested in outside video surveillance to help reduce the vandalism. Scott related a number of such incidents. The superintendent has requested parent input on this matter, and Scott asked PAC and to write a letter to the superintendent, expressing our thoughts on the matter. Fara agreed to review the completed camera surveys for consideration before the next PAC meeting.

Finally, the new graduation requirements were discussed. A copy of the Graduation Transition requirements was distributed. There will be a presentation at the school tomorrow evening for parents of students in Grades 10-12.

Grad Report: Scott reported that he met with the grads last week and that the date for this years’ grad has been set of June 7th 2008.

Adjournment: 8:15 pm

Next Meeting: November 6, 2007

AGM held following the regular meeting.

2007/08 Executive elected:

Chair: Fara Enquist
Secretary: Tracey Boyd
Treasurer: Cindy Strukoff
DPAC rep: Luba White
SPC: Kelly Fitzpatrick
Tracey Boyd
Yvonne Johnson