

DUNSMUIR MIDDLE SCHOOL P.A.C.
MINUTES OF MEETING
Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Present:

- ✓ Fern Smythe *President*
- ✓ Michelle Scoville, *Secretary*
- ✓ Marie Bell, *Communications*
- ✓ Paula Wilson, *SPEAC Rep*
- ✓ Darren Russell, *Principal*

- ✓ Pam Gerrits, *Vice –Principal*
- ✓ Andrea Millen, *Vice-Principal*
- ✓ Robert Bryan, *Teacher*
- ✓ May Crompton, *Staff Rep*
- ✓ Terry Broderick, *parent*

Absent: Michelle Alexander, Terry Ward

1. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 6:32pm.

2. Approval of January 24th, 2017 minutes

- The minutes of January 24th, were motioned to be approved by Paula Wilson. There as nobody able to second them (Fern & Michelle ineligible, and Marie wasn't in attendance) so tabled until April meeting for approval. **Motion Delayed**

3. Approval of February 28th, 2017 agenda

- The agenda was motioned to be approved by Paula Wilson. Seconded by Michelle Scoville. Motion passed.

4. Darren Russell introduced Robert Bryan.

- Robert entered teaching with 14 years of government planning and emergency preparedness behind him. He's worked with Poirier and Journey to help get them ready. His vision includes building and enhancing what is already in place. Incremental build up. He feels Dunsmuir has made leaps forward this year and credits Kate Coles and admin staff for outstanding support. Staff have also gotten behind the effort with 14 teachers showing up for EP committee.
- Robert reviewed policies for evacuations, fire drills, etc and dovetailed it to EP, again building on good work already in place. Critical that the plan be "readable, understandable, and implementable".
- All 26 divisional classrooms now have a 'grab and go' backpack on a hook near the door. In each pack is a class list including division specific sign out/emergency contact information and a copy of the EP plan.
- Another 20+ general rooms in the school (ie shops, band hall, foods, multi-purpose room etc) have grab and go packs containing the main body of the plan.
- The next step Robert would like to see is a first aid kit and emergency vest added to each backpack. He estimates Dunsmuir would need about 40 kits at a cost of \$25 each. Request

made to PAC to fund the purchase. PAC agrees this is a worthy expenditure. Motion made by Michelle Scoville to spend up to \$1,000 for first aid kits &/or vests for backpacks per Robert's recommendation. Seconded by Marie Bell. **Motion Carried.** *Treasurer absent so where funds will come from not decided. Appears to be ~\$850 not allocated in gaming and plenty to cover the expense in general. Left to Terry Ward to figure it out when she gets back.*

- A Family Emergency Preparedness Checklist will be sent home with students
- **Question posed:** *Does Dunsmuir have any supplies (food, water, shelter etc), for students if they are stuck at school for any significant length of time following an emergency or disaster?*
The short answer is no, just whatever is in the vending machines (if accessible).

5. Principal's Report, Darren Russell

- Carnaval de Dunsmuir to take place in the afternoon of March 2nd. Spearheaded by Sarah Baas and committee of 12 teachers. This is a whole school event. Classes will be mixed 6/7/8 within Dens and then rotate through approximately 30 stations promoting French Canadian culture and mimicking Carnaval held in Quebec City that Sarah took grade 8 students to last year. Lack of interest resulted in no trip this year. May try again next year (ie every second year). Activities will include snow shoe racing, sugar cube igloo building, dog sled races, snowball fights, ... and volunteers will prepare 800 crepes!
- Parent-Teacher interviews scheduled for April 12th. May try an open house format &/or student led conferences in addition to some traditional time slots. To be discussed at staff meeting next week. April 13th is a PD day.
- Report cards go out March 17. The new term starts on March 13th.
- Social media awareness and parenting in the digital age presentation taking place on Tuesday March 14th at Royal Bay by Scott Rothermel (district RCMP liaison). He's also talking to the grade 8's in small groups (2 classes at a time) on Monday 6th and Wednesday 8th during school. Focus will be on sexual consent, relationships, bullying, sexting, etc. further to the events that transpired in December.
- Transitions of grade 8's to Royal Bay is well under way. After spring break admin will focus on transition of incoming grade 6's. Will be visiting the elementary schools in DMS family. There will be an info session for current grade 5's and families on April 4th at 7pm at Dunsmuir. Academy briefings will start at 6:50pm. Soccer is full. Dance 8 has 23 currently registered. Dance 6 is currently very low (12) but information has been slow going out so expecting more.

6. Staff Report, May Crompton

- 2 classes went to GVPL for Black History Awareness month
- Grade 6's spent a week participating in First Nation's culture including presenters on drumming, pot-latch, story telling etc
- 130 grade 8 students signed up for day trip to Mount Washington to ski
- A dozen groups are participating in Heritage Fair
- Next week is "Dr. Seuss week" with different daily activities

7. Reports

a. Treasurer, Terry Ward (absent but emailed report: attached)

Account Balances:

General: \$8,215.41

Gaming: \$13,673.96

8. New Business

- none

9. SPEAC Report, Paula Wilson

Notes from SPEAC Meeting February 15, 2017 provided by Paula

Special Presentation by Kathleen King Hunt, Elder Roy Henry and Chief Russ Chips on the inclusion of aboriginal enhancement in the school program.

School presentation of what is happening at Ruth Kings.

Committee reports

- Education Standing- To be a focus at next meeting
- Emergency Preparation- there will be a meeting in the Belmont Learning Centre on Feb. 21, @ 7 PM
- Healthy Schools- There will be a parent Conference March 14, at Royal Bay on Social Media and Digital Citizenship. Discussion of how we are dealing with Fentanyl crisis. Plans are to give an information sheet to secondary parents on what to look for in reference to ODs. Discussion as to the need to give this to Middle School parents. There will not be Narcan kits in the school. Instead, staff are aware that the importance is to provide oxygen and airway support while waiting for Ambulance. Discussion about when to notify parents if this situation arises. It is felt that calling 911 was priority and then to notify parents.

Upcoming Events

- Vancouver Island Parent Conference is on February 25. Two people are attending from Dunsmuir on passes.
- SPEAC Summit: June 14, at Royal Bay

Trustee Report

- Waiting to see how the impact of the court decision will impact SD62. We will need more Portables.
- There was a meeting Feb 14, about safe pathways to school.

Superintendent Report

- There will be three assistant Superintendents after the third is hired. They will each be responsible for one of the three school families and have other responsibilities according to what they are interested in or have skills for. The District Principal was not replaced when that position became vacant.

CUPE

- Snow days were useful to clear schools. New Boilers at Ruth King and Journey.
- We have many Portables, so computer labs will be going
- The School Board Office has three times the staff that it was designed for.

Executive Report

- There are interviews for several different positions

New Business

- Topics PACs are interested in learning more about and discuss
 - - Wait time for facilities
 - - School Safety
 - -Parent Advocacy
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The PAC meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 25th, 2017 at 6:30pm