

Willows Parent Advisory Committee BCSD61

Executive Meeting Minutes Jan 11, 2017

Commencement 7:00 pm

Adjournment 8:45 pm

Executive in Attendance Bronwen Sharpe (Chair), Chelsea Wozniak (Secretary), Angela Jackson (Vice Chair), Dana Bell (Past Chair), Kim Kuran (pizza and lice check coordinator), Michelle Montgomery (pizza coordinator), Katie Shaw (kindergarten coordinator), Stephanie Novak (CPF representative), Lisa Rogers (VPAC representative).

Welcome Welcome to Executive from the chair.

Approval of today's agenda by Kim Kuran, seconded by Angela Jackson.

PAC Business:

Report from Dana Bell: Jennifer Gibson from Island Sexual Health is confirmed for our Feb 15 PAC meeting to speak about how parents can talk about sexual health with their children.

Report from Angela Jackson: Planning a Valentine's treat for teachers. Usually give kleenex, chocolate and a bow. Angela organizing.

Movie night was a success, well enjoyed by parents as well as children. Future plan to organize corridor seating for parents of very young children (who were found to be sitting enjoying themselves in the hall anyway). Sound system cut out the first night, not the second. One cord is held together with duct tape. Need to tape down all the cords and keep children away from the system and all the cords.

Blossom Tree Festival: Angela needs a date for the festival early so she can reserve food trucks. Add in a bouncy castle to help burn off energy. Look for treats that aren't food: pencils, erasers, tattoos, balloons, etc.

Report from Kim Kuran and Michelle Montgomery: Hot lunch program: Pizza is fine, new orders and changed orders constantly.

Lice Check program: Hoping to have some kits available for families that can't afford on their own. Some discussion and brainstorming about how to help kids get lice treatment when parents can't access. Brainstormed ways to prevent head lice in the school such as overcrowded school, multiple coats on one hook in the cloakroom. Worries that some kids are missing school on lice check day to avoid further stigma.

Report from Lisa Rogers: VCPAC update: From Nov 22 meeting: At Quadra Elementary, 12 schools attending, did not meet quorum. Regulation 1161(?): Discussion of giving permission for photographs, affects Yearbooks for High schools. Discussion of separating photos for online or distribution and yearbooks.

Committees are forming at the school district level. Student Registration and transfer committee has formed. Struggling with demand at certain high schools. 200 international students at Oak Bay High and Mount Douglas, schools at over 100% capacity, now no room for resident students. Advanced

placement for international students to high schools. School district is reviewing catchment and pathways.

Committee will review all pathways, both english and french. This parent committee provides a voice at the school district table, but the school district is not bound by this feedback.

Equity Committee: Some schools have more resources than others. "What is school equity?" discussion occurred. Another discussion was french immersion versus english student equity.

Parent at Quadra investigated disaster preparations and survival supplies. There were none, so she got the school organized and is now investigating the rest of the city and provide for schools. Is coordinating with municipalities and the school district and schools. They did a mock disaster and connected parents with their children. They learned a lot, and we may do a similar mock evacuation.

Report from Stephanie Novak: Two French movies for families coming up. Another French class for parents coming up.

Money and Budgets: Some more money goes to French students to help with increased cost of supplies and teaching materials as well as professional development as well as salary for french district coordinators. CPF wants to know, how is this money being spent? Money is given to the school and then that budget is not made public. Effort has been made to determine how the french budget is being spent, but the french district coordinator directs enquiries to the Principal, and the Principal directs enquiries to the French district coordinator. Money goes from Federal to provincial to district to school. No record of how much makes it to the school and how it is spent.

Can we approach Willows School Principal for more cultural activities for french students? Our librarian, computer instructor and our music program is in English. Ask for more French speakers, French cultural experiences, French books in the library.

Report from the PAC chair: PAC Contribution funds: \$11 000 (One thousand more than last year).

The next PAC meeting is Wednesday, January 18, 2017, 7 pm, School library