



AGENDA

Sept 13, 2012 – 7pm
District Resource Centre
6843 Central Saanich Road
Victoria BC V8Z 5V4

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Approval of the Agenda
- 3) Approval of the Minutes - attached
- 4) Reports from COPACS executive
 - a. President: Nancy Borden
 - b. Treasurer: Tom Nieman
 - c. Board Committee rep: James Taylor/Barb Schultz – see attached
- 5) Old Business
- 6) New Business
- 7) Motion to Adjourn



General Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2012 – 7:00 pm

District Resource Centre
6843 Central Saanich Road
Victoria BC V8Z 5V4

Attendees:

COPACS Executive: Nancy Borden, Cathy Fountas, Martine Lunke, Barb Schultz, Tom Niemann, James Taylor.

PAC Delegates and parents: Melissa Drolet, Mary-Anne Neal, Scarlet Yum, Jacqueline Peacock,

Board Office: Nancy McDonald.

Board of Education: Wayne Hunter, Tim Dunford, Jim Standen.

Saanich Teachers' Association: Sean Hayes

CUPE: Nathan Stevens

1) Welcome and Introductions

2) Approval of the agenda: 1) Cathy Fountas, 2) MaryAnn Neal. Approved

3) Approval of the minutes from the May 3, 2012 meeting: 1) Barb Schultz, 2) Cathy Fountas. Approved

4) Reports from the Education Partner Groups:

a) Board executive: Nancy McDonald.

Keven Elder sends his regrets.

Several administrators have been hired in the district. There are only a few schools without changes in their administrative teams this year. There are also many retirements, including Marlene Dergousoff, Heather Burkett and Kerry Wing. The Parklands grad already took place, the grads from the ALC, Sides, Stelly's and Claremont will take place next week. The School Plans are being submitted. There have been difficulties around the planning process because of the teachers job action. The Achievement Contract needs to go through School Board approval prior to being sent in to the Ministry of Education. It shows how well our students are doing. The contract now has a new format with a 3-year plan.

There are conversations going on about extracurricular activities for next year. It is hard to predict what the situation will be in September. SD63 is waiting for a ruling from the Labour Relations Board on what constitutes a teachers job and what is extracurricular. There are also complex issues to consider before allowing parents to step into the jobs traditionally done by teachers. The administration is concerned about creating a new normal where parents do the extracurricular activities. There are also issues around the qualifications of the volunteers doing the extracurricular activities: many of these jobs require knowledge, certificates, first aid training, etc. The administration can not be expected to do all these jobs. At the secondary level, there are more coaches from the community, and some teachers may decide to coach anyway. The situation is more problematic at the elementary and middle school levels. Each school will have to decide which activities they really want to keep and can continue to offer with the help at hand.

Nancy Borden reminded all the reps that COPACS wants feedback from every school about what activities parents really want to have next year, so that plans can be made and parents can help out, while remaining respectful of the teachers and their job action. COPACS does not want a situation to develop whereby some schools have lots of extracurricular activities and others do not.

b. Saanich Teachers Association President: Sean Hayes.

It is hard to predict what the situation will be next year. We are still waiting for the ruling from the LRB. Some teachers may decide not to offer their time for extracurricular activities even if the LRB says that it is part of their job. Many teachers would welcome parents stepping in so that the activities can continue for the students. The BCTF will have a

Representative Assembly on August 23. It is hoped that there will be an answer from the Government by then so that the BCTF can plan its response for September. Sean Hayes is still hopeful that a solution can be found over the summer. There are lots of retirements this year: 5 administrators, and about 20 teachers in all. The staffing process for next year is about two thirds done.

c. C.U.P.E.: Nathan Stevens:

CUPE is negotiating with SD63 about the two week Spring Break for next year, and is trying to maintain hours for all CUPE staff so as to minimize any negative impact. The length of the work days would have to be extended so that CUPE staff is still paid during the extra week of school closure.

Nancy McDonald specified that the 2-week spring break is not a done deal: SD63 is trying to get letters of understanding with both the BCTF and CUPE on this issue. A letter of understanding with CUPE is not required, but SD63 would still like to have one. The secondary schools would have to add some extra minutes to each day in the second semester to make up for the lost days of instructional time.

Cathy Fountas asked whether CUPE staff could step in to help supervise extracurricular activities. Nathan Stevens replied that CUPE members will not do anything that would affect the BCTF job action and undermine collective bargaining.

d. Board of Education Chair: Wayne Hunter.

There have been many events for retiring teachers, and it has been really nice to recognize their contributions. The School Board took the motions passed at the last COPACS meeting and presented them to the district executive. The Board is waiting for the ruling from the Labour Relations Board, and is trying to find solutions to the issues as they arise, hoping that a final solution might be found during the summer. The School Board is working on staffing for next year with the STA and CUPE. It could be difficult to find reasonably attractive solutions with the partners on the issue of the 2-week Spring Break.

Wayne Hunter will not pursue talks with the local recreation centres to put in place subsidies for families who can not afford the extra daycare costs during the extended Spring Break, as this was not supported by some Board members.

5) Reports from COPACS executive:

a. President Nancy Borden:

A general discussion was held on the impact of the teachers' withdrawal from extracurricular activities on the schools. Parents spoke of the impact on the students, especially on those who need the extra activities to keep them motivated to come to school, and also of the impact on the entire school communities, where relations between the different partners have in some instances become less harmonious. It was suggested that the PACs or COPACS take a more active political role requesting that both sides come to an agreement soon.

b. Treasurer-Tom Niemann

We have about \$5,000 in both accounts.

c. Board Committee reps: Barb Schultz and James Taylor.

Individual Education Plans: James Taylor has been having conversations with parents, administrators, etc, and has put together a working group that has produced a brochure to help guide parents whose child needs an Individual Education Plan. He distributed the brochure around for feedback. The feedback was very positive, on the idea of parents supporting other parents, and on the brochure itself. Please e-mail comments about the brochure to James Taylor.

COPACS could be more present as a resource for other parents and PACs. COPACS executive members could go to PAC meetings in the various schools, or alternatively, we could devote the first part of each COPACS meeting to a specific theme.

7) New Business:

The Deep Cove PAC would like to organize another forum about latest developments in the teachers job action, on Wednesday September 19 at 7pm at Deep Cove School. Sean Hayes, Keven Elder and some of the school trustees would be present to answer questions. All the parents from the district are invited to attend.

A motion was put forward by Melissa Drolet, seconded by James Taylor That COPACS spend up to \$100 for buying refreshments for the forum on the teachers job action to be held on September 19 at Deep Cove School.

The motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

Education Directions Committee Report

Sep 4, 2012

A. Presentations and Questions:

None (defer to October meeting)

B. Items for Discussion:

None (defer to October meeting)

C. Items for Recommendation:

1. BAA Courses: Claremont Pursuit of Excellence 10A, 10B, 12A, 12B

These courses will provide students more opportunities to explore their passions and individualize their program. Much of the time for these courses is outside of the regular block schedule and matches developmental level of students. (eg Gr 9 program contains study skills and Gr 10 has exam prep; development of public speaking skills through a progressive series of presentations). Students can achieve recognition in the Duke of Edinburgh program (which can continue until 24 years of age). There are 11 different pathways that the students can choose.

D. Items for Information:

None

E. Future Agenda Items:

Policy Development Committee Report

Sep 4, 2012

A. Presentations and Questions:

None

B. Items for Discussion:

None

C. Items for Recommendation:

1. The Committee recommends that revisions to Policy 1000 (Procedural Bylaw) be approved. There were no suggestions for change during the Notice of Motion period.

2. The Committee recommends that revisions to Policy 3070 (International Student Program) be approved. There were no suggestions for change during the Notice of Motion period.

3. The Committee recommends that revisions to Policy 6160 (Internet Safety and Digital Citizenship) be approved. This is a new policy that was developed.

D. Items for Information:

None

E. Future Agenda Items:

A policy work plan was provided for this year; both review of existing policies and development of new policies for the coming year. Many policies were carried forward from last year as a result of job action (and hence a lack of consultation).

Finance and Facilities Committee Report

Sep 4, 2012

A. Presentations and Questions:

1. 2011/12 Financial Statements and Audit Findings Report presented by Lenora Lee, KPMG

B. Items for Discussion:

1. Following the in camera session (with staff and trustees) a very brief overview was provided. Lenora indicated that the audit process had gone smoothly with no statistically significant data arising. Several recommendations have been made to SD63, and namely to review and strengthen policies. In some cases (eg International program) steps are already in place with this regard.

C. Items for Recommendation:

1. 2011-12 Financial Statements

Staff recommendation that the Board receive the 2011-12 Financial Statements and Audit Findings Report and approve the submission of the 2011-12 Audited Financial Statements and Audit Findings Report to the Ministry of Education.

2. Capital Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 126345-B (Playground Equipment)

Staff recommendation that the Board approve the Capital Project Amendment Bylaw 126345-B in the amount of \$146, 220 (Lochside playground).

D. Items for Information:

1. SD63 has increased revenue of \$1.3 million (mainly from International students); future discussions will take place regarding this one time revenue.