



AGENDA

April 4, 2013 – 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) Guest Speaker – Doug Mollard
ROMS Counsellor
Small Learning Communities – Blue Floor Green Floor
- 5) Reports from COPACS Executive
 - a. President: Nancy Borden
 - b. Board Committee Rep: James Taylor/Barb Schultz (reports attached)
 - c. Treasurer – Tom Nieman
- 6) Report from Board Office – Keven Elder
- 7) Reports from STA – Sean Hayes
- 8) Reports from CUPE – Dean Coates
- 9) Old Business
- 10) New Business
 - a. Move to AGM – see attached
- 11) Next Meeting – May 4, 2013 – 7pm
- 12) Motion to Adjourn



General Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2013 – 7:00 pm

District Resource Centre

6843 Central Saanich Road
Victoria BC V8Z 5V4

Attendees:

COPACS Executive: Barb Schultz, Cathy Fountas, Martine Lunke, Tom Niemann, James Taylor, Sarah Ommundsen, Heather Carley.

PAC delegates and parents: Stephen Clinton, Jennifer Langard.

Canadian Parents for French: Heather Van Campen.

Board of Education: Tim Dunford, Jim Standen, Barb Menzies.

CUPE: Dean Coates

STA: Sean Hayes

Guest: Areli Hermanson, RD, Saanich Health Unit

1) Welcome and introductions

2) Approval of the Agenda:

Addition of 1 laptop per child project. 1. Cathy Fountas, 2. Heather Carley. Agenda approved as amended.

3) Approval of the minutes from the February 7, 2013 meeting. 1. Tom Niemann,

2. Sarah Ommundsen. Motion approved.

4) Guest speaker: Areli Hermanson, RD,

Community Nutritionist with the Saanich Health Unit.

Community nutritionists are available to the school district as resource persons on all issues relating to nutrition. They provide resources to teachers relating to the curriculum and will make presentations at the tri-district pro-D day. They participate in initiatives such as the Healthy School Assessments, the Eat Well-Get Moving program and the Adolescent Health Survey. They can assist schools and PACs with grant applications for items such as fridges and food equipment. For more information, look at www.viha.ca, or e-mail Areli at areli.hermanson@viha.ca or Swati Scott at swati.scott@viha.ca.

5) Reports from CUPE: Dean Coates

The date for the next COPACS meeting coincides with the next strike vote day for CUPE. The blame for the lack of progress in the negotiations does not lay with the administration of the School District, but rather with the provincial government, who has interfered with the free bargaining process. Last year CUPE employees took a net zero increase and the average annual increase in the last 10 years has been just 0.7%, which is below the rate of inflation. A strike vote does not mean that a strike is imminent. Bargaining will continue. CUPE does not intend to go on strike in June so as not to interfere with graduation. On the plus side, the School Board has made schools safer for students and employees by removing chemicals from buildings and cleaning processes.

6) Reports from COPACS executive:

a. President: Barb Schultz and Cathy Fountas. Nancy Borden sends her regrets.

COPACS was part of the signing of the Threat Assessment Protocol, which was a great collaborative effort from all the school partners.

The COPACS survey of parents on the extra week of school closure generated over 250 responses, with 58% supporting the extended Spring Break/school closure and 42% opposed. Those families with child care concerns were more likely to oppose the school closure than those where a parent could stay home. Tim Dunford informed us that, after receiving the

feedback from the survey, the School Board decided at its meeting last night to pass the motion to have the extra week of school closure in the Spring of 2014, but with an amendment that there be constant monitoring of the educational, health and financial impacts of the extended Spring Break.

A motion was put forward that COPACS prepare a second survey after the Spring Break, to solicit feedback from the parents in SD63 about how they were affected. 1. Cathy Fountas, 2. James Taylor. Motion passed.

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

The complete reports were submitted and have been filed with the minutes.

Finances and Facilities:

- Deep Cove school is undergoing some seismic upgrading. The work will take place in stages to minimize disruptions, and some classes will be held in portables.
- The Provincial Government will release the final figures for the budget on March 15.

Educational Directions:

The educational directions meeting included a tour of the International Student Program facilities. It is a small but very busy office. A panel of International students from different schools was present.

c. Treasurer: Tom Niemann

The balance from both accounts is \$11,900. Existing commitments are \$3,000 for the VIPC conference and \$2,500 for toner and cartridges, and both of these items are likely to cost a lot less than what was budgeted, so we have money to spend.

Tom Niemann suggested COPACS could spend some money to help bring Diana Oxley from the University of Oregon to Saanich to work with schools and administration and parents. She is an expert in the field of re-organizing schools into small learning communities to improve the achievement and well-being of students. This idea was brought to his attention after a discussion with ROMS school councillor Doug Mullard. It was decided that an appropriate first step would be to have Doug Mullard come to a COPACS meeting to give us some more information. If COPACS decides to pursue the idea, then Jim Standen it would be appropriate to bring it to the attention to the Educational Directions committee.

Martine Lunke suggested that COPACS could offer leadership training sessions geared specifically to PAC executive members, to help them do their do their jobs more effectively. Topics could include training for treasurers, how to conduct effective meetings, conflict resolution and communication, rules governing the operations of non-profit associations (why do you need a budget, what should be in the constitution, etc), how to increase the number of volunteers, fundraising, and so on. The first thing to do would be to gather feedback from each PAC to see which topics are of most use to them. COPACS will send an e-mail to all PACs with some suggestions of topics to get some feedback.

d. Parent ed: Sarah Ommundsen

- The event with Darren Laur was a great success with about 85 parents attending. Some parents indicated that they would like to have this event annually, to keep up with the changing internet.
- There were about 20 parents attending the event on early literacy with Coleen Politano.
- Steve Newlove will do a presentation on Restorative Practices in schools on Tuesday April 23 at 7 pm at Bayside.

7) Report from the School Board: Jim Standen

The calendar for the 2013-2014 school year was approved at the School Board meeting yesterday, with an amendment that specifies that there be constant monitoring of the educational, health and financial impacts of a 2-week Spring Break.

The budget process is under way. There will be a school community meeting on the budget on April 3, from 3:30 to 5:30 at Bayside Middle School. There will be a broader evening session in late April-early May before the budget vote. The Budget Advisory Committee is preparing some options for the budget.

Kim Milburn, SD63's Director of Facilities, will be retiring soon. He will be missed and hard to replace.

Keven Elder will be working for BCPSEA on provincial negotiations on a part-time basis until the end of the school year. Finally, there is much good will between the different partners in the school district despite the ongoing labour negotiations. These negotiations are part of the regular bargaining process and do not affect the way the groups interact and work together.

8) Reports from the STA: Sean Hayes

The teachers are engaged in the bargaining process. There are not many meaty issues at the local bargaining table. He suspects that provincial bargaining will move slowly, until after the provincial elections on May 14.

Sean will be leaving his post of STA president to go back to teaching in the classroom. A new STA president will be elected at the STA AGM in May.

The BCTF would like to organize all-candidates meetings with COPACS ahead of the provincial election in May. The BCTF is non-partisan and is not aligned with any of the political parties.

9) Old Business-none

10) New Business:

Motion that COPACS co-host two non-partisan all-candidates meetings ahead of the provincial elections, in collaboration with the STA, and provide refreshments for up to \$500. 1. Barb Schultz, 2. Martine Lunke. Motion passed

One laptop per child initiative: The Belinda Stronach foundation is providing 3600 laptop computers for children in isolated communities across Canada. Schools or affiliated organizations can apply. Would COPACS like to apply to get laptops for aboriginal youths in SD63 and in the Tribal School? In the discussion that followed, it was determined that more information was needed prior to making the decision to endorse the proposal. In particular, it would be necessary to connect with the teachers of the First Nations school and community leaders to assess the need. Also, the existing sd63 policy on Wi-Fi in elementary schools would not allow internet use on the laptops in the schools, and the issue of internet access in the homes of the students would need to be assessed as well.

The COPACS AGM is next month. The current executive should communicate their intentions for next year. We also need to ask PACs to help recruit candidates for the COPACS executive.

The next meeting and AGM will be on Thursday April 4, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm



AGENDA

April 4, 2013 – 7pm

**District Resource Centre
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- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Approval of the Agenda
- 3) Approval of the Minutes - attached
- 4) Elections:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
 - e. Board Committee Representative
 - f. Communications Coordinator
 - g. Parent Education Coordinator
- 5) Old Business
- 6) New Business
- 7) Motion to Adjourn



Annual General Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2012 – 8:40 pm

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

Attendees:

Attendees:

COPACS Executive: Cathy Fountas, Nancy Borden, Martine Lunke, Barb Schultz, Stasia Hartley.

PAC Delegates and parents: Melissa Drolet, Steve Cooper, Tom Niemann, Heather Carley, Mary-Anne Neal, Scarlet Yum, Jacqueline Peacock.

The nominations and voting were chaired by Jacqueline Peacock

The following nominations were received:

President: Nancy Borden. Nomination accepted. Elected by acclamation.

Vice-President: no nominations- position remains vacant

Treasurer: Tom Niemann. Nomination accepted. Elected by acclamation.

Secretary: Martine Lunke. Nomination accepted. Elected by acclamation.

Board Committee Co- Representatives:

1) Barb Schultz. Nomination accepted. Elected by acclamation *.

2) James Taylor. Nomination accepted. Elected by acclamation.

Communications Director: Neil Frelick. Nomination accepted. Elected by acclamation.

First Nations Representative: no nominations- position remains vacant

Parent Education Director: no nominations- position remains vacant

All nominations were called three times.

All nominees were elected by acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.