

COPACS

General Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT**

DEC 6/12

1. Welcome & Introductions

Attendees:

COPACS – Nancy Borden, Barb Schultz, Cathy Fountas, Sarah Ommundsen, James Taylor, Tom Neimann
SD63 – Tim Dunford, Monica Schulte STA – Don Peterson, Marnie Scaife CUPE- Dean Coates
COPACS Reps- Maegan Thompson, Kim Currie (CPF), Amanda Hippolt

2. Special Presentation: 1000x5 Project Presentation – Daphne McNaughton (ADDED to Agenda)

- Daphne gave a presentation on 1000x 5 book project for young readers.
- Asked for help to promote this campaign at all school levels.
- The hardest books to find are for 0-2 yrs old and are in biggest demand.
- There are a lot of families who are struggling right now and can't get to libraries.
- Reading to children is less frequently part of the evening routine in busy families today.

3. Approval of Agenda & Minutes

Agenda 1st Maegan T and Barb Schultz

Minutes: **Corrections**

- change required to identify Steve Cooper as COPAC executive
- 2nd Motion: should read \$500 for Darren Laur 1st Tom N. 2nd James T Motion passed.

4. Reports from COPACS Executive

President: Nancy - School Board trustee appointments: Wayne H. is again chair and Jim S. is vice chair

Committee Reps: James & Barb - discussed Nov 6/12 Board Committee meetings.

Finance:

- Stelly's Boulder Gym - just costs of operating the gym for a special competition is being charged in one circumstance.
- School Budget Surpluses: eg 1% for Lochside and 29% for Prospect Lake....why so much ?
 - o Some of the surplus is earmarked amounts carried over for special purchase items and events
 - o 11 schools had over 10% surplus and were required to report details to the board.
- District considering joining Fortis in a heating agreement...i.e. selling boiler rooms contents in return for heating at fixed cost. Two other districts are in preliminary stage of agreement.
 - o Board has approved to review the opportunity to see how it would benefit savings and allow for maintenance of older infrastructure and exchange them for higher efficiency equipment.
 - o Lots of issues still being reviewed legally and logistically

Policy:

-1120 School Planning Council - due to Bill 22 the consultation with SPC regarding class size and composition is no longer required and the policy also needs to be amended to reflect the three year life cycle of school plans. Policy up for feedback in January.

Ed Directions:

- Committee of the Whole this past month.
- Lots of new projects eg) learning commons in secondary schools, Parklands Marine institute, Claremont project 10 : learning system across courses
- Positive feedback regarding committee of the whole approach to Ed Directions.

Treasurer: Tom

General Account : 4 531.84 approx

Gaming Account : 8 138.09 approx

Budget proposal: ~ \$12,600 in both accounts and suggest that we leave \$2000 in each by the end of the year and thus currently have \$4000 unallocated (General\$ 2400, Gaming \$1600).

- Suggested by Sarah O. that the executive and reps to work on a wish list of items or speakers to spend the \$4000 unallocated. To be added to January activities.

5. Reports from STA

Sean Hayes – Regrets

Don Peterson VP

- Quality Public Education flyer distributed to the group
- Also would like to work with COPACS to organize a couple of upcoming provincial candidates meeting in 2013

Marnie Scaife

- STA has 2 monthly focuses and this month it was on diversity and poverty
- FSA in February and the parents can go to BCTF webs to print out form to excuse child from FSA

6. Report from Board Office – Monica Schulte (Board Secretary/Treasurer)**Budget 2013-14 Process**

- Timeline of budget on 2013-14 & same process as last year :
- three budget advisory committee meetings Feb 12, March 26, April 16th for all partner groups
- two public meeting April 3rd at Bayside, April 24th Public consultation at Bayside
- because it is an election year, this time might be uncertain between the preliminary budget on May 1st and then election May 18th and final budget in June.
- use of contingency amount will be suggested again so that some funds are held off until September for prudent spending once the enrolment is finalized.

School Calendar 2013-14

- Public feedback opportunities will be in New Year after January board meeting.
- in light of the fact that this proposed calendar must be approved prior to the results of 2013's two week break to be analyzed, Cathy presented some research on median family earnings in Saanich from 2006 and the cost of living from BC govt website and found that an extra week off would likely be a serious financial burden to many families in our district .
- Maegan commented that an expectation of budget savings would be a prerequisite to validate an extra one week closure and also that Saanich district should find a way to support families in need. E.g./ Life program.
- Nancy requested that an accounting of responses that are sent to board should be made public and to COPACS eg) tally of for and against.

-What is the overall benefit to the district and our students if there is likely no cost savings realized and that the instructional time of one week is spread over months in inefficient few minute allocations.

7. Reports from CUPE- Dean Coates

- \$500 donation to GSA (Gay/Straight Alliance) at Claremont from CUPE and another \$500 from BC CUPE
- bargaining proposal provincially is having ups and downs and CUPE is not intending to settle for triple zeros this time.

8. Old Business

None

9. New Business:

January 2013

- create a committee for upcoming elections and all candidates meetings
-work together on wish list

Motion to dismiss: Barb and Amanda