

## Minutes

### **LEPAC General Meeting Lochside Elementary Advisory Counsel**

**Wednesday March 17<sup>th</sup> 2010**

#### **Attendees**

Alix Kibble, Marissa Day, Jennifer Wilson, Kathryn Watson, Don Mellings, Barb Lund, Shannon Husk, Deborah McLellan and Principal Don Mac Donald.

#### **Apologies**

Danielle Cooper, Carmen Welta and Angie Zemanek

#### **Welcome**

Everyone was welcomed by Alix and Marissa at 6.30

#### **Minutes**

The minutes from February were reviewed. It was suggested that the process of the draft minutes circulation be addressed. It was also suggested that the content be honest and generic. Those present were reminded that the agenda is being posted 2 days before the meeting and will be put on the school website as well as the new PAC website.

#### **General Business**

Website – The new Moodle website will improve communications. It will be regularly maintained by Jen and Alix to keep the information relevant and current. There will be forms, newsletter, minutes and agenda available for the parents. PAC will continue to keep a paper copy on the notice board and main office. The new email address will stay permanent. It was suggested that not all parents like to email staff or PACs. Don MacDonald expressed that if a parent was not comfortable emailing or contacting any member of the LEPAC Executive then they should contact him.

#### **Healthy Schools Coordinator Vote**

The motion was carried and passed and congratulations to the Healthy Schools Coordinator for their future votes.

#### **Executive Elections**

The newsletter had advertised for anyone interested for the 2010/2011 Executive to please approach the current executive for any further information regarding the available postings

## **Upcoming Events**

The response from teachers for help with the decorations for the 80's themed dance has been slow. Don has spoken to a couple of teachers regarding this and there have also been a donation of some lights to decorate the hall. Volunteers are helping with the baking of cupcakes for the games at the dance, with consideration to a nut free alternative. The gym will be available from 12.05 for the decorations and the organisation of the dance.

## **April General Meeting**

The April General meeting is to be changed to April 17<sup>th</sup> because of the District Budget meeting. We will advertise this on the website and newsletter.

## **COPACS REPORT**

1) COPACS Executive Nominations for AGM on April 1, 2010 Update – Joyce Wautier, Chair of COPACS Nominating Committee

2) **School Calendar Options:**

The current calendar is based on the Agrarian calendar. Different calendar models are being discussed 4-4-4 which provides for an even distribution of breaks and 6-2-2-2 model that looks at 6 weeks in Summer, 2 in the Fall, 2 in the Spring and 2 in the Winter.

The potential downfalls and benefits of these calendar options are outlined

Parent feedback is important. Please see the link for School Calendar

Options:

<http://www.sd63.bc.ca/resources/School%20Calendar%20Options%20feb2010.pdf>

3) **Optimal Learning Environments and Experiences:**

The government is committed to 'modernizing' education, "What does that mean?"

Big Thinkers that explore education options include:

Valerie Hannon: The Innovation Unit for Education

Michael Fullan: Special advisor to the Premier and Minister of Education in Ontario

Clayton Christenson: author of Disrupting Class and The Innovator's Prescription

Charles Leadbeater: the leading authority on Innovation and Creativity

Thomas Friedman: author of The World is Flat  
Tony Wagner: Co-director of the Change of Leadership Group at the  
Harvard Graduate school of Education

**4) Keynote Speaker - SD63 Superintendent and CEO Kevin Elder  
Provincial and District Budget Update:**

There is a 3 million shortfall rather than 3.7 million.

There is a net revenue loss of \$85,618

Detailed information of the Budget can be found at:

<http://www.sd63.bc.ca/resources/DeptFinance/2010-11%20Budget/2010-11%20Budget%20Backgrounder%20including%20Reduction%20Options%2005March2010.pdf>

The COPACS have their yearly elections coming up. They are taking nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

There have been discussions with regards to the 3.5 million deficit shortfall.  
Early Years conference

COPACS would like input from parents regarding possible changes to a new School calendar.

## **Reports**

LEPAC website the address is Lochsidepac.sd63.bc.ca is all now up and running.

Jerseys. Don relayed that he had great feedback from parents and staff with the look of new jerseys. Big Thank you to Debbie and the rest of the team for organising and designing the great new look of Lochside.

## **Principals Report**

### **School Successes**

Swim Meet Mar 3 – Don spoke to another Principal out of district who liked the idea of the non competitive nature of the schools getting together with the sports.

Basketball Jamboree – Great success and looking great with the new jerseys.

March 15<sup>th</sup> Planning Day – A great success. Not as many parent attended but this is thought to be many being away during Spring Break. Parents, teachers and EAs felt comfortable discussing issues. There will be a 3 year cycle in future school planning days

Artists in Residence – Big thank you to Nancy Alexander who helped students with their lovely pottery and there was over 1000 pieces made!

Technology

### **Information Items**

March 18 Grade5 Camp meeting 7-8pm

March 19 SPC 9 – 10am Looking at all the information and drafting a report.

March 19 Hot Lunch

March 19 – 26 rough draft report cards to Admin

March 22 – 25 Juv Diabetes Week Don has spoken to Carmen and Denise regarding the guest speakers. To help promote healthy foods, exercise and activities at lunch time.

Hopefully appearances from the UVIC Vikes and Grizzlies at Lochside.

March 24 Early dismissal 1.30

March 25 WITS with Primary classes with PC Jana Sawyer

March 26 SPC 8.50 – 10.00

March 26 Family Dance

March 29 – April 1 Report cards go home

March 30 Maturation talk for intermediates

April 1 Conflict resolution with Jana Sawyer

April 2 Good Friday

April 5 Easter Monday

April 9 Popcorn Day

April 9 Family Movie Night

### **Discussion Items**

Budget April 21.

Very important for parents to look at the proposed 3.5 million deficit. The board is now looking at the school level. The deficit will affect the school as a whole and the Board want to hear from the parents and public.

Organisation of Staffing for 2010-2011

This will begin in April. There will be a note in the newsletter of preference of placements for the parents. Still hoping to settle the children in on the first day in September.

Full Day Kindergarten

A very busy time for the organising of full time kindergarten. Lots of meetings with staff. The culture of the school will change with having smaller children around all day. The rest of the staff will need to know the structure and the demands of the kindergarten group.

The Chair recognized and thanked Don Mellings for putting us in contact with Mick Szirmay who worked so hard with us to complete both the banner and jersey project.

Approved April 17<sup>th</sup> 2010