

Frances Kelsey Secondary School Parent Advisory Council

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

In Attendance: Tanya Friese (President), Julie Vliet (Vice President), Krista Derksen (Treasurer), Jennifer Parkinson, Cindy Youden, Ann Perry-Smith, Erin Egeland, Jennifer Thom, Dorothy Littau, Myra Jean Marshall, Kristy LaChance, Melanie Brancato, Christine Heal (Secretary).

Non-voting: Jeff Rowan (Principal), Julie Faye Parker (Vice Principal), Brenda Wilson (former FKPAC President).

1. Call to order 7:07 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda: MOTION to adopt agenda as amended moved by Erin; seconded by Melanie. Carried.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes: MOTION to approve minutes from December 13, 2017 meeting moved by Jennifer P.; seconded by Julie V. Carried.

4. President's/Vice President's Report: none.

5. Secretary's Correspondence Report:

Mail received:

- Invoices and statements from Old Farm Market for fruit purchases
- cheques made out PAC from RC Legion for Dry Grad (\$500) and Girls Rugby (\$250): Krista will forward funds to them.

6. Treasurer's Report:

Deposited \$4,750 Duncan Dabber Bingo Society cheques

Balance \$34,177.19

\$19,478 available to spend, including for this year's bursaries

Fruit program has \$332 and we have an invoice for \$331, so needs more funds.

MOTION: FKPAC allocate \$500 to the fruit program. Moved by Krista; seconded by Kristy. Carried.

7. Vice Principal's and Principal's Reports:

Matt of **Surreal Presentations**, a non-profit group, put it on a Presentation for Gr. 9-12 girls. Entertaining multi-media show including a light show, smoke, etc. on self-awareness, standing up for yourself. Interactive interviews and then Q&A. Had received some local grants to pay for this presentation, but the girls who saw it said it should be offered again, to the boys this time. Two shows would be \$1,000.

Grade 8s are not included as mature content is better for older students and Gr. 8s receive similar info.

in other ways, but of course they could see future shows.

Parents are welcome to attend.

Suggestion that DPAC could pay for one evening performance if it were open to the public at no charge.

MOTION: FKPCAC contribute \$500 for Surreal Productions Boys' Empowerment performance. Moved by Jennifer P.; seconded by Krista. Carried.

Marilyn Sandford Community Path: acquisition of fitness equipment is on hold as provincial government may provide funding, and we will wait to see what equipment neighbouring Kerry Park is installing.

Gil Penalosa's 8 80 Cities: create cities that fit ages 8 and 80 and everyone else. Ties into the garden and trails around "concept of place." Kids work on the school grounds and get hands-on real-world experience.

Visited the **Malahat Band**, which is small but very important.
Starting a program to promote and teach the Hul'q'umi'num language.

Grade 9 inquiry pilot project: In April they will do an inquiry project on one of five Social Studies topics, combining Social Studies, English and Math. The students will need to do research and create a product (something tangible; not a poster). It will start earlier next year so students wouldn't have already completed those three courses.

Curriculum Support Day was on Mon., Jan. 15 (no school for students). All schools from our District were present together but later divided into elementary and secondary groups. Many things were discussed including what is in the new curriculum, planning for what skill sets students will need, "learning about learning," and how the competencies are being addressed.
For example, at FKSS, Math skills could be used to plan an irrigation system for the school garden.

Winter Activity Day: Thursday, Feb. 22. This year it will be school wide and not just Grades 8 & 9.

End of semester is January 26. Report cards issued the following Friday. Next semester starts Jan. 29.

Parent satisfaction survey link is on FKSS website.

School garden:

Jeff has contacted O.U.R. Ecovillage as a community resource. Hope to partner with the community or a Kerry Park Summer Program as students won't be in school to maintain and harvest from the garden during the summer. Would love to have a parent take on developing community contacts for the garden: please contact Julie Parker if you are interested.

At Bonner, over the summer, families volunteered to care for the school garden. Each family was assigned one day, and they had an online group so could network if someone couldn't make their day. Perhaps that could be an option for Kelsey's garden?

Naloxone training and kits:

At FKSS, 10 adults are trained to administer Naloxone. 6 kits in the school. Haven't had to use one yet. Daily Dose Society came in and spoke with kids about it through peer counselling.

8. DPAC Report – No report as there wasn't a December meeting.

New SD79 video, Learning Innovation in the Cowichan Valley: <http://sd79.bc.ca/district-videos>

Presentation by Secretary Treasurer Jason Sandquist on funding allotment in our district: January 18 6:30 p.m. before DPAC mtg.: all parents welcome.

9. Old Business:

9.1 Duncan Dabber Bingo Society :

Years ago DDBS ran a bingo hall, and any organisation – such as our PAC – that sent members to volunteer, automatically became a “member.” DDBS now runs the Chances Casino has been giving 50% of their share of the profits quarterly to those same member organisations. DDBS found out distributing funds that way was actually illegal, and so composed a motion to restructure.

Vote on changes to constitution and bylaws was Dec. 14; Christine attended and voted on behalf of FKPAC as directed. Motion to restructure passed, although two members voted against it.

Organisations will be allowed to have one **person** member to vote at meetings; organisations will no longer be members. DDBS funds will be available to any non-profit, charity or PAC in the Cowichan Valley; DDBS will have an application form and are currently deciding who will approve funding requests. Funds will be given out once a year. FKPAC will apply for funds in the future.

9.2 Next4FKSS

Erin Egeland and Jennifer Thom, founders of the Next4FKSS community group, presented a chronology of the group's work to date from January 2017 to present. They established a Facebook page and e-mail address for the group, had several meetings and received great feedback from those who attended. In conjunction with FKSS administrators and staff, a survey was developed and administered. Lots of rich data was compiled. The group would like to continue to work alongside and connection with FKPAC and with FKSS Administrators and increase networking.

MOTION: The Next4FKSS community group continue to represent the parental/wider community in the South End and work on behalf of the school to initiate and address key issues related to the educational programs for all learners at FKSS. The group will carry on working with FKSS staff, students, alongside and in connection with the FKSS PAC, as well as with members of the South End through ongoing collaboration and committees that invite the direct participation and contribution of all stakeholders. Moved by Erin; seconded by Jennifer T.

DISCUSSION:

- Amazing focus group, but should be part of PAC.
- Recognition from the President , other members of the FKPAC Executive, and members at large than the group's work has been valuable and has positively contributed to the School Learning Plan.
- According to the School Act, there legally can only be one official parent group.
- Name of group should be changed to reflect what the group does, rather than imply they want to make major changes to FKSS.
- Next4FKSS should be a PAC committee.
- We need the Next4FKSS group to be part of PAC if we are going to be effective. It's about the students, and it needs to be synthesized. The survey data has been presented to all staff, and now we need to act on it.

- The goal should be to build connections that result in increased engagement and positive outcomes for all the members of our FKSS community.
- Parent volunteers are always needed and it's wonderful when parents want to take on certain projects, such as networking with the community.
- There have been issues with the evolution of the group since it was composed of some parents who weren't current Kelsey parents/were parents of students in feeder schools, but it is great those parents want to advocate for their kids who will be coming to FKSS.
- The group was started by Erin Egeland (a past, present and future parent of FKSS students) and Jennifer Thom (a future parent of a FKSS student).

VOTE TABLED until next meeting.

Jennifer T. and Erin will e-mail their motion, and it will be forwarded to the PAC parents on our e-mail list for input into the wording of the motion.

9.3 Bursaries for 2018:

We usually allot about \$3,000 towards bursaries. Last year our PAC bursaries were \$300 each, but as that amount is very small compared to post-secondary expenses, it would likely be better to have fewer bursaries with higher amounts.

MOTION: FKPAC allocate \$3500 towards 2018 bursaries:

Marilyn Sandford Trades and Technology Bursary \$500; five \$500 PAC bursaries; and raise the Evan Carpenter Memorial bursary to \$500. Moved by Julie V.; seconded by Jennifer T. Carried.

10. New Business:

10.1 School Learning Plan – Julie Parker, Vice Principal

Julie gave an informative presentation. Lots of great info and ideas, such as:

What is changing with the new curriculum?

What do we want to keep/what do we love about Kelsey? e.g.: cross-age groups, student choice

What we want to see more of? e.g.: student responsibility/self-regulation, independent designed studies (IDS)

What we need "to create?" e.g.: collaborative learning, teachers learning tech skills

How do we improve environments so kids **seek** that area to do work? e.g.: noise reduction, small group tables, iPad trolley

Identify how we communicate with parents. How do we increase engagement with parents?

Some teachers like linear timetables, especially for subjects like Math, while the semester system usually allows for more choice for students.

We used to have to submit a School Learning Plan annually to the government. This is the first year to submit the plan to the District.

10.2 Vancouver Island Parent Conference

VIPC will be on Saturday, March 3, 2018, 8:30-4:30, at Royal Bay Secondary School in Victoria.

\$75 if registered by February 2. <http://vipc.ca>

MOTION: FKPAC pay for one parent to attend the VIPC. Moved by Krista; seconded by Ann. Carried.

10.3 New PAC web page on FKSS website: <http://fkss.sd79.bc.ca/family/parents/pac>

Alana Baker has kindly created a separate web page for PAC and has uploaded our minutes from the beginning of the school year.

11. Next meeting: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 7 p.m.

12. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. by Tanya.

Submitted by Christine Heal, FK PAC Secretary