

## **DTSS PAC Meeting Minutes**

**May 4, 2021 via Teams**

**Present:** Glen Sage, Heather English, Andrea Hopkins, Karen Nowicki, Nadine Hale, Colleen Booth, Jolene Aelick, Rob Orchiston, Katherine Jerabek(joined 7:30)

**Call to Order:** 7:05

**Approval of Agenda:** Moved: Jolene, Seconded: Colleen

**Approval of February minutes:** Moved: Andrea, Seconded: Jolene

### **Treasurer's Report: Jolene**

- Gaming account 9564.12 - after obligations
- Operating account \$2964.63 - no obligations
- Gaming Grant – Karen and Jolene are working on submitting this.

**Administration Report:** Presented by Glen and Heather

### **School Success Plan -Heather**

- Student Learning Survey has been extended to May 7<sup>th</sup>. Only 20% of parents have completed this survey. This survey is for parents with children in Gr 10 and Gr 12. Please complete it before this date. We did have very good student participation. We will use this info to develop our school success plan. Along with the District Write and other school-based activities and assessments.
- Service Delivery (a document with a purpose of working for the success of Aboriginal Students) has moved from being a separate document to being part of the school success plan. This has brought it to the main stage, giving it a higher profile. This indicates a commitment from the administrative team to equity. This is a very important for raising the profile for Aboriginal Education in the school. This will likely impact service delivery.
- Mentorship Program - In addition with regards to the success plan, the school has been working on a mentorship pilot program with willing participants from Gr 12. Good learning about what mentorship programs can look like. Also had a successful mentorship program for Gr 9 girls. In addition, one on one mentorship with Gr 12 students. There has been professional development on what mentorship can look like in the school. Also looking at a Peer Mentorship program (COVID resulted in holding off on this for this school year) – hoping to pilot a small peer mentor program next year. Hoping to expand with mixed grade grouping. Older students mentoring younger students. We plan to continue with the Gr 9 girls mentorship program as there is often a significant peer shuffle, creating a standard need for this group of students. Have started some informal conversations about a Gr 8 boys mentorship group. When COVID numbers were high, in person mentorship was put on hold. Instead, the students were asked to contribute in an engagement on what should Gr 5 kids and parents know about engaging online. Excellent, useful contributions from the perspective of the students were gathered. Planning to work at presenting this info to the Gr 5 group.

### **Glen**

- **Report cards** did go out on Monday 9 (a few days late). Sent out an email saying they will be available on the student portal. During course selection, the students had to change their passwords again, making it difficult for parent access at this time. Until we have a family portal set-up we are going to suspend the student portal, until this access is set up.

- **Timetable**- progressing on this, usually held off until summer. This year we hope to have them to the students for the end of May.
- **Staffing** -there is quite a bit of turnover of staff. We are also expanding next year. We have 5 postings out already: 1.0 Learning Services, 1.0 Library Career Ed English, 1.0 English, 1.0 PE, 1.0 Culinary Arts. This is the first wave of hiring. Will be conducting interviews later this week.
- **Lockdown**
  - This was our first lock down that was not pre-announced as a drill. We learned some things that we need to improve on. Working as a school and a district to address all of these shortcomings.
  - Follow up with the students – there are multiple students involved. We are following School Board Process together with the RCMP and School District Administration
  - Communication to parents is big part of the improvements needed. Strobe lights for students outside. There needs to be clearer direction for students outside, students in the hallways and students in the bathrooms. There are several other minor things that need improving. Behavior of students and response of students and staff was remarkable.
  - Within 25 minutes of the start of the lockdown it was resolved
  - **Thank you so much from PAC** for all that you did and have done. For keeping our kids safe and making sure the students have support.

#### **DPAC Report – Nadine**

- **Draft Strategic Plan** -DPAC invited to a presentation on the draft strategic plan. Currently the board and Sr leadership team have developed a draft Mission, Vision, Values and Priorities – they are now looking to stake holder groups to review this and provide clear areas of action under the Priorities. The DPAC then met together on two separate evenings to work together to provide thoughtful feedback. School PACS will be involved in this process further along in operationalizing the plan at the school level,
- **District Vice Principal Hiring** – DPAC continued to have questions about how this significant change in hiring and budget aligned with the strategic plan and where in the budget money is being pulled from to allow for this change. There was a decision made to write a letter to the Board requesting answers to our questions. We received a letter in response. We still have unanswered questions and are currently working a response letter.
- **Indigenous Advisory Council** – I attended as the DPAC rep. The purpose of the meeting was for the IAC to provide input into the draft strategic plan. There were contributions made by a wide variety of voices. I observed a sense of gratitude from the participants of having a forum in which they are being listened to and heard.
- **Nomination for DPAC representative** -Chenoa has stepped down from this role as she has taken the position as Education Coordinator for the Shuswap band. This leaves a vacancy. Andrea Nominated – Nadine to the position of DTSS DPAC rep. Nadine accepted the nomination. Motion: Karen Seconded: Jolene. All in favor.

#### **Old Business:**

- **Funding for lunch program** – Community Foundation – Glen should hear this week about a possible up to \$5000 of funding from the Community Foundation for the school food program. After confirmation of these funds, Glen will approach PAC for additional funds to cover this program. The June meeting will be sufficient timing to approve this. Glen will send an email when he has an update on funding.
- **Creative Competition** –has been cancelled for 2021.

- **BCTF parent presentation**- Apr 27 presentation on Social Media postponed due to lock down. Will choose a new date. Possible dates for rebooking are May 18, 25, June 8 or 15. Decision to go with May 18<sup>th</sup>. Andrea will email to confirm this once she consults the BCTF.

#### **New Business**

- Thinking ahead to recruiting additional PAC executive. We should be looking at recruiting parents to join us. We would like to grow our group a little bit.

#### **District Policies & Procedures**

- No new policies – fine tuning existing policies – nothing of noted significance for PAC

#### **Correspondence:**

- None

#### **Next Meeting**

- Tuesday June 1, 2021 Glen will send the invite out with enough time for people to set their calendars.

**Adjourned - 7:40**