

DTSS PAC Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2020 7:00PM

DTSS Aboriginal Education Room and via Teams

Call to Order: 7:05pm

Attendance:

In person- Monica Fisher, Glen Sage, Sarah Bourke, Karen Nowicki, Jolene Howse, Nadine Hale

Via Teams: Gerri Brightwell, Colleen Booth, Katie Andruschuk, Tammy Eccles, Rhiannon Tutty

Regrets: Andrea Hopkins, Chenoa Paccagnan

Approval of Agenda: Jolene motioned and Sarah Seconded

Approval of October minutes – Glen read the minutes - Sarah approved Jolene Seconded

Guest Speaker:

Weytk and Tawnshi (Hi in Shuswap/Secwép̓mectisnc and Michif), I am Cree Metis and born in Invermere second generation. My 4th year as the AbEd support worker. I work with Sasha Taylor. We want everyone of our kids to know who they are and to be proud of their heritage. We want them to know they are loved and that they have gifts to share with the world. We are in a way the Mom's of the school. We want our space to feel like a home, most of what we do is social emotional support. I work at both schools, DTSS and Open Doors. At Open Doors about 50% of the students have aboriginal ancestry. At DTSS about 20% of the students have aboriginal ancestry.

- **What we do:**

- Individual School and home connection
- Culture in the classroom – work with the teachers to make sure Indigenous content is worthy
- Attendance check every day
- In class academic support
- Nation relationship building
- Home work sessions
- Healthy snacks
- Ancestry projects
- Emotional support
- Advocacy
- Post-secondary info, campus visits and supports
- Report card checks
- Liaison KKCFS, Justice, RCMP, Parole, doctors etc
- Attend and support student's at appointments
- Assist in classroom with Indigenous education for the whole school
- Assist in curriculum development for Indigenous education for the whole school
- Choice of words is personal always ok to ask what terms a person is good with. First Nations, Metis, Inuit, Aboriginal, Indigenous, Indian etc.
- Ancestry – anyone with any ancestry associated with Aboriginal ancestry in Canada.
- Monica noted that since she herself was in high school that Pride is increasing and that is hopeful and great
- Monica noted that she is also the president of the Columbia Valley Metis Association – if you have any questions on this you can email me.
- We hope that PAC can be a part of helping to spread languages and learn greetings.
- During COVID – we did not get see their eyes every day. Our most vulnerable students do not have wifi. In some of these homes education is not a priority instead safety and food concerns are. Gaps expanded. Our vulnerable kids in particular were doing fine during COVID. It was our 'normal' kids that did not have the same skills for dealing with adversity. The vulnerable kids had resiliency. We went to all of our student's homes and were able to make connections with families and homes. We made every student a dream catcher.

We made good connections and will likely have more engagement with families after covid is over. We now have insights into our student's homes.

- Monica mentioned that it is exciting that we are in this time of truth and reconciliation.

Treasurers Report -Jolene Howse

- We did receive or 2020/2021 gaming grant for \$8600 – Gaming account balance is \$16,385.51 minus outstanding obligations for two \$500 bursaries from the 2020 Grad
- Operating account balance is \$2964.63
- Motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented– Sarah , Seconded – Karen

Principals Report _ Glen Sage

- DTSS's success plan is on the SD website. We were asked to identify any gaps from the suspension of in school learning last spring and what our plan is for addressing this Last year'ss Gr 11's were the ones that found it most challenging to engage in their learning during this time. They are a group that we have all eyes on this year. Our success plan is based on this. There 26 students at DTSS and 12 at students at Open Doors that we are directly supporting with this plan.
- Parent Teacher interviews on Nov 12th by phone.
- The end of the firs term is Nov 13th
- Report cards to be sent out Nov 26th, this may be delayed a bit until later in the same week.
- Field Trips – have the go ahead to do some field trips. There is a lot of restrictions on them. Nothing outside of our bussing zone. Ratings are based how many of the public will be at the event. For example an arena low risk, ski hill higher risk. There is also a scale for how the valley is doing. Every week the BCCDC reports for the East Kootenays, Once a month for the Windermere zone
- Traffic flow – 2 Mondays ago we changed the traffic flow for the school. The bell at the end of the class is staggered every 30 seconds. This is going quite well. Lockers are going well now too.
- We have the go ahead to practice for sports. Jr Gr 8 and 9 cannot mix Sr Gr 11 and 12 cannot mix. Basketball season will begin in January. Sports practicing must be cohorted by Grade. One grade only – can have boys and girls of the same grade at the same time.
- The school will have some cloths masks available for students. The school will track the handing out of these masks to make sure students are being responsible with them and not being handed out masks again and again.

DPAC report – Nadine Hale

- DPAC met with the new SD admin team last week. Topics included:
 - report for Steve Jackson on school cleaning and sanitation- new fogging system,
 - school bus safety with the Trans Canada traffic soon to be travelling Radium to Golden – DPAC will be distributing bumper stickers to each school accompanied by safety pamphlets on stopping for school buses.
 - DPAC representatives attended the district wide Equity in Action intake – This is the first step in a process of engagement that is about closing the achievement gap between Indigenous and Non- Indigenous learners. As DPAC it is an honor to be invited to be part of this process of listening and working to build a more equitable future together. One of DTSS's students – Devin opened the day by saying the Secwepemc Prayer for us.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- **Funding Applications-**
 - Writing 12 class anthology \$200 – all in favor - approved
 - Residential School Canoe Commemoration Project -all in favor – approved
 - Work Out Club -gym passes for students up to \$250.00 – all in favor – approved
 - library Reading Challenge Prizes - \$500 – all in favor – approved

- Reach Art Show expenses \$350 -all in favor-approved
- Outdoor Basketball court upgrade – request a presentation to learn more about this
- Online photography club 2 dslr cameras– request a presentation to learn more about this
- Art Club 2 digital drawing tablets and clay \$1500 - request a presentation to learn more about this
- Creative Competition \$2100 for prizes – need to discuss further about cash prizes/gift cards and how this works with the gaming grant.

District Policies & Procedures:

- None

Correspondence:

- None

Next Meeting – Tuesday, December 1, 2020

Adjourned: 8:45pm

DRAFT