



LIS Parent Advisory Council

Agenda

September 17th, 2020, 6:30 pm via Zoom videoconference

In attendance: Lori Stocco, Michelle Hiebert, Jackie McKenna, A'Liza Monette, Stephanie Higginson, Dionte Jelks, Erin Marshall, Marcy Drinkwater, Monica Birch, Bev Boese, Angie Haslam

1. Call Meeting to Order at 6:33 p.m. /Welcome/Introductions – Michelle Hiebert, PAC Chair

2. Accept and Approve the Agenda – call for additions.

First: Angie Second: A'Liza

3. Accept and Approve the Minutes - May 28, 2020, Zoom Meeting

First: Jackie Second: A'Liza

4. Principal's Report – Dionte' Jelks

Great but hectic few weeks of getting school going. Fantastic staff, everyone pulled together.

Elementary schedule, website and past few months bell schedule changed to 8:40 to 2:26.

No more early dismissals on Monday. Consistent dismissal time. 1450 weekly minutes.

Long recess 11:45 to 12:26, 10:15 to 10:30 is short recess. PLCs have been incorporated into weekly minutes, planning to meet on Mondays.

Divisions:

1 - Grade 4 - Ms. Pam Ellis and Mr. Peter Bown.

2 - Grade 4 - Mr. Donald

3 - Grade 4/5 - Ms. Greenwood

4 - Grade 5 - Ms. Cavers

5 - Grade 5 - Rogers

6 - Grade 5/6 Graydon

7 - Grade 6 - Mr. Vincent

8 - Grade 6/7 - Dan Bown

9 - Grade 6/7 - Ms. Teneycke

10 - Grade 7 - Mr. Middleton

11 - Grade 7 - Mr. Wells

Lauren Aebig, Counselor will be working on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Josh social worker full time

New EA Brandi Hornett and three returning EAs.

Library position open - to interview two candidates on 24th. .320 1.5 days

Student class compositions, 264 students at LIS, 13 students transition program, 3 home school. Loss of enrollment loss division. Classrooms balanced and equitable.

Last year designated focus school, not this year, lose literacy coordinator. Funding 10,000 one time. Plan together to see which direction for school wide literacy program. Reading Mastery program. Last staff meeting May Reading Mastery in 4 and 5. continue on with literacy programs with Grade 6 and 7. With COVID see more ways to support teachers, using video coaching. Teachers will record four- or five-minute video clip, share with Dionte for support and advice. Permission slips will be sent home for video coaching.

Staff felt students coming back to school would have additional emotional needs. Mr. Jelks put in extra time to understand what it means to be compassionate school. Everybody is having a tough time. Want to be able to respond to whole students' needs, guidance counselor, principal, remove barriers/judgment to support. Will be looking at next PLC.

Celebrations will take place on Teams, will recognize one to two students every week for the whole month of September. This month focus on compassion.

Cashless - collecting money for fees or fundraisers-- online. Forms also digitized. Daily consult letter, student consent, volunteering in the schools. Technology internet form. Walk/run field trip within community extended to 4 km. Any documents digitized and uploaded.

Communication coming out tomorrow for cashless and digitized forms.

LIS effort structure. Water, quality of water in the school - getting new water filler with filter. Should arrive in a week or so. Happy moment for us. Have been waiting for four or five years.

Capital inspected heating and ventilation. Next year improving heating and ventilation systems for LIS.

Health and Safety meeting, Mr. Vincent and Mr. Donald will do a walkthrough to discuss issues with the building. Poor circulation on 3rd and 2nd floor. Smoke had windows closed throughout the building. Prepare a contingency plan for how to manage a similar situation in future to ensure staff and students are safe.

Question: If there is any plans in place if kids have to self-isolate at home? Any plans teacher has things ready.

If student has to go home, request homework or assignments. Teachers are going to do their own thing.

Q: Talk about working with teachers and training on computer programs. Is that in preparation if we go back to distance. Do teachers have plans for if things get better or worse?

Will revert back to Microsoft Teams if necessary. Dionte optimistic the District has put great protocols in place and that kids will stay in school. Kids are doing well following arrows and cone for restroom.

Stephanie Higginson says distance learning, stage 3 has kids in 50 percent, so kids coming in half time. Would be more bringing work home to complete at home. Stage 4, just ESW kids like in the shutdown stage. Even Stage 3 isn't necessity to be online learning. Half time in class so continuity of learning.

Q: New parent to school, what is the communication between parents and families?

Multiple platforms. Google classroom, email, fresh grade. Depends which class. Lots of email from principal to keep in the loop.

Q. Masks. Teachers have their PPEs, back order for students masks. Still waiting for those to be delivered. Expectation staff wear in hallway and when can't social distance. Also if an adult is in a different classroom not part of their cohort. Will have to sign a log tracing if entering a class not part of a cohort. Elementary students not required to masks. Fire drills, students wearing masks for fire drills. Techers 10-minute notice. Fire drill, going to happen. Review make sure students have masks on for evacuation.

Q. Ms. Teneychke's class, three different subs so far. Is she off?

Expect her to come back this year. Right now no information, but the understanding is she will be back. Parent comment would be nice to have stability in the class.

Q: Protocol, anyone been sent home from school sick yet, having children picked up?

Nobody sent home yet.

Q: When kids are sick, I thought they had to stay in sick room?

Have two sick rooms. Have sick room and second is old computer lab. Just in case anything comes up.

Q: If adult has decided a student has COVID symptoms, what is the protocol?

List of questions will be asked to determine next steps.

Q: Daughter sent home sick yesterday. Because she was feeling ill because of menstrual issues, because feeling ill and needed to leave classroom. Was told you should if you want to go home, go home, but go through the COVID protocol. Took her home. She was isolated. Phoned the nurse's line, with just gastrointestinal, one symptom, wait 24 hours to see if fever. No fever, she can join the school again and it's all good. All knew what it was, but just uneasy enough with school err on side of caution. Very streamlined and instruction and very clear. Going back to school tomorrow.

Parent comment, CDC has changed the requirements for having to isolate in the last week.

Stephanie Higginson: Constantly updating. I'm a planner. Have to get comfortable that they will change. Not because don't know, have learned more. A lot of things have been taken off kids' question list because not common in children. They have learned more is why lists are changing.

COVID parent checklist can be done at home. Dionte will send.

5. School Trustee - Stephanie Higginson available to answer School Board related questions

Thank you, Mr. Jelks, for everything. Working hard. Thank you for working to keep the kids safe, and thanks to parents for having faith in the system to send kids back. Hopefully people are feeling okay. Rest assured that health and safety are working hard to keep staff and students safe.

All discussions have been around COVID all the time at the Board.

Long-range facilities planning back up and running. Did a questionnaire instead of community meeting last spring due to COVID. Stephanie Higginson did suggest Ladysmith gets special attention. A lot of unique factors. Rest assured we do have an advocate at the table in Stephanie Higginson.

President of school trustees, right in it with the COVID. How many sinks in classrooms instead of moving learning forward. Not a COVID question SH can't answer. Any questions what's happening she is happy to answer. Media appetite is insatiable, a lot of misinformation in the media. Hard to separate what's happening in the US, versus BC, and again versus what's happening on the Island. Zero community transmission here. Safer than Denmark, New Zealand. 0.3 percent test positive rate.

Parent: Thanks for being in the corner of the school and seeing capital projects go through. Water, air, seismic and all kinds of stuff. Either through COVID or money funneled specifically to the school. Hard to know what the plan is having three schools in Ladysmith instead of two. Kids deserve clean air, water.

Funding model review for designated kids, a lot of things didn't happen. Funding for designated kids stayed the same. Take a step back and look at policy, neurodiverse students and learning diversity and let the funding model follow that policy. One other hurdle, having funding that doesn't require a bunch of hurdles for students and families to go through to get support. Class composition, another 47 rounds of bargaining to fix. Never got touched, reinstated back to language in 1993. Tricky because have come further - how to designate, should we be designating. Funding model still relies on students getting designated. Still support students without designations, just don't get extra money for it.

Dionte - still provide student support plans for those teachers. SVT social worker, student support worker, come up with a plan to support that student.

Q: How many students getting tested by District psychologists?

Depends, sometimes one, two, zero.

Q: How many on the list to be tested currently?

Zero.

Q: Is that a good thing?

How do we choose? We do whatever need to do to support the kids.

Stephanie Higginson, You can trace what districts have retired child psychologists, have lots of claimed kids. An equity issue that needs to be addressed.

Q: Even when there is funding in place, feels like the supports are never enough. Would a change in the policy help with that? What kind of policy changes were you speaking to, Stephanie?

Policy changes around what is student support, how should we. Have come from giving a student a label that they carry around with them. Exists from a time of a pull out model separating kids. How to catch up to having every kid in the classroom. Some students do

need to have that professional assessment done because specific needs, do we have enough literacy coordinators, et cetera.

\$250 million just getting kids assessed and getting all those designations.

Q: How many classes are in remedy?

Three in 7 and four in Grade 4. Each class that are in remedy are one over.

Q: What does remedy mean?

Means over the amount of assigned designated kids. So many with G or D designation.

Two designations per class allowed.

Collective agreements are different everywhere. In our district hard caps, others are different.

Q: Four EAs, is that enough?

Should know hopefully by today or tomorrow another EA for this year. Dionte has been a thorn in their side advocating for more support. Want to have EAs focusing on one to two cohorts. With the funding model, look at all the schools see where placement is needed.

6. Teachers' Report

No teachers report today.

7. Treasurer Report – Jacqueline McKenna

Pretty much a lot the same. Gaming stuff first. Balance 4,723.54. We submitted our year-end gaming report. Confirmed they received it. Deadline this year October 31st. Last year received 5,900 for grant. Didn't really mention there was going to be a lot of cutbacks.

General account 32,369. Nice contribution from the healthcare auxiliary just before everything shut down. Healthcare was for something specific - exact amount is 7,893. Did discuss what it was designated for - meal program \$1,500 swimming \$2,900, classroom equipment for special needs \$3,493.

Concession and hot lunch, not what the years before, estimated 3,000, ended up 2,093.

Hot lunch estimated 1,000 and made 1,100.

Everything at a standstill as of March.

Angie/ Lori

Old Business

New Business

1. Discussion of roles needing to be filled and elections of Executive

Chair.

Past Chair

Vice Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

DPAC Representative

For a PAC to continue we must have a PAC Chair and a Treasurer. If no active PAC, money in PAC account gets distributed amongst other schools in the District.

We have a lot of money in the bank. That is a lot of money to give away. The Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary all wish to step down from their roles, but would still participate and help the PAC.

Jackie, Treasurer; Michelle, Chair; and Lori, Secretary would hold positions in order to keep and be able to spend the money this year, but would not be fundraising for next year. This year's money was raised last year. Next year's money would need to be raised this year.

Dionte - can send information out to parents that the PAC needs people to fill the Executive positions.

Marcy: Motion to put forward AGM to October to seek people to fill positions. Monica second. All in favour.

Budget? In a couple of weeks will be able to figure out.

Next meeting February 1st, 2020.

Adjourned 7:41