

Kwalikum Secondary School Parent Advisory Council General Meeting

October 03, 2023

Call to order at 7:00

In Attendance Administration : Lori Marshall (Principal), Jennifer Nichols (Vice Principal), Jennifer Lunny (Vice Principal)

PAC members in Attendance: Shannon Cowan, Fern Foster, Lorna Gray, Stacey Mrack, Kat Pummell, Lisa Haupt, Shawna Goodfellow, Kathleen Primeau, Wendy Chambers, Ray Woroniak, Paula Elgood, Mike McMillen, Anne Skipsey.

Review of Agenda and Approval. Approval of agenda. Shannon motions, Kat will 2nd. All in favour, Carried.

Approval of September meeting minutes, Shannon reviewed the minutes, Jen M. motions to adopt minutes. Paula 2nd. All in favour. CARRIED.

GUEST SPEAKER: Ray Woroniak, Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Roundtable

Mt. Arrowsmith Biosphere region has been recognized by UNESCO. The region has a round table of community leaders who can elect community reps. Purpose is help achieve UN SDG (sustainable development goals). To maintain biosphere status, they need to show they are taking steps to achieve the SDG. They are doing the Brant Festival Biosphere Awareness Day and Brant Festival. The healing forest here at KSS would help achieve the goals of SDG's and he suggested KSS applies for a grant. The round table is currently missing a youth representative and looking for a student to join. Grant money is also available for a student project. Application is on the website from last year, but Ray will share once updated.

SCHOOL REPORT: Lori Marshall, KSS Principal

- It was a busy start to the year trying to create a culture of fun. Used Wednesdays to do fun activities to build team spirit.
- Whole school assembly, Tour De Rock Cops for Cancer, we raised \$10,500. Leadership did a bottle drive for this cause.
- The first school dance was successful and a fundraiser for Tour de Rock that raised over \$700.
- Friday observed Truth and Reconciliation. Jenn Lunny and Dallas Phillip created lessons to look at the importance of land acknowledgment and personal connections to the area.
- Your child's teachers should be reaching out to show where your child is at. Oct 17-18 is parent teacher night 5:30-8 and 3:30-6 online sign up opens October 10.
- Classes are settled, now going in to do class reviews on each class. Making sure support is accurate and appropriate for each class.

- This year's gym riot will take place Thursday, Oct 19. It's a fun activity run by Leadership to build community connections. Brand new gym floor was put in the summer, everyone must have non-marking sole shoes.
- Oct 26th School District holding parent info session at Ballenas 6:30-8pm in auditorium. Different community members will be there. Listening to what is happening in the community. More info will be coming.
- Pro D Day on Oct 20th. Halloween, dress up contest that week.
- KSS school newsletter sign up: you need to go to the website to sign up for a monthly newsletter. Goal is to improve connections to family and to feel comfortable who to connect to.
- KSS, PASS, and BALLENAS will receive food infrastructure funding. Currently the kitchen that is here at KSS does not have appliances that are restaurant or food safe. Looking to upgrade to industrial kitchen appliances. Next year the hope is to have a proper working kitchen and have a food programme. KSS will charge a nominal fee for kids who want to buy but should feed those who need it.
- The Ministry of Education will also be providing \$ for food this year. KSS will offer 3 lunches a week. Currently KSS provides snacks, granola bars, fruit and veggies. Tues/Wed/Fri bagged lunches will soon be available. Breakfast also available 3 days a week, with volunteers from Baptist church to make bagels and fruit. Backpack program is also here at the school. Lynda Burton runs it; kids see her if they need food. Next year, we might need more volunteers.
- Welcomed food trucks a few years ago, but foods are expensive out of food truck. In BC, cafeterias only in high schools over 1000 kids. Neither of the high schools in our district have them. Portable option was brought up, but not likely.
- Outdoor basketball courts: they are wrecked and cannot be redone because of tree roots in the area. Talk of outdoor classroom perhaps from operations and maintenance discussions but haven't had a plan. There will not be a track here at KSS. The track at Ballenas is going to be the only one in the district, as it would be hundreds of thousands of dollars. Question: What can parents do to encourage the School District to get a new outdoor basketball court?
- Right now, the school is looking at repurposing the area through grants. An outdoor classroom is the next focus after that. Basketball court, parents would have to approach the Peter Jory or Gillian Wilson.

CHAIR REPORT: Shannon Cowan

Shannon noted the following items came to PAC via email:

- BCCPAC: There's a DPAC leadership summit in November (topic is Equity, Diversity & Inclusion); Tracy Humphreys is the new Executive Director of BCCPAC, effective October 1st.
- The Board of Education is considering disposition of French Creek School lands and seeking public input on or before November 30. Written comments can be mailed or dropped off to board office or emailed to Ron Amos ramos@sd69.bc.ca.

- The Town of Qualicum is conducting its Age-Friendly Transportation Plan Review (November 15, 2023). There is an opportunity to have traffic concerns considered in the review. Email: gbtown@qualicumbeach.com.
- School Trustees rescinded their earlier decision to record Committee of the Whole Meetings. Shannon phoned KSS trustee Carol Kellogg for more information. Carol explained viewing numbers had been low and some people were uncomfortable with the recording aspect. New Board software (MS Teams) means transcripts of all these meetings will now be available to the public via the website. Update: This will start in November for most committees.
- Healing Forest: The David Suzuki Foundation sent a press update outlining 33 projects that received funding for initiatives across Canada, including the one at KSS. Shannon and Fern attended a networking Zoom session with the funder to receive more information.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Stacey Mrack: Unchanged, see last month info as below.

- General Account Beginning Balance: \$1324.21 Gaming Account balance \$4167.56 included 4 cheques that went out end of August which is year end. They have applied for gaming for the new year.
- Still waiting for gaming grant. It has been approved but have not received the letter yet. Approximately \$15k go through applications prior to next meeting.
- Teachers will be able to apply for funds in October to support extracurricular learning. Gaming committee meeting 5pm November 7th to vote on the proposals.

DPAC REPORT: Kat Pummell

- DPAC: Dr. Jory new strategic plan approved in June brochure in on website, enrollment up 1%.
- SOGI demonstration happened. School district (SD) deduced that the demonstrators are not necessarily the parents of our students. The SD does not think that the people involved in our schools believe the SD is doing the things the protesters are saying, i.e.: indoctrination and drugging children. Dr. Jory will send out letter to reiterate School Board is promoting safety in schools for ALL children and they support ALL children.
- There will be 5 points of communication/evaluation from school to home this year. (2 Parent/teacher conferences, 2 formal learning updates K-7 @ Xmas/spring, high school @mid semester Jan/April, & June year-end)
- District is now using the My Blueprint Program – this is used for career planning, course selections, portfolios, core competency reflections, year by year updates until Grad (80 credits b/w gr 10-12, 52 required & 28 electives with each course = 4 credits) so easier for families to track and not realize at last minute their students are short credits to graduate

- The School District has new logo; a sunshine with 13 rays (12 schools & DPAC represented to show we are all connected) so DPAC decided they needed a new one and they have a small sun as well now.
- DPAC has inquired into getting ONE Criminal Record Check for district online instead of having to complete hard copy one for each school...better for streamlining parent volunteers
- PASS & CEAP do not have representation at the meetings, Kari looking into if BSS can take them under their wing
- The district has a new Indigenous leader/representative. Her name is Katie Marron.
- We don't currently post our minutes on the PAC website. If we post them, need to spell out abbreviations and generally ensure readability. Shannon will check to see if you can post them.
- [Coffee with trustees](#) is at Arrowview School on November 1 from 2:30-4pm and is open to the public. The purpose is to try and bridge the polarization in the world. Coming together and listening as a wish. Future opportunities will be posted on the School District website.

Meeting adjourned 8:25.