

Parent Advisory Council Meeting January 19, 2017

A.L. Fortune Library

- 1) Meeting was called to order @ 5:35 p.m.
- 2) Attendances: Rob Cadden, Gene Doray, Yolanda Gort, Mel Hamilton, Erna Jacobs, Tania Quigley, Brenda Walker; Guest LRT Natalie Easthope.
- 3) Minutes of meeting dated November 17, 2016 have been approved by Tania; second by Yolanda.
- 4) Business arising from minutes:

Mrs. Easthope was invited to our meeting to talk about the Hokki stools that she would like to purchase for the Special Needs Department. The stools are useful for students to help with self-regulation, focus and concentration. Students who normally cannot sit still are still able to move while being able to stay more focused on learning and completing assignments. Mrs. Easthope would like to rent one first to see how it will work for the students. The stools are suitable for Grade 8-9 kids and are about 18"-20" high. "Quality Classrooms" provides learning materials for Canadian schools where these stools could be purchased from. They cost less than \$400.00 for 3 stools (shipping and tax included). At the moment, there are 2 students that could benefit from this. The students also work on a standing desk which she would like to grow in number in the future. Card board desks cost about \$50.00; normal standing desks cost about \$150.00 and are more durable.

She also expresses her appreciation for the I-pads that she was able to obtain through the PAC last school year. They are a great resource for the students as she is able to tap into adapted curriculum materials and special education technology – British Columbia (SET-BC).
- 5) Administration report:
 - Mr. Doray purchased some wooden bar stools for the Commons Area at Wayfair.
 - Next to local media, who have been reporting about A.L. Fortune, Global Okanagan News came into the school to report on the school's innovative teaching style.
 - Following Supreme Court ruling, the BC government has reached a deal with the teacher's union: \$50 million will be spent on hiring teachers for every school district in BC. That means that A.L. Fortune will get 0.286 of teaching time or 2 blocks which accumulates to 10 hours per week. Teachers at the school had created a wish list with as a result that 2 staff members will see their schedule being topped up.
 - Rural education: Because of declining population, rural schools have to do things differently and become more flexible. A survey and online discussion are archived in order to explore educational practices and rural school funding to come to a rural education strategy. The survey is closed per January 9th, but there is the opportunity to add comments online to the Draft Discussion Paper until March 15th, 2017, attend a regional Open House, send an e-mail or send comments by mail.
 - Three classrooms are flooded. Water is coming up from underneath the floor.
 - Hallway floors are being redone and this is still ongoing.
 - Mrs. Cosh went on maternity leave and her position is partly being filled by Mr. Hagen who teaches Grade 8; Mrs. Mazur teaches Art; Mr. Cadden teaches Grade 8 math. There will come a posting to fill counselling, art, explorations and communications. Three weeks will pass by before this vacancy can be filled.

- Drumline performed successfully at Silverback games and they would like drumline to come back every time there is a game; for now it has been decided that drumline will only attend the home games.
- Band will go to Banff; Grade 8 band will go to Penticton. Lion King Performance is in February.
- Provincial exams in English, Chemistry and Physics are coming up.
- Students can choose new X-blocks for the new semester which is coming up January 30th.
- Girls basketball is up and "running".
- Ms. Farris (Foods Teacher) will be teaching at PVSS in the second semester. There will be room in the cooking room for the Ignite group, the special needs students, as well as Mr. Doray's Spanish Class.
- Camosun College offers professional chef training for high school students while earning dual credits towards their high school diploma.
- Ignite group is being taught by Mr. Derksen with an EA at his side.
- Mrs. Harris went to Larch Hills with Grade 8 for snowshoeing and to Silver Star for skiing.

6) Treasurer's report:

Gaming account: \$4,043.64

-Gardom Lake Camp was paid \$2,000.00

General account: \$2,778.67

-Rotary Club has donated \$3755.00 going to the Lunch Program (Orange Kettle).

-Pie sale net proceeds \$362.00. Mr. Doray made a motion that these proceeds go towards the purchase of the Hokki stools requested by Mrs. Easthope. Yolanda second.

-The recipient of the 2016 scholarship of \$500.00 will need to be paid out once she starts her regular course. The majority of cheques to be written will be done from the General Account in order to keep a positive balance on both accounts.

-Volleyball referee was paid by the school.

-Rainbow Social Justice Alliance club receipt is being paid from General Account.

7) New business:

-Spring Pie Sale: More time will be given (in April) to sell before taking in orders.

8) Adjournment of meeting @ 7:11 p.m.

9) Next meeting: Thursday February 9, 2017 @ 5:30 p.m. at A.L. Fortune Library.

Minutes by Erna Jacobs Thursday January 19, 2017.

Amendment February 9, 2017.