



A.L. Fortune Secondary Parent Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes December 6, 2018

A.L. Fortune Library

- 1) Meeting was called to order @ 5:36 p.m.
- 2) Attendants: Scott Anderson, Elizabeth Brown, Meagan Erickson, Mel Hamilton, Erna Jacobs.
Guest: Trustee Quentin Bruns.
- 3) Trustee Quentin Bruns introduced himself. Although Trustee Mike McKay has worked hard to overcome trust issues in the District, there is still work to be done to not slide back to the level before Mr. McKay took office but to move forward. Everyone elected to the Board of Education is new and many senior staff members are new to the job. Trustees just attended the Trustee Academy November 29 – December 1 organized by the BCSTA. Topics contained basics of school district funding, annual budget processes and information, financial and audits, financial health and accountability. These basics will focus on the role of governance and the financial literacy required of a trustee on the Board of Education. This session will provide the general background context for their work with district leadership in resource planning and accountability. Trustees have different backgrounds and experiences to bring to the table and are all willing to work together. Having served and still serving on other boards, it is easy for Q. to translate things to this field of work. He intends to attend a PAC meeting at each school in his area once a year. Although the number in CEAs has greatly improved since last year, A.L. Fortune would still be in need of 2 CEAs and preferably even more than 2, as some students need one-on-one support or bell-to-bell support. Finding personnel is challenging. More advocacy is needed for psych-ed assessments.
Meeting of the Board of Education in January will be held at A.L. Fortune. This is a great opportunity for the school to show off their accomplishments: Drumline will welcome the Board in the parking lot; different projects will be shown where self-assessments have been applied to etc.
Smoking on school grounds is zero tolerance. A little corner just of the school grounds finds some students who do want to smoke, but not bother the neighbours.
- 4) Motion made by Mel H. to adopt the minutes of PAC meeting dated November 22nd, 2018 seconded by Elizabeth B., carried. The laminator was already purchased by the school and the laminator purchased by the PAC will be returned. The refund money will be returned to Gaming Account. The first part of the Tupperware order has come in (spatulas, fridge smart containers and freezer containers) and the hostess part will arrive later.

5) Administration report:

- Careers Department has been busy: Okanagan College Trades Tour, Avalanche Training, Sparkling Hills Tour, Food Safe Workshop, and Construction Ready Workshops. All the Interior Universities have visited. Students can obtain a Serving-It-Right ticket and a baby sitting certificate.
- We are into intramural playoffs. The round robin and playoff games have been well attended and hard fought.
- Gwynne Dyer was presenting last week to students from all 4 High Schools on politics of populism and relations in the Trump era.
- Our First Nations "Bannock Team" went with Dodie Jones to compete in the Bannock cook off at ERS this week and won!
- The next two weeks will be busy with:
 - Indigenous Education Winter Gathering, December 12th.
 - School Turkey Dinner, December 13th.
 - PAC Movie Night "The Nightmare before Christmas", December 13th.
 - Grad BBQ, December 14th.
 - Gym Riot, December 17th.
 - Winter Band Concert, December 18th.
 - Pancake Breakfast, sponsored by the City of Enderby, December 19th.
 - Nobody's Perfect "No Talent" Talent Show, December 21st.

6) Treasurer's report:

- General Account: Account activity in November so far (Balance of November will be reported in our next meeting):
 - \$325.00, which was raised in the Disaster Plaster fundraiser, was deposited. Cost was \$195.01 with a \$129.99 profit.
 - \$149.50 was raised with our first movie night fundraiser.
 - IGA gift cards brought in a \$109.40 profit for the third quarter. The cards cost \$75.00 which has already been taken off the profit.
- Gaming Account: Account activity in November so far (Balance of November will be reported in our next meeting):
 - \$7,032.00 Gaming Grant was deposited in our gaming account.
- FTE cheque \$170.00 was received from the School District which is meant for parent education. Motion made by Elizabeth B. to send the money to DPAC to pool the money for a variety of parent education presentations. Second by Mel H.; Carried.

7) New business:

- PAC's next Movie Night will be held December 13th, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m. in the theatre at A.L. Fortune featuring "The Nightmare before Christmas." Snacks and drinks will again be provided at a cost. A list of movie choices went out to students in TA classes and "The Nightmare before Christmas" was top choice of this list. Top choice of students was "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer."
We only need to buy extra popcorn and butter. Also, we are offering hot dogs and buns this time for \$2.00; ketchup, mustard, relish, napkins will be provided by the school. Elizabeth B. will bring wrapping sheets for hot dogs. Erna J. will bring big bags for popcorn. No coffee or tea will be provided. Cost of food and drinks last time was around \$100.00 which needs to be reimbursed to Elizabeth B.

- Teacher requests:
 - Request by Mr. Waters to support girls basketball with the purchase of new jerseys. A requested quote has not yet been received by the PAC.
 - Request by Ms. Reed to support drumline. Erna J. makes a motion to allot \$1,000.00 for drumline transportation to go to Provincials. Elizabeth B. seconds the motion; Carried.
 - School wide request to support the purchase of 10 snowshoes @ \$795.80. Right now these snowshoes are on sale for \$69.00 and Elizabeth is going to check this out.

There is enough money in the Orange Kettle fund (+/- \$6,000.00) at this moment to fund the breakfast and lunch program.

A projector is more needed than a sound system at this time. We can look into this at a later time.

- The Larch Hills Nordic Society is encouraging students to come and participate to ski. A deal may be reached to rent skis, instead of buying them.

- ✓ AED (Automated External Defibrillator) in schools. On November 30th, 2016, five recommendations were made by the OHS manager of SD83 to the Board of Education about AEDs, emergency response and introduction of an AED program. Some parents have raised this issue as they feel it is important, not only for the school population, as well as the general public, as schools have become multipurpose buildings. Last year, BCCPAC has adopted the following resolutions:
 - BCCPAC send out an information sheet to all PACs and School Districts in BC alerting them to the PADS and ACT programs so they can apply if they think it is worthwhile in their situation.
 - Lobby for continued government support of the PADS program so that schools where it makes sense to install AEDs will have funding available.
 - Request that the Ministry of Education recommend that Districts consider installing AEDs in schools.

PACs and DPACs can also lend their voices to the call for legislation that would make AEDs mandatory in public places, such as schools. If you feel that AEDs are an important part of a school's first aid program, we encourage you to contact the Heart & Stroke Foundation and the Ministry of Health and ask them to expand their mandate to include public school facilities.

Trustee Marty G. expressed that the Trustees would be willing to have a discussion at the Board level about this topic.

- Indian Horse Community showing: Mr. Anderson will contact Ms. Field (Languages), Chinook McClean from Eagle River Secondary and Mishel Quaal at the District to look into a possible showing to students (with book prep ahead of the showing) and the community. A panel can be put together for discussion and support after the showing (Judy Maas, Program Director for Health amongst others).

8) Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

9) Next meeting: Thursday January 31st, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m. at the library.

Minutes by Erna Jacobs,
PAC Secretary.

ADDENDUM

GWYNNE DYER: It's the automation, stupid.

Five of the world's largest democracies now have populist governments, claimed The Guardian last week, and proceeded to name four: the United States, India, Brazil and the Philippines. Which is the fifth? At various points it name-checks Turkey, Italy and the United Kingdom, but it never becomes clear which. (And by the way, India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi is not a populist. He's just a nationalist.)

It's embarrassing when a respected global newspaper launches a major investigative series and can't really nail the subject down. Neither can the people it interviews: Hillary Clinton, for example, admits she was "absolutely dumbfounded" by how Donald Trump ate her lunch every day during the 2016 presidential campaign. She still doesn't get it.

"We got caught in a kind of transition period so what I had seen work in the past ... was no longer as appealing or digestible to the people or the press. I was trying to be in a position where I could answer all the hard questions, but ... I never got them. I was waiting for them; I never got them. Yet I was running against a guy who did not even pretend to care about policy."

Yes, Trump is a classic populist, but why did he beat her two years ago when he wouldn't even have got the nomination 10 years ago? She doesn't seem to have a clue about that, and neither do other recent leaders of centre-left parties interviewed by The Guardian like Britain's Tony Blair and Italy's Matteo Renzi. So let us try to enlighten them.

Populism is not an ideology. It's just a political technique, equally available to right-wingers, left-wingers, and those (like Trump) with no coherent ideology at all.

In this era, populism seems to partner best with right-wing nationalist ideologies like those of Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil, Viktor Orban in Hungary and the Brexiteers in England, but even now there are populist left-wing parties like Syriza in Greece and Podemos in Spain.

How does this tool work? It claims to be on the side of 'ordinary people' and against a 'corrupt elite' that exploits and despises them. It's light on policy and heavy on emotion, particularly the emotions of fear and hatred. It usually scapegoats minorities and/or foreigners, and it only works really well when people are angry about something.

The anger is about the fact that the jobs are disappearing, and what's killing them is automation. The assembly-line jobs went first, because they are so easy to automate. That's what turned the old industrial heartland of the United States into the 'Rust Belt.' What's going fast now are the retail jobs, killed by Amazon and its rivals: computers again.

The next big chunk to go will probably be the driving jobs, just as soon as self-driving vehicles are approved for public use. And so on, one or two sectors at a time, until by 2033 (according to the famous 2013 prediction by Oxford economist Carl Benedikt Frey) 47 per cent of U.S. jobs will be lost to automation. And of course it won't stop there.

Why don't clever politicians like Hillary Clinton get that? Perhaps because they half-believe the fantasy statistics on employment put out by governments, like the official 3.7 per cent unemployment rate in the United States. A more plausible figure is American Enterprise Institute scholar Nicholas Eberstadt's finding in 2016 that 17.5 per cent of American men of prime working age were not working.

That's three-quarters of the way to peak U.S. unemployment in the Great Depression of the 1930s, but it goes unnoticed because today's unemployed are not starving and they are not rioting. You can thank the welfare states that were built in every developed country after the Second World War for that, but they are still very angry people – and they do vote. A lot of them vote for populists.

Populism thrives when a lot of people are angry or desperate or both. Donald Trump and people like him are not the problem. They are symptoms (and beneficiaries) of the problem – yet they dare not name it, because they have no idea what to do about automation.

Gwynne Dyer's new book is 'Growing Pains: The Future of Democracy (and Work)'.