



Courtenay Elementary PAC Meeting Minutes
February 8th 2021

Board Members Renee Chapman reneegaudette@hotmail.com - Chair
Ceilidh Iwanson ceilidh_galloway@hotmail.com - Treasurer
Christine Bergen christinebergenphotography@gmail.com - Secretary
Shawn Thir Shawn.thir@gmail.com - DPAC rep

Present

1. Stacey Baulne
2. Marjorie Hendrickson
3. Shawn Thir
4. Christine Pritchard
5. Zoe Hartley Carter
6. Anji Mackenzie
7. Christine Bergen
8. Cynthia Sklarchuk
9. Alicia Fairweather
10. Renee Chapman
11. Ceilidh Iwanson
12. Catherine Manson
13. Andrew Ferneyhough

Meeting called to order 6:31pm

Indigenous Acknowledgement - I would like to Acknowledge that we are on the traditional territories of the K'omoks First Nations. We would like to thank them for the privilege of living on the land and the gift of working with their children.

Approval of December minutes - approved by Alicia Fairweather

Office Report - Catherine Manson

- **Staff** - New hire for Montessori soon - Steve P going on parental leave
- New Youth and Family worker- Carly Nightingale starting next week
- K numbers - about 28 so far - 7 being montessori.
- Distance Learning families- a few are choosing to continue but most are choosing to come back to their home school next year. (or sooner)
- **COVID**- new regulations but we didn't have to change much. Staff were already wearing masks most of the time and we just needed to tighten up in Gym classes and when working side by side with students
- Staff still sign in, do health check and sanitize hands as they enter by the front door.

- ProDay- Indigenous Ed- some live online in the morning with Keynote speakers and the afternoon all staff will work through a module. We will be in cohort break out groups for the afternoon and will get to have snacks and lunch together (ish).
- **Outdoor learning area:** started the ball rolling. Ordered 2 picnic tables, a sand box and a partial fence /change of the gate set up.
- **Field trips** - Snowshoeing this week for Beynon/Ferneyhough class. The group that went last time had a great time especially the 2nd time they went. Kids aren't used to the cold so we need to check clothing before they go up. If the weather is windy/bad this may be cancelled.
- **Cross Country Skiing-** opportunity coming up for both cohort 4 and 5 for 2 lessons each- it's paid for by a grant.
- Thursday is pink and red day

Community School Report - Shawn Thir

DPAC Meeting (Feb. 1, 2021)

Poverty Reduction survey from the Regional district and the Active Transportation survey. Parents are encouraged to get involved.

Poverty reduction survey: https://connectcvrd.ca/povertyreduction/survey_tools/community-survey (by Feb. 11)

Active transportation: <https://connectcvrd.ca/activetransportation> (by Feb. 16)

Speaker Series Committee:

- Three White Hatter presentations coming up. She has tentative bookings for March and April. Spent quite a bit of the budget that she was given in December. Would like a budget refresh. Ideally \$3000 if that would work.
- Motion "to ask for \$3000 to continue with the DPAC series" Second by David.
PASSED

SD71 2020/2021 survey:

<https://form.simplesurvey.com/f/s.aspx?s=75411839-D3F8-4A1B-9DEE-A7467B46AB53>

- Survey takes about 10 minutes and the intent is to get information back to the schools. They are looking at things like the communication level and how it was.
- Second survey last year the board asked to hold spots for students. Now the district is needing to plan their budget. They need to submit to the ministry what numbers we are expecting for next year. We can't adjust until June/July and our staffing is already done. If families chose another option this year they are being contacted and asked if they are coming back for 2021/22. If they are unsure that is fine but are being told the schools can no longer hold a spot. If there is space they can get in but it is not a guarantee.

Kindergarten registration. This year there was a virtual session which was very well attended. They have been taped and on the website. Registration for K is now open. Immersion is February 8th. They need an enrollment projection by mid February.

First Ad Hoc non discrimination policy development. SD71 is drafting an anti-discrimination policy. They have been given sample policies from other areas: Sunshine Coast, Vancouver, Vernon,

Qualicum, Victoria and Pacific Rim. They are for discussion purposes. What can we as the DPAC do to help? A survey will be sent out to parents at some point. Please bring this to your PAC to get feedback.

Lake Trail Middle School officially changed its name to Lake Trail Community School. Community school status in 2018. It has been operating as a community school but now it has the official designation. Numbers are up and there are no plans to change the grade structure. It is currently grade 6-9.

Correspondence from Katie from NIDES

- She is in a group looking at 5g. A lot of parents are feeling this technology is being rolled out without any parent consultation. They have put together a packet and would like to find out how to get this into the hands of admin, teachers, and parents. She realizes this is similar to the vaping issue, it is not really a school issue, however it does affect students. Jen suggests getting in touch with BCC PAC and the CDTA. Katie is happy to have people contact her at onvitalitycv@zohomail.com for info and resources on new 5G technology.

Events

Thursday Feb 4th - 7-9pm The White Hatter presents: Online Sexual Predation and Exploitation: What is the Threat, and what can caregivers do to help minimize the risks

Thursday Feb 11th - 7-9pm The White Hatter presents: Distribution of Intimate Images, Nudes, Sexting, and the Canadian Law: Consent, Choices, Consequences and Harm Reduction

Wednesday Feb 24th- 7-9pm The White Hatter presents: Gaming: Concerns, Balance, Addiction & Opportunities

Next DPAC Meeting: March 1, 2021 via Zoom

Community School

- **Update from Courtenay EI regarding accessibility:** Currently being addressed.
- **Comox Valley Community Foundation.** The Society was awarded an \$8,000 grant to build cabinets along the back wall of the school kitchen. Virtual award ceremony was Wednesday, Jan. 27. Received cheque and the cabinets have been built and installed. Just waiting for handles to be put on.
- **Charitable status.** The Society applied to receive charitable status in early July. Had another phone call with the administrators in Ottawa and should receive a final decision on status in a few weeks.
- **Coffee.** Socially distanced coffee for parents outside every Friday morning. Have received \$12 in donations from parents to date!
- **After school activities.** Currently holding an art club, games club, and athletics/gym club by cohort, and paying EAs to supervise. Looking to start an open gym for Cohort 3.
- **Garden.** Had a meeting with Lake Trail about using our garden. Have agreed in principal for them to use our space to plant vegetables. Courtenay EI will received in turn the services of Lake Trail's garden coordinator. Work is also slowly moving forward on the new learning space adjacent to the visitor parking lot. The Community School will chip in for 2 concrete

tables and set aside a budget for future miscellaneous expenses. Will meet with Lake Trail this month to discuss planning what to grow.

- **Merch.** Courtenay El spirit wear is now on sale Youth and adult Tees and hoodies can be ordered until Feb. 19. Shawn will be in front of the school to accept orders and answer questions.
- Handed out T-shirts to Courtenay El's kindergarten students on Feb. 4.
- **Lunar New Year.** Community School is doing an art class on how to write "Year of the Ox" in Chinese. Did Mr. Ferneyhough's and Ms Beynon's class today. Lots of fun. Will do Ms Larson's, Ms Jungwirth's, Ms Frowen's (Larkin) and Ms Holland's classes tomorrow.
- Hot dog day. Ketchup and relish supplies running low. We received 6-litre bladders of condiments from the Food Bank but am concerned about the hygiene of refilling almost empty bottles. Also, there has been a request to wrap hot dogs in foil (to keep them warm and free of any dust).
- Sunday station - Huge turnout last night. Supply of blankets and warm clothing depleted, would love Donations of these items - give to Shawn. Next one is in 2 weeks on Feb 21.

School Board Report - Kat Hawksby - Kat.hawksby@sd71.bc.ca - absent

Treasurer Report - Ceilidh Iwanson

Gaming account \$6860.33

General account \$8723.59

Money paid since last meeting:

Mrs.Vincent's class \$40

Cynthia- Purdys sales winner gifts \$217.70

Sd71 2019/20 expenditures \$212.00

Panago - Purdys Pizza Party \$110.51

Money brought in:

Subway hot lunch made \$149.94

Purdys chq \$597.45

Chair Report: Renee Chapman

Purdys sellers lunch- Thank you to volunteers for helping with this

Kitchen update

Mrs Shelly upon kitchen clean up found a new grill so the need to vote on the funds for a new grill is gone. Discussion about how PAC can support this program. Idea to add Breakfast program to class funds list in next year's budget. Can vote on that when the budget is being approved next term.

Motion to decide on a budget to buy miss Shelly a gift. Second by Alicia.

Discussion to come up with a gift idea then vote on budget at a later date.

Black shirt day - A parent has asked about this day in support of BLM. Will this be something our school is participating in? Perhaps next year, it has not been discussed.

Renee Chapman Resigning from Co-Chair position effective today.
Christine B moved to accept Renee's resignation as Chair. Seconded by Shawn.
Resignation accepted with no objections.

Election of Chair/Co chair:

Nominations for Chair:

- Christine B nominated Alicia Fairweather for Chair. Second by Ceilidh. No other nominations.
Approved by acclamation

Nominations for Chair:

- No nominations for Co-Chair. Position remains empty.

Hot lunch - Stacey Baulne

- Cobs forms going out this week
- Lunar new year hot lunch coming up next week
 - Still brainstorming how do we hand out the food.
 - Stacey is going to look into planet food containers.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm

Next meeting is Monday March 8th 2021, at 6:30 on zoom