

Don Ross Secondary Parent Advisory Council
General Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2009- DRSS Library

7:00 – 8:30 P.M.

In attendance: Tsan Chester Bauer; Christine Watson; Nicole Smith; Jude Goodwin; Karen Blow; Anne Languedoc; Kathleen Riley (staff); Christine Perkins (staff); Roz Gilbert; Stan Thomson (staff); Barb Leigh; Gina Dean; Christian Oreamuno.

1. **Approval of Agenda** – amended to have presentation from staff up first; motioned to approve Barb, seconded by Tsan, aif.
2. **Presentation from Counselling Staff** – Kathleen Riley & Stan Thomson presented information about counselling services at Don Ross. The counselling role is shared by Kathleen & Stan and they have other teaching roles as well. A brochure was handed out (see attached scan) that provides a brief overview of the types of counselling services offered, the schedule available, a brief bio of Kathleen & Stan, types of referrals they sometimes make.

Counselling services offered:

- Anxiety
- Family dynamics
- Academic worries
- De-escalation of conflict
- Self esteem
- Friendship concerns
- Emotional distress

Anne thanked Kathleen & Stan for their strong support of our students and acknowledged the great support counselling services provide. Kathleen & Stan talked about the importance of forming strong relationships when students first arrive in grade 8, and also the importance of connecting with all grades of students, families, and staff.

3. **Approval of September minutes**; motioned to approve by Barb; seconded by Gina; aif.
4. **Reports:**
 - **Trustee** – discussion about redistributing students around Sea to Sky school district with a concentration of Squamish. There will be a series of meetings to discuss and gather input. Whistler Blackcomb Foundation grant applied for technology labs. Education plan (engagement, sustainability, leadership) – District staff have been working with Board goals and coming up with action plans. Discussion about Assessment for Learning. Budget problems are solved – we do have a balanced budget; there are so many “have to’s” with Hydro increases, 80% of budget staffing costs, etc. Province requested proposals for full day K from some schools (not all schools).
 - **Principal** – brochure for the library handed out; check out the teen reads lists just outside the library; library book donations welcome;
 - 1) Board Goals – DRAFT:
 - 1.assessment for learning
 - 2.professional development
 - 3.collaboration
 - 2) School Planning Committee:
 - a. Gina Dean
 - b. Jude Goodwin
 - c. Patti Gates
 - 3) School Responsibility Committee – everything to do with character education:
 - ❖ If you are interested in **volunteering** for the social responsibility committee – please contact Christine
 - 4) Future Speakers:
 - November – Michel Lafreniere / Stephanie Potter-Davey – Spec Ed
 - January – TBD
 - February – Marilyn Caldwell – Student Support Services (TBC)
 - March – Cathy Jewett – DPAC (TBC)
 - April – TBD
 - May – TBD

- June – SPC report out
- ❖ **Volunteers** needed for fruit & veggie program
- ❖ **Volunteers** needed for school dance – contact rmassey@sd48.bc.ca
- 5) Budget requests – Arts performance assemblies x 2 \$1600 + \$600 for Justice Institute presentation on cyber bullying and \$750 for Think Day motivational event = \$2950
- 6) Weds Nov 18 MID TERM REPORT CARD – except PE & English which are in January
- **Treasurer** – (Barb Leigh) we received \$4080 in Gaming \$10/student based on last year's fte. A big thank you to Barb for her role as Treasurer for several years.
- **DPAC** - (Barb Leigh) discussion about letters written by BCCPAC, and DPAC to Ministry joining together with other education partner groups. Barb drafted a letter on behalf of Don Ross – passed around for input. Barb will email her draft to those on our email list. Discussion about whether to publish our letter in the newspapers. General feeling was to only submit to Ministry, and to focus on the positive of what we have done in the past with Gaming money.

5. **Executive Star Search** – nominations & vote **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

- Chair – A big thank you to Anne for her amazing job as Chair; Anne spoke about the role and how there is so much a Chair can be involved with, many hours to a few hours a month, depending on areas of interest & passion.
- Vice Chair – Donna Retty – not sure if she is interested in continuing in this role – Anne to discuss with Donna.
- Secretary – Thanks to Karen for being secretary for several years.
- Treasurer – Jude volunteered as treasurer; nominated by Roz, seconded by Gina; aif. Jude will write a blurb to send out by email to all parents (via the school office) describing what DRS PAC is about and also explaining which positions are available.

6. **New Business**

- Committees: School Planning, Responsibility, - See above under principal's report.
- BCCPAC membership renewal – we will renew – Jude to get cheque.
- New signing authorities – when we have our new executive we will organize new signers.

Adjournment 8:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 17, 2009.