

Byrne Creek Community Council Meeting

October 3, 2016 - Minutes

Call to order by Chair: 7:10

Approval of September 2016 Minutes

Moved: L McIntosh

Second: Shams Chowdhury

CARRIED

Student Council Report: None

Chair's Report and Correspondence:

Addiction, A Mother's Story was suggested as a topic for an upcoming meeting. The author does first 25 secondary schools that respond for free. Discussed scheduling her in January . It could be advertised through the school district. We need to give 3 dates - Dave Starr to check centre for dialog bookings and go from there.

BCTF offers workshops such as anti bullying, advocating for child, racism, social media, student privacy, supporting gender inclusive communities, etc. These workshops are held during meetings.

Western Direct Fundraising sent a brochure which will be given to the school for the students as our council does not do fundraising.

Vibe Productions sent a brochure regarding dry grad. Information will be passed on to student council.

Treasurer's Report:

not much happening with bank account.

Gaming funds are not in for the year yet. \$9605.94 remaining in the account.

General account balance is \$1155.94.

Principal's Report:

School staff met to discuss the fall education funding request. The Ministry puts aside additional money to provide staffing. The teachers have proposed one or two blocks; one in aboriginal education because it is throughout the curriculum. Teachers want a full time teacher to team teach with them, possibly part of the aboriginal community.

The other request was having someone who would assist the adapted or iep class team teacher to work with a group or individually.

99% of kids have now received classes because we got additional staffing. The challenge was new counsellors coming in and old ones leaving. Building timetables with the new system was challenging. We had more students than expected. Counsellors were still balancing timetables in the 3rd week of September.

Sometimes kids have 3 or 4 classes that are only offered in one block per year. It locks them in and makes the timetable more challenging unless we move them out of a class they really want. We tend to get additional staffing for second semester. Getting a lot of Syrian kids coming in.

There are a couple of significant changes coming to the curriculum next year, particularly in English & Social Studies. There will be more subjects offered in grades 11 and 12, students will have to take two. Offerings will include first peoples literature and digital publishing. Social Studies will no longer be mandatory in grades 11 and 12. Courses will include human geography, genocide studies, comparative religions, and more. Schools won't be able to offer all of these courses, so we will poll students to see what classes to offer. These changes in the curriculum start in September 2017.

Planning 10 is gone as of September. We don't know what's going to replace it, but it will still be 8 credits. grad transition and planning are also gone, but will be replaced. Grad program requirements are not changing a lot - Students still need 80 credits, including a variety of skills and basic academics.

The Ministry is looking at changing the letter grade reporting act. Secondary schools are not required to provide percentage at grade 8/9 level, but are required to give letter grades. Some teachers will not provide percentages, instead they will provide only the letter grade. These changes will start in grade 8/9. 10-12 has to report percentages. Many Burnaby schools have already moved away from percentages in some departments. If your child is not going to get percentages, teachers will send a notice home.

There will be early dismissal on October 27 & 28th for Parent Teacher interviews. Some teachers will opt to do student led conferences. Some will be drop in, some scheduled.

We will be required to provide students the opportunity for self assessment on report cards. We do not know yet what that will look like, and we are waiting guidance from the Ministry.

There will be a seminar tomorrow here at Centre for Dialogue at 7pm-8:30. Global Learning is putting on a panel event called *Helping Our Kids Stay True to Themselves in a Hyper World*. Explores gender, hyper-sexuality, and hyper-masculinity, and how to steer your kids against them. On Wednesday October 12, the same subject will be presented for students.

We are having our annual Thanksgiving dinner for families in our community. The event is put together by the Leos. The school typically feeds about 300 people. It starts at 4pm on Thursday, October 6th, free to families in our community.

Community School Co-ordinator:

Our first Pro-D day took place at the school with staff for building a community of care. At the end, teachers made commitments to try something different to show care for students. Some examples: commitment to praise effort instead of outcome, make an effort to greet each student individually, ask everyone how they are individually, try to be more present when a student comes to visit, do my best to show my students that I care about them as a whole person on a regular basis. Students said best way teachers can show they care is to ask how I am outside of school.

The school lunch and breakfast programs had difficulty getting off the ground because of new caterers. It took a couple of weeks, but now it is up and running as before. There was conversation about swipe cards, but we decided against it as it was too difficult logistically.

Friends of Simon Fraser tutors are available on Mondays and Wednesdays. The Success program runs in library, where students can drop in for tutoring any subject. Frontier College partnership is joining classrooms.

The new community school video, which was made last year was shown.
<https://vimeo.com/178797932>

Teacher Representative:

Women's self defence club is starting Friday after school. Available to students, parents and staff. It includes a combination of martial arts, and focuses on assertiveness and awareness. Takes place at 3:30 in c106. It was suggested to run the club 2 Fridays per month. It is very informal - show up when you can. The club runs all year, and there is a waiver for students.

Wednesday is World Teachers Day.

Last Thursday was Orange Shirt Day. Dave Starr thanked organizers. The purpose was to recognize aboriginal residential school survivors. Staff wore yellow shirts, said "every child matters".

It has been a year now since our last physical gesture of reconciliation. The project is called The Heart of Reconciliation. Elder Lillian Daniels, who is now a teacher, spoke last year about her experiences at residential schools. Students made tiles with a word and an image. We are close to finishing the mural, which will go in a display case in the atrium. The tiles, which are made of melton wool, are ready to be placed to put meaning on canvas. We will make it a community event. We will formally invite indigenous families to participate in community event.

DAC & DPAC Reports:

PAC 101 is tomorrow night. They are having a Treasurer workshop. can show up without registering. Takes place at Burnaby Central at 6pm.

At the last DPAC meeting, they looked at the successes of the last school year. Burnaby had 2000 graduates, with \$2.4 million in scholarships. In September, language instruction for newcomers won the

Premier's literacy award. The superintendents did a presentation on the redesigned curriculum. DPAC asked for parent information topics - two suggestions were anxiety and curriculum.

The District Advisory Council meets next Thursday at Gilmore at 7pm.

New Business:

Asked for suggestions for meeting topics. We are confirmed for grad transitions and scholarships

Discussed the mental health presentations email. They asked for opportunity to chat with council. The vp did a presentation on mental health to Burnaby South parents, asked if we want to have him come talk to our parents in the new year.

Adjournment: 8:17 PM

Next Meeting: November 7, 2016

Chair: Naz Jakir
Vice Chair: Melanie Walkus
Treasurer: Laura McIntosh
Secretary: Hazel Bakker