

Byrne Creek Community Council Meeting

Oct. 2, 2017 – minutes

Call to order by the Chair at approximately 7 p.m.

Attendance: Naz Jakir (Chair), Melanie Walkus (Vice Chair), Laura McIntosh (Treasurer), Hetty Alcuitas (Secretary), Shams Chowdhury (MAL and Alternate DPAC rep), Mons de la Cruz, (MAL), parents, students, Nick Christofides, Laida Falsetto, Trina Moulin

Motion to approve the **minutes** from Sept. 11 meeting as well as the **proposed agenda**. (Moved: Melanie, Seconded: Shams)

Student Council Report – No report. Laida reported on behalf of the students. BARC for grade 8 students was a success.

Scholarship Presentation – Laida Falsetto presented information on available scholarships and bursaries. Submit personal profile to Ms. Falsetto by Nov. 3. All info is on website under tabs: “Students”, “Scholarships”, “Scholarship Powerpoint.” Twitter: @MsFalsettoByrne

Teacher Representative: Trina Moulin – Follow-up from last meeting, re: social media. Ordered 30 copies of Crown Publication on on-line harassment and abuse, ages of consent, cyber-stalking, etc. and left for parents and students to take. These can also be ordered on-line and are free for anyone. Still waiting for mural to be displayed in atrium.

Gr 10 - 12 Course Information Presentation c/o Vice-Principal Nick Christofides.

By late Nov. planning for what is offered for students in following year. Course selection and grad program.

Grades 8-10 changes coming to the grad program. Not concrete yet, may affect courses taken in Grades 10-12. Current grade 12s will not be affected. New Literacy Assessment, Numeracy Assessment and Provincial Exams. Might be piloted at Byrne Creek. Numeracy Assessment will be required by Grade 10 students but not necessarily when they are in Grade 10, could be later.

Counsellors are very important as a resource. Lorraine Claire, Michelle LePoole, Jeanne Davy. Parents, please call counsellors, administrators or teachers if you have questions. Important to start early for grad requirements and admission requirements. Not just for university, also technical programs, colleges, etc.

Come to course selection evenings and when universities come to visit. Important to know what are program requirements. Eg, pre-calculus not needed if not intending to taking this professionally.

Grad activities: students who get involved in activities outside of the classroom have a richer experience.

Requirements for graduation currently 80 credits completed over Grade 11/12. Changes coming to Socials (more flexibility) and Com. 12 will no longer be accredited, only English 12. Grad Transitions course any after Grade 10 (June 30) is work experience: 30-90 hours. 30 hours can be paid, 90 hours Work Placement program is voluntary hours. This gives 4 credits for graduation. Exit interview will be conducted which is a reflection on how they have grown and how they plan on transitioning into adult world. No right or wrong answers for that interview.

External credits may be obtained in areas outside of school.

Language challenge for students that come from another country after Grade 7. Only certain languages recognized.

On-line courses: excellent for students with busy schedules. Stats for completion are not great. Students need to be ready to be diligent and log-on 3 times per week. Difficult to finish course. Also a lot of pros and advantages to this. Need to be mature enough. Based at Cariboo Hill. Honour Roll/Gold Cord: case-by-case will look at on-line course work as well. For UBC: must be completed by Feb. 1, SFU: must be completed by April 30 to be calculated in GPA.

Post secondary visits: UBC, Nov. 7 during day, SFU Nov. 21, PSI BC Nov. 22, Grade 11 and 12's are invited. Possibly Grade 10s will attend as well. Many different school will have booths. October: apply to college or university. Nov. info sessions. Nov.-April: PSI complete which is an on-line application for schools to see student's marks and let students know whether they have been accepted or not. Important to come to course selection evening and to have

parents involved in asking questions. AP program will be discussed as well as new offerings. Late January. Will post presentation on website.

Question raised re: literacy assessment, will this replace the provincial exam? Have not seen it yet. Teachers are involved in this. May invite someone from English department to speak to this. Also for numeracy assessment? New curriculum is moving toward student choice, very evident in English as want to offer students learn competencies in an area that interests them. Assessment will be the same. Changes are in an implementation year this year so teachers are being given option to try new things. Changes will not be finalized until next year.

Question re: students who are in grade 10 who took Planning 10 in the summer. Will it count? A version of Planning 10 will be available as a new course. If they have taken Planning 10 they will not need to take the new course again.

Can students count sports outside of school? Eg. Soccer – Representative soccer, provincial soccer can gain credits for graduation but not swap for PE 10. Other activities can be accredited, eg. Music, etc. Need documentation. DPA is part of Grad Transitions. After grade 10, need to log and keep journal and check in with Career Prep office. Credit for 30 hours per week.

Question raised regarding amount of change in curriculum. Discussion took place and info was shared about a consultative process that took place a few years ago on this.

Principal's Report: David Starr was not here to report. Mr. Christofides reported on his behalf. Some challenges to the start of the year but it was a smooth start up. Still making sure meeting collective bargaining language. Incident happened today. People were worried, difficult to deal with. Questions: why were students allowed to come on premises and then asked to leave? Confusing. Process explained. Video showed that shooting happened after midnight. Police swept school and looking at this as an act of vandalism and are not seeing this as a public safety concern. Staff and teachers are trained on critical incident response. There are protocols in place and a manual for each teacher on evacuation, lock-down, etc. Parents expressed that they were worried. Staff were wonderful despite a lot of worry. Suggestion to have earlier communication through app or twitter to tell parents students were safe. Mr. Christofides will bring parents' feedback and suggestions to de-brief and report back to us. This will also be discussed at DPAC level.

Chair's Report and Correspondence: Naz: Communications received re: fundraising will be forwarded to Bal.

DPAC Report – Shams Chowdhury, Community Council Member-At-Large submitted a written report (see attached). DPAC meeting was held Sept. 18th. Technology issues were discussed. New website will be launched highlighting new curriculum. MyEdBC Family Portal is fairly well-subscribed. All report cards were issued for grades 8-11. Student scheduling, etc. will be through here. Attendance function is not functional yet. Next meeting Oct. 16.

Treasurer's Report: Laura McIntosh: No change. Too early to receive bank statements.

Next meeting: Nov. 6 will include Grade 11-12 Grad Transitions info and from Jean Woo, Career Program Coordinator will present.

Adjourned: 8:30 pm

DPAC Report

The first Burnaby DPAC meeting of 2017/2018 school year was held on September 18, 2017 at Burnaby Central. The brief report of that meeting is as follows:

* A new website will be Launched from Burnaby school district called "Inspiring Excellence" and is in beta-testing right now. It will be a platform for all schools to share the success stories of how students are learning (especially

highlighting the new curriculum) - both articles and videos. Each site is allowed one story for the launch, so we can be featured on this website as well! It will not replace the school district website.

* MyEducationBC (MyEdBC) Family Portal Update: MyEdBC has been rolled out to all secondary schools in the district and is fairly well subscribed to by parents. The portal was used to deliver all Grade 8-11 report cards digitally in June (Grade 12s received paper reports) and will be used for reporting for 8-12 right from first term. Minimally, all secondary sites will use the portal for student scheduling, attendance, and report cards. MyEdBC offers a lot of other reporting functionality, but the extent of use will be teacher dependent, and will hopefully grow as teachers become more familiar and comfortable with it.

One of the features of the portal allows parents to request automatic updates (e.g. attendance), but this was turned off recently by the province. The district is working with the Ministry on this.

Elementary Schools:

Currently, MyEdBC lends itself to secondary style report cards only. The district has an elementary report card that meets the interim reporting order requirements and has trained staff to this reporting structure. In anticipation of a finalized reporting order coming soon from the Ministry, the decision is to keep the current reporting structure until then. Once the accommodations have been made in MyEdBC for whatever the new reporting order will be, elementary reporting will transition to the portal. Right now, district is working to transition all elementary schools to using the portal for attendance only.

* BCCPAC Annual Membership Fees (\$75) are due by December 15, 2017

* Our next DPAC meeting will take place Monday, October 16 at 7 PM at Burnaby Central. Treasurer's Workshop Presentation at the October DPAC Meeting. Workshop will provide an essential understanding of PAC finances to all PAC members

* Parents information evening: PAC 101 was held on Wednesday, September 27 at 7 pm, Burnaby Central, Room A206. The Workshop specifically focused on PAC challenges, parents new to the executive role, or those curious about PAC roles.