

District Parent Advisory Council, Sunshine Coast School District No. 46

DPAC Meeting Minutes April 28th, 2016

7:00 pm at Chatelech Secondary School

Call to order @ 7:05 pm.

Round Table Introductions.

Approvals:

Moved by Patty Shields, seconded by Jo Thompson to approve Feb 25, 2016 meeting minutes as circulated. Motion Carried.

Moved by Marilyn Baines, seconded by Lorena Ruth to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

SD46 Counsellors: Susan Bailey from Elphinstone spoke to us about the transition events happening at her school. In late May they go to each elementary school in their catchment and speak with the grade 7's. The grade 7's receive a folder that contains a pamphlet and an invitation. When they visit they bring at least 2 high school students to talk about their experiences and give a slide show and a presentation. They host a grade 7 day at the high school. They also host a parent evening where they get a tour and spend some time reviewing the timetable and receiving answers to their questions.

Kate Kerr spoke to this as well. It's a great opportunity for the students to experience. They are welcomed by the school band. They have the opportunity to visit different classes and have lunch in the cafeteria.

Wendy Charters from Chatelech gave us some details about their transition events as well. Very similar to Elphinstone, visiting grade 7 classes in their catchment and hosting a grade 7 day on May 26th at the high school where students get an opportunity to visit some classes and tour the school. They also have a parent evening.

Some discussion from the membership regarding transitions and their experiences. Parents discussed what they found helpful and what they can look forward to.

Elphinstone Functional Academic Program: Eran Forman spoke about the support and services provided to students and their families as they transition from highschool to adulthood. Cougar Crossing works with a group of kids that need individual transition plans and customized services. Helping students achieve their dreams when they grow up and facilitate skills development, strengths and capacities and identify and access any support services they may

need. Eran takes the person centered planning approach. Eran showed us this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y77y7XW8GtE> She also spoke about how important it is to integrate these kids into the community and find what creates the best outcomes. Kids have opportunities to go out to experience the workforce. They have worked with members in the community to give these kids the chance to gain working experiences. Eran supports teachers as well to help them meet the learning outcomes of their class. Eran has connected with other groups and is working together to have a look at the kids with special needs who will be transitioning and what supports they will need and also does a transition information night for her parents which happens in October. Eran also facilitates person center planning meetings using the model PATH.

Parents asked some questions and continued the conversation.

Report of the Chair: Allyson had nothing to report but brought up the remaining funds in the gaming account. There is approx. \$650 remaining and it was mentioned that parents wanted to support transition events but considering the timing and the fact that we didn't have a March meeting we decided to hold those funds until next year. Allyson reminded that we agreed to spend \$1350 for the on line safety event through the community schools and the \$2000 earmarked for the mental health workshop that is mid planning.

Report of the Treasurer: No report present

Board of Education Report: Please see attached

Health Promoting Schools Committee: Marilyn Baines brought up some upcoming events. Those posters were emailed in April.

Superintendent's Report: Patrick Bocking reminded us that the school puts information on line for us to access all the time, Twitter, Facebook and the website and invites everyone to visit social media to stay up dated on what's happening in the district. He also showed us the new brochure called 'Reading With Your Elementary Child' This was also sent out in April. Patrick also invites us to read his Superintendent updates on the website.

All of the elementary schools are helping with the goal of getting a library card in the hands of every elementary school student before summer.

He also mentioned the new principal assignments would be ready for viewing on the website.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35pm

Next Meeting: May 26/16 at 7:00pm at Elphinstone Secondary School Library