

DPAC Meeting Minutes
Nov. 23, 2017
Pender Harbour Secondary School

Attendance:

Aspen Wing, Paola Stewart, Jodee Young, Sharon MacKenzie, Paul Bishop, Rachel Terry, Ursula Hardwick, Marilyn Baines, Dave Mewhort

Presenters: Kate Kerr, Chris Lekakis, and Christa Rive

Call to order @7:10

Approval of Oct 23rd minutes: Aspen Wing, Sharon MacKenzie

Paul Bishop is the representative for Patrick Bocking

Change to Section 5: Every school has one person who can vote at a DPAC meeting. The term “representative” refers to any person who shows up at the meeting. These terms are only to clarify that if two people show up from the same school, only one person will be able to vote on a motion.

Motion was made by Marilyn Baines,
Approved by Sharon MacKenzie, Matthew Rockall

Presentation: Communicating Your Students Learning
Chris Kerr:

- New Curriculum: How do we make our assessments and learning outcomes more meaningful?
- School has changed: In the industrial model, students were being trained for jobs/ careers that they would have until retirement. Now, the jobs students will be entering may not even exist yet

What are we reporting?

- Evidence of student learning - formative assessment/ ongoing assessment identifies where a student is at
- Feedback creates thinking and reflection, whereas grades do not do this (so far grades K-9 are involved in the new curriculum/assessment).

Role of Technology:

- Fresh Grade
- *School APPS (high schools) for information - helpful for assessment
- Parent portal
- Twitter for showing what kids are doing in class

- Technology is part of creating learning communities - a dialogue that can go back and forth between students teachers and parents - it is imperative that parents are participating to support learning

What Student Learning Looks Like at the Elementary Level:

Kate Kerr, principal of West Sechelt

- Report Cards look the same today as they did 40 years ago
- What does a letter grade really mean?
- Does it really capture a student's learning journey?

The new curriculum is about the BIG IDEAS : core competencies are at the heart of the new curriculum:

- Critical thinking / creative thinking
- Personalization / student voice
- Where is the student at

How do you assign a grade to that?

- Students are becoming tellers of their own stories. Education becomes a process rather than an end result and the student becomes purposeful and engaged in their education.
- Reflecting on individual learning can be much harder than jumping through hoops

Innovation team: Christa Rive, Kate Kerr, Chris Lekakis were awarded a grant = seed money

- 4 schools to start: Roberts Creek, Kinnikinnick, Langdale, West Sechelt, and this year Davis Bay and HMB have joined the collaboration
- There is a heavy emphasis on collaboration between teachers and administrators, and it is important to bring parents on the journey
- Fresh Grade has been an important tool to capture and show growth and create a dialogue between students teachers and parents
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We are moving from a grading culture to a learning culture

- Curriculum is a provincial change
- Currently there is option A (fresh grade) and option B (traditional report cards) for teachers however option B will be phased out

There is some concern expressed by parents for students in grade 11 /12 because they seem to be caught in the middle of the transition to the new curriculum (wondering how this will affect their children's ability to get into University if they do not have "grades"). However Universities

are beginning to change their admissions process by trying to capture a well rounded understanding of who that student is rather than looking at 2 or 3 core subjects.

Moving Forward:

Vice Chair Report (Matthew Rockall):

Changing over roles is in progress

Treasurer's Report (Aspen Wing):

Waiting for bank to change over signing authority

Gaming account unfrozen and there is 4000.00 available to spend on parents - things to ponder.....

Boards Report (Dave Mewhort):

Provincial Meetings taking place

Superintendent Report (Paul Bishop):

- Oversees secondary programs / would like to see K-12 career education : Who am I as a learner?
- What are the jobs?
- Applied skills - we are trying to get to deep thinking
- Career programs: get out and get experience
- Apprenticeship programs - applied skills, math (carpentry) = transferring skills
- Self directed and project based learning

Open Q&A from the membership:

Marilyn is concerned about (as well as Jo Thompson) being taken off the the list to attend the Health and School Committee which she and Jo have been attending for a few years

Matthew will talk to Allyson about what all the committees are (some confusion)

Paul Bishop will email Vanessa to get Marilyn and Jo back on the list.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40

Next meeting Jan 25th @ Elphinstone

