Centennial PAC Meeting

Sept 25, 2017 Library

 1st meeting in the new school building.

Attendance: Tamara Dean, Chair. Cinzia deJesus, Treasurer. Susan Sorensen, secretary.

Jon Bruneau Principal, K Zimmer VP, Veronika Farnell VP. Dieter Malakoff Teacher Science Dept.

Olesya Bilous, Trish Mar, Annie Galila, Angela Killins, Cathy U, Maly Martinez, Stacee Copeland Kerr,

Fenny Shi, Gyeunghee Yun, Denise Eisner.

Meeting Opened; 7:05 pm

**Chair;** Tamara Dean; Welcome Everyone! Nice to see some new faces. Let’s introduce ourselves.

Minutes from last meeting; 1st Cinzia, 2nd Cathy to accept.

Mtn carried.

Please know that next Wed Oct. 4 is the DPAC orientation (PAC 101), it’s an intro into what DPAC can offer and how everything works. All are welcome, its’ very interesting. DPAC meets 1 / mos.

**Treasurer Report**, Cinzia: $25,720.00 gaming account, most allocated and went out from last sch year.

$525.16 balance in the gaming account.

Operating acct; $ 363.61 as well Kitty the school accountant hold an operating acct for the PAC as well, $670.08, + 16.00 more (GST rebate?). Plus we have received

$3,430.00 in PAC donations so far this year. That’s great, more than the last few years.

Last year we allocated different amounts across different depts in our budget meeting. But what happened was money for Science went to Tech Ed.

Treasurer: not sure if the $ can be moved around by the school after we allocated it, or if the $ should come back to the PAC and then get revoted out.

 Mr. Malakoff was able to offer: Last year was very chaotic, science dept could not buy what they had asked for, that purchase fell through. Tech Ed had an issue that they could use the $. In the end, the money all stayed in the school for the kids, the most important thing.

For future, the money allocated as voted in the budget will go back to the PAC if it cannot be used as voted upon and get reassigned at the next meeting. This year’s wish list and budget will reflect the actual totals of last year’s allocations.

Another concern is the Gaming Account: the $ must all be accounted for. Gaming events that happen during the year that teachers or others apply for and take out the request. But it’s all done under the PAC name. It’s difficult to keep track of. The $ needs to run thru our acct; any events not reported and wrapped up put our annual gaming revenue in jeopardy.

Better communication between staff/teachers/PAC.

Admin must tell staff that if they apply for gaming $ it goes through PAC. And Pac is responsible.

Why no ck + balance step, why allowed within one institution?

Coaching staff, 3 events last year,

Music did 3 as well but under their own name, not listed with PAC, no issue for PAC.

Admin will call and figure it out; why this past year there was this issue and not in previous years. Admin oversight is required for staff applications.

**Principals Report**: welcome to the new building, it is very difficult to move a highschool. This is considered a ‘replacement’ school not a new school. It was a logistical nightmare, not a ton of $ for moving. This design is so different from old bldg. Prettier, but much less storage. There are shipping containers outside, had to buy some for our stuff that we can’t place yet. Another building to be built 1- 2 years.

In the containers; teaching materials, paper products. A huge challenge to move and make classrooms work. If you look at each room, there are lots of shelves and cupboards, there’s millwork.

The kids have moved and we’re checking on their emotions, the first days were difficult, there were heating issues, the kitchen was 38’, there are not enough lockers. But kids have embraced the place.

The gr 9’s are a beautiful class, seem happy. Gr 10’s + 11’s seem ok. The gr 12’s are bummed, no hang out, designated area. Otherwise they seem quite well situated.

What the kids are wishing for; hangout locations, seating etc; similar to other highschools.

Teachers on lower floor have put in some furniture from the old school, generally working quite well. Kids in those areas know they have to be quieter.

Library now open all 5 blocks, which it wasn’t before, but not ideal, no food/no drinks allowed.

The building is functioning well in the overall.

There are 6 pages of deficiencies, will take time. There are some design problems, some can be fixed, some can’t. ie; in the Library on the long west wall, there is only one electrical outlet. That wall was intended to be a computer ‘bar’ one long table along the wall.

There are cost priorities; Physics dept needs more outlets as well, they are a higher priority than Library.

Computer and IT Dept needed a retrofit for more labs and last year Tech Ed had their issues.

Still some epic storage challenges.

Admin here to answer teacher questions/ parent questions and kid questions. Striving to hone the communication process and also deal with the kids; Kids need to go to school.

The priorities for the kids; getting thru the day/ homework / courses.

It is a complex building and highschool is a busy place. Large Admin; 3 VP’s, one new/ 3 counsellors/7 secretaries. Approx 1350 students, 13 new teachers.

Assemblies were held for each individual grade. Gr 9’s a good group, calm, fairly cohesive and positive looking group.

Parent night really great about 300 turnout.

Sports and Clubs have started. Trick is to get new students familiar with clubs and that process.

Lockers; 685 for 1300 students. More lockers coming to this bldg., not sure of exact # depends on price. Maybe 150. Locker width is 14 “, not standard 11”. Takes up way more room. They are stacked ( ½ height). New ones will have to be thinner. There are spaces within the school that can be repurposed for lockers and there are locker ‘islands’ as an option, but they are expensive.

Gr 9’s got lockers, now gr 12’s want lockers as well. Some are shared. Process takes time, and the locks will be shuffled for the list of kids that want one.

Senior Sail: for Gr 12’s only. No guests, no gr 11’s. Boat cruise from downtown in the harbour; Buses for student transportation. They cannot go or leave on their own. Added $8.00 / ticket but well worth it.

Immunizations for gr 9’s will be in November.

Terry Fox Run on Fri Sept 29. 15 min Video of Terry Fox, then run around the neighbourhood and once around the track.

Gym; still have the one big gym, used to be 3 gyms. Admin added some district money to the PE Program, not an increase to parents. The PE dept now also using Winslow and Vanier gyms, plus more field trips.

There are temporary portables; weight room and change room. No showers; change only.

There is one new gym coming in the next new building and 6 more classrooms.

Parking a massive challenge every day. Teachers on site. School Board has their own and about 200 spots at the gravel field on Vanier across the way.

Kids still parking at library; they need to be at Vanier. It is closer but further to drive to.

There will be another ~ 85 spots with new building.

Students adjusting to no common lunch. As it was in the past except for last two years. Most gr9’s have blk 3 lunch. Ideally next year most lunch will be over 3 + 4 blocks.

Limit on class size because of new (reestablished) laws. Cannot find enough space, 57 classroom have to push all students into all blocks.

Bus Schedules: trying to get some transit buses earlier to the school so kids aren’t late for school. Transit will look at it for the new year.

Vaping: continues to be an issue. Not technically illegal but it is against school district rules. Can be confiscated for the week and returned at end of the week. Not sure if all substances put in vape is not harmless and 2nd hand vape smoke also a problem. It’s not ok to vape on school property.

Admin will have to clamp down further on kids who aren’t getting it.

Football field is school property and vaping not allowed on school property. Only really enforced during school hrs, not enforced after. But it is a problem in the neighbourhood.

AfterGrad; a party for the gr 12’s after the dinner/dance. Parent organized event to keep kids safe. Dry event. This year we don’t have enough space to host the event is this building. Takes lots of volunteers to organize and help that night.

Exam Week; last week of January, a letter to parents soon. One week; Eng 12 provincial.

Gr 8’s walkabout.

Gr 10+ 11 take one Math test; Numeracy. (K – 9 level). They will all take the test whether they have math in semester one or not. It replaces the provincial. The result will be on their transcript. Next year there may be a literacy assessment as well.

There are no longer provincial Science exams, up to teachers for a class final. However, they will not give class exams in that week. It will have to be done before. Kids will have time that exam week to finish assignments. (like I days) *but we’re not to call it that anymore*.

HCE is not a course, it’s embedded into PE. It’s not a mark; Health and Career Education.

Jon is also available to talk or email. The school is very close to capacity. Trying to have room for all students that move into the neighbourhood. Manage to maintain class sizes. Had to cancel some cross catchment students, they can reapply again next semester. Some kids come here for certain classes/programs; ie Hockey.

International students; approx. 175. Come in with a different funding formula. Won’t be able to take all that apply. Principal gives the # of how many kids are coming into the neighbourhood.

Tech Ed / Ind arts Dept; now 24 kids / class, was 28.

Comp Ed/Drafting; 28,

Many run at 22. Classes are smaller.

Ie; if 90 kids want woodshop, then 3 sections of 30 won’t run. Now 75 kids in woodshop not 90.

Concern for what happens in future. Can add another class if enough students. Ie there are 10 blocks of foods.

Staffing allotments have been increased and the transition of new government has also added.

Kids generally get what they ask for. Quality of education is much better than last year this year.

**Teacher report, Dieter Malakoff, Science Dept.**

Please email me if any questions and I will also relay staff concerns to the PAC. New building ok, challenges still. Bldg much smaller, our move was much smoother than Tech Ed;s last year.

Kids excited/ the bldg is cleaner/ brighter/ smells better.

1st day of school was quiet but the 2nd day the bldg. came alive.

Gr’9 group is really nice.

There’s a positive vibe in the bldg.

Class size a breath of relief as well.

This year not as bad as anticipated.

PE Dept is basically without facilities, greatly impacting their programming. PE Dept is stressed.

They are accessing buses; cascades to the science dept. they are monopolizing buses, not enough for other fieldtrips.

Science Dept; super labs; original design 3 labs at one time. It did not turn out that way. 1 class at the old building ( rm 219?) was 2/3 size of our superlab. Why? Money/ changes to design.

One chem lab, most stressed. Used to do 1 -2 lab/week (day?). More than other highschools we had 8 labs.

Now down to 2.

Science co-opted a common area, no outlets, no sink, but can accommodate.

Teachers used to a certain quality of service to their students. Cannot do that now and teachers feeling that stress.

Physics Lab needs electricity. Wiring in the lab, today it was announced that the physics will get the electricity that they need.

Staff is professional, making it work but it is a burden on them.

Some classes still have too many special ed kids, still being sorted out at district level.

Staff question; For senior students having to share lockers; what’s the word?

**Committee reports:** none at this time.

**New Business:**

**Elections;**

 DPAC rep; by acclamation Teri Towner will stay on. (not here tonight but txted her approval).

Chair; by acclamation; Tamara Dean

Treasurer; by acclamation; Cinzia DeJesus (last year)

Secretary; by acclamation; Susan Sorensen (last year)

Member – at –large; Cathy U, Deb Meuller put their names forward

and third; TBD ( considering it is Stacee Copeland Kerr).

Thank you all.

Lastly, we received 3 (of 4) Thank you cards for last year’s gr 12 scholarships ($500.00 ea).

Future meeting dates: November 6, 17; BUDGET (Jon will get teachers wish list)

 Feb 26, 2018

 April 30, 2018

 June 4, 18. AGM and election for next years (2018-2019) PAC

All meetings 7pm in the Library.

Mtg adjourned 8:25 pm.

See you Nov 6.