

KSS PAC Minutes

Tuesday February 2, 2016

In attendance:

Janice Loukras, Krista Berrigan, Liliana Perez- Lefevre, Brenda Maier, Joy Godel, Sarah Marriott, Tom Morgan, Pam Morgan, Susan Zimmermann, Marsha Oakley-Chamber, Gergelry Vass, Edith Cruz, Jerry Cruz, Roasanna Jamero

Parent Ambassador Meeting at 6pm

KSS Library Commons presentation by Wynter Oakes and Trina Zuyderduyn

- Traditional Library moving towards a “Learning Commons”
- Collaborative learning environment for students/portable whiteboards/flexible space
- Future “Library” - exciting work being done in this area

Welcome/Meeting start 6:51 pm

Parenting Anxious Youth Presentation

by Courtenay O’Hara -School based Mental Health Clinician

- Recognizing and supporting Anxiety in Youth
- Anxiety is normal - everyone experiences anxiety at some point in time
- Anxiety is not dangerous and although it feels uncomfortable it is temporary and will eventually decrease
- Discussed “thinking traps” that teens often get into that is not helpful
- Tips for how parents can help youth with Anxiety and list of resources for parents and teens (sent out to parents in Whoo’s News school newsletter on January 22nd).

1. Adoption of the Agenda - agenda adopted (with additions) by Tom Morgan

- Addition of parent parking issue in bus drop off area

2. Approval of the Minutes - January 12, 2016; motioned by Susan Zimmerman, seconded by Sarah Marriott, motion carried.

3. Principal’s Report - Scott McLean

- Busy time at KSS! Lots coming up ...
- Course selection process starting for grade 10/11. Parent evenings to review course selections are being scheduled; dates will be listed in the Whoo’s News.
- Parent Teacher interviews have been re-scheduled for Wednesday March 2nd.
- Grade 9 parent information evening also scheduled for Wednesday March 2nd.
- Scott looking for feedback from Parents on Report Cards. They found many errors this time and ended up having to reprint the report cards for the whole school. Please let Scott know if you still see errors on your student report card.
- The transition to a new semester seemed to go quite smoothly
- Westerns Basketball tournament this Thursday/Friday/Saturday and our KSS Owls are favoured to win. Will be an exciting tournament - final game Saturday night; tickets \$5.00 at the door (come early if you want a seat).

4. Executive Reports

Chair - Janice Loukras

- Thank-you to Kevin Kaardal for letter sent out to parents about the Saskatchewan school shooting; appreciated the emphasis that this is an unusual occurrence and our schools are safe and that strategies for parents to help students who may be feeling anxious or worried were provided.
- BCCPAC conference in Kelowna coming up at the end of April. Does anyone have any resolutions they would like to put forth? Suggestion of a resolution that would allow for expanded uses of gaming funds especially in High Schools. We are not currently allowed to use Gaming funds to cover TOC costs. Concern voiced that by asking for expanded uses for gaming funds we don't cause underfunding from province.
- Grade 12 Winter Semi-Formal coming up on February 11th - still looking for volunteers between 6:30-10:30pm. Sarah Marriott volunteered herself and her husband for the evening.
- Together we Learn newspaper printed by School District 23. One printed for each student in the district but many parents have not yet received it. They were apparently handed out in Homeroom prior to Provincial Exams. An electronic copy can also be found on-line on the School District Website.
- Parent Teacher interviews/Grade 9 Parent information evening. PAC representatives to stand at PAC table and welcome Grade 9 Parents. Brenda Maier and Sarah Marriott volunteered to do this.

Vice Chair - Sarah Marriott

- Sarah sent letter to Scott today to approve and then forward on to teachers re: student nominations for PAC Awards from the first semester.

Treasurer - Darlene Kinakin - absent

Secretary - Brenda Maier - no report

Academic Chair - Susan Zimmerman

- Debate tournament on January 30, 2016 was very successful; six out of the 10 competitors qualified for provincials and will be travelling to the Law Foundation Cup in Vancouver February 26th & 27th. One of the topics being debated was whether voting in Canada should be made compulsory.

Applied Skills Chair- Tom Morgan

- Snag with the purchase of the Laser Engraver we approved - quote was in US funds and will end up costing quite a bit more in Canadian dollars.
- Mr. Schultz is planning to update what he has for Robotics with the funds we approved and possibly pass the old stuff down to a Middle School. He is hoping to send some students to a "Skills Canada" competition in Robotics at the College.

Fine Arts Chair- Liliana Perez- Lefevre

- Jazz at the Bohemian was a great event! Funds raised will go towards a trip to Idaho.
- Encore event coming up Feb 15 & 16, 2016. Grade 9's from both Dr. Knox and KLO Middle schools have been invited to perform at Encore. Tickets are \$15.00 and are available on-line, at Mosaic Books, or at the door.
- Jazz Festival coming up in Penticton in April.
- New York trip being planned for the Jazz Choir during Spring Break.
- Spring Drama production in the works. Auditions starting this week ...

Athletic Chair - Terri Birker

- Curling - Zone championships January 23rd. Teams did very well! Girls won 4 games but lost the final to Salmon Arm and Boys won all games including the final against Kamloops. The Boys will be going to Provincials in Delta in March.

COPAC - Valary Chidwick - absent (sent in report)

- SD 23 budget was presented and we are 3.6 million short this year. This despite running a very good/tight budget. We out-perform other School Districts but there is still a deficit. In part the shortfall is part of the cuts to education from government. The cuts will most likely be made where we spend the most money - staff.
- There is a presentation on Thursday February 11th by Maureen Dockendorf and Jan Unwin from the Ministry of Education on the new Curriculum. It is now listed on Eventbrite. It is open to everyone but please register so we don't exceed fire code.

5. Old Business

PAC Award nominations - letter sent as per Vice Chair's report above

Staff Appreciation - tabled

Fundraiser - tabled

Math Help

- Patti Buna has agreed to organize Math Help during the lunch hour; enlisting grade 11 and grade 12 math/math honours students.
- Homework Club is being run by Mrs. Kraft
- Question about possibility of having more Teacher Assistants in the classroom? This appears to be up to the teacher; students are invited by teachers to be a TA.

6. New Business

Parent parking issue in bus drop off area

- Parents are pulling up and parking in no parking zone across from Bus drop-off area and students are walking across street. It is difficult to see with all the congestion - accident waiting to happen.
- City of Kelowna to enforce "no parking" zone?
- Is the development of a "drop off" zone possible?
- Krista suggested that a letter be written and taken to the District Safe Schools committee where they deal with on-going safety issues at schools in the district.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 pm

Next PAC meeting: Tuesday March 8th, 2016