



CARIBOO HILL SECONDARY SCHOOL

ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE CARIBOO HILL

October 3, 2016

PAC meeting minutes

Welcome and introductions at 19:00, motion to accept the agenda moved and passed. Members given an opportunity to read through the previous month's minutes and motion made and passed to accept minutes without changes.

Student reports begin with Prime ministers. There will be a party for the grade 8 as the school annually does; the invites this year were personalized not just on posters in the hallways. Invites to the international students as well through the international student representative in student government.

The club expo event which was held last week had a great turn out. Activities and events planned for the Halloween week which will be the week of October 25th, such as a fashion show, Dance and arts and crafts from the feeder schools.

Camp Alexandre begins next week which is where the student government runs planning sessions and builds team within the group.

YAC will be running a Halloween for hunger campaign once again. The events will also include a pancake breakfast on 31st. Students are asking for parent involvement to assist with this event, any parent who can help is encouraged to show up at the cafeteria for 07:30. Sue Montebello, past principal, will also be assisting with this along with many of the student government initiatives this year.

Principals' report given by Andy Chin. It has been a very busy September but the administration is happy with the start. The school enrollment is a healthy 650 students which have settled nicely. There may be a few more adjustments to the class size and composition but these are really minor adjustments and may look to affect a grade 12 English class. The Pro D days were effective; the teachers worked on the redesigning of the curriculum, there has been a lot of conversation all across the district as well. The Terry Fox run as well as the Orange Shirt day events have been rejuvenated at the school and went well. Student I.D. cards were issued in house block today, grad photos complete and next week the school photos will be taken. He would like parents to remind their kids house block is a requirement and it begins at 8:38.

The meet the teacher event is 6:10 and will happen in small gym first and parents are then welcome to walk around the school and meet teachers. This is an introduction only, not a time to meet about your specific student needs.

Next Thursday October 13th there is an internet safety presentation at Burnaby Mountain Secondary - this will run from 7 to 9pm and is an effective learning event for both students and parents.

The next professional development day is on October 21st. Friends of Simon began last week; this is a group of university students in their last year and they offer free tutoring to Cariboo Hill students free of charge.

Updates from the questions raised at the last meeting; the basketball hoops are in the process and will be installed sometime this year. The Painting, student artwork, will continue, but only after his consultation, it is not a free for all.

The welcome wall which was painted over was reported to have graffiti on it which could not be removed so was painted over.

There is a meeting tomorrow with Armstrong and 2nd Street concerning the leave a book, take a book libraries.

Elections held for all positions; no voting process was required as all were acclaimed due to each position only having one candidate.

Chairperson Ed LaPointe, Vice Chairperson Sarb Basi, Treasurer Raveena Nat, Secretary Teresa Lim, DPAC representative Mike Gregus, Dry Grad representative Cathy Moroney, French Immersion Representative Gordana Vujanic, Fundraising Coordinator Sarb Basi

Treasurers report Raveena Nat; the PAC received confirmation we will receive gaming funds, but the amount is not certain as of yet. The PAC receives \$20.00/full time enrolled student. This funding comes with strict parameters on how it is to be used. We used most of the money from last year which is expected. We do have a few GIC's and use them if required or the funding formula is changed as has happened in the past.

Next month we will work through the "one time" requests as the standing requests were voted on last June by the previous PAC. This is passed on the condition the funding formula is equal to or greater than the previous formula. The "one time" requests are generated by the head teachers and/or clubs or groups involving the student body.

Andy Chin indicated there is a discrepancy on requests received and funds available. As a result he requested the option to select which request is fulfilled. This generated a great deal of discussion surrounding the process. The PAC assumes full responsibility and risk on how these funds are distributed and selected, using open, frank discussion which form part of the minutes. The administration's role is advisory only as to what is curricular or considered non-curricular. The administration is also key in clarifying what the requests may mean to the student body, however has no vote or control how the funding is granted. I, as the chair would consider this a conflict of interest. If we as a PAC are open to be audited by the gaming branch, any funding involving curriculum would result in a freezing of funds which would significantly affect the students.

DPAC there will be an event tomorrow at Burnaby Central - Mike will be attending.

New Business; last year the PAC elected to not join the BCCPAC as we had no members wishing to attend. What we did not realize was that not being a member also removed the option for students to apply for scholarships. A motion was moved and carried to pay the membership fees to the BCCPAC.

Open Discussion; there is a problem with the district fee payment structure which does not allow for parents to pay more than the \$10.00 optional fee to the PAC. This optional fee is used by the PAC to fund areas which could not otherwise be supported by the gaming funds. Parents have asked to pay more than the \$10.00 and it was thought to have been changed last year.

Open discussion; Parents asked Andy Chin to update on the recent changes to the curriculum - how will this work when the students do not get percentage grades, how will they enter or apply to universities or colleges, has the district and the government actually thought this through? Andy explained the new process is not driven by the district but well above them, and the entire district staff and teachers are working hard to move forward it is not a matter of "if" it is here. The new curriculum will focus more on having students approach toward deeper focus. Will be more tailored to engaging students to more cognitive and critical thinking. The teachers will be looking for more strategies to meet the new outcomes which are process driven towards the critical thinking aspect and also cross curricular to create more comprehension.

Question asked how the new results which are not percentages be interpreted by the universities? Is this just B.C.? Andy indicated that other provinces have moved away from percentages however not everyone has. Currently AP classes score a 1 to 5 and the IB programs and also use this score system. The school district and provinces are working with the next levels to ensure there is a plan.

Question raised - how honours programs work in the school. The perception of the students is they just get more homework; Honours provide enrichment to the students both in the classroom setting and out.

Parent comment; can there be a focus or a concerted effort to the middle of the road students. We already have things in place for struggling students and those who are gifted but what about the average ones. Maybe get rid of spare blocks or give them goals to achieve. Andy agrees that spares are not a good thing however they are part of the school structure. His team already has these on the radar and has met with department heads. He feels it is too easy to get these and his focus is to push the school and the students to the next level.

PAC Chair said, spares are essential for some students, school is not just academics it is also learning to manage free time to take on responsibilities. This is not a PAC discussion it is a parental role. Spares are part of the learning process and if the student has enough credits having these allows them to take on part-time work or join other clubs.

Next meeting November 7th