

GES PAC meeting

March. 3, 2020 7 p.m.

Present: Deb Small, Deborah Luporini, Sandra Squires, Jane Seyd, Martial Guillaud, Angie Dixon, Christina Crosby, Carly Westmoreland, Barry Janyk

1. Open mic.

- Angie Dixon asked what is the plan for this school in light of coronavirus. Custodians have been told all touch services have to be disinfected daily. This has been going on since Jan. 28. Four school district trips that were going to happen over spring break have been cancelled. Schools are following direction of medical health officer.

2. Adoption of agenda. First Angie Dixon. Second Sandra Squires. None opposed.

3. Guest speaker: Jacquie Shelemey, president of the Sunshine Coast Teachers Association.

- Ms. Shelemey provided an overview of teachers bargaining. Most of it is happening behind a media blackout. Parties have been in mediation since June. Sides have been back to bargaining with dates set through March.
- Ontario and BC have higher per-pupil funding. We are starting to feel a teacher shortage here on the coast. Also “Our composition language is very weak” regarding class composition. Class sizes are average.
- There are no plans for a strike in the immediate future.

4. Motion to approve the minutes of the February PAC meeting. First Debbie Small. Second Sandra Squires. None opposed.

5. Reports:

a.) Principal’s Report: Deborah Luporini -see Principal’s Report for March 3

- There are 336 students registered for next year already and enrolment will likely go up.
- Lessons on sexual health are almost finished at the school.
- Report cards go home on Friday. Some classes are doing open houses and some are doing parent interviews.
- Ebooks are on order

b) Treasurers Report: Deb Small -see Gibsons Elementary PAC Account Banking as of March 3, 2019

- Carly asked about the amount of money the PAC has been carrying forward in its accounts. “It seems like a lot of money for a PAC to be holding on to.”

- There was discussion about how much of that comes from the hot lunch program and that a bad year would significantly wipe out that amount that has been built up over the years. The amount retained by our PAC is similar to that of other local PACs according to our treasurer. There was an agreement that this is an issue that warrants further discussion.
- Action item: There was agreement to have a meeting to discuss the PAC funds and whether we would like to set priorities for spending some of that at a future date.

6. Correspondence and business arising:

a.) Bike route

- There was a conversation about a request for PAC support on a bike route along North Road when MOT does road work in the area. There was support for the general idea but also concern raised about safety if the “bike route” is just a line painted on the road.
- Making crosswalks safer is a higher priority. There was agreement we will discuss this at a future meeting.

b.) BC PAC annual general meeting

- Scheduled for May 1-3. Sandra might possibly be interested in going.
- Motion: That up to \$600 be allocated to attendance at the BC PAC. Deb Small, first. Angie Dixon, second. None opposed

c.) Reflector tags by Finnex

- Martial suggested we might want to look into providing them as giveaways. Martial to look into it and report back.

7. School store, report by Carly Westmoreland

- We have a quote from the perogy lady in the mall. We may have her providing perogies as part of the hot lunch program next year rather than current ones from SuperValu.

8. Trustee report: there was no report presented.

9. DPAC report:

- There are a number of programs planned for kids and parents: teen mindfulness groups and Kids in Control for kids who have mental illness or family members with mental illness.
- Jane raised issue of fundraising policy and social media policy as potentially of interest for parent comment.

10. New business.

- Cool school. Barry raised the issue of promoting the program to the school community. There was a consensus that we will discuss it at the next meeting.
- Teacher grant applications: Sandra has taken Barry's input and has incorporated it into our guidelines under development.
- She will provide that with the intention of finalizing it at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.