

Canalta Elementary School

Pac Meeting Minutes from January 17, 2013

Present: Nicola Brown (Chair, DPAC Rep), Laurena Myers (Secretary), Tara Tom (Treasurer), Terri Spencer (Hot Lunch), Wanda McIntyre (Principal), Chris Aylward (Vice Principal), Christina Wards (DPAC Rep), Brandy Beyer, Sharlene Hommy, Lisa Conroy, Tanya Wilson

Called to order: 7:05 pm

Minutes from December's meeting reviewed and accepted.

Reports:

Treasurer (Tara Tom): See attached

Hot Lunch (Terri Spencer):

- Fridge switch due to sour milk, we need to keep an eye on that!!
- Lunches are going well, including pizza Mondays
- Volunteers always needed and always appreciated!!

Principal (Wanda McIntyre):

- Discussions around FSA testing which is taking place for Grades 4 and 7. Data shows learning problems in grade 4 can lead to troubles in grade 12? Link? Testing to take place at the end of February. Schools are rated on these test results. Practice tests will take place, parents will see results.
- Board highlights (see attached):
 - Discussions surrounding upcoming school year calendar. Calendar is very loose right now, not even sure which day school will commence in September at this point. Suggestions for this calendar are always welcome as well as suggestions and opinions surrounding spring break...1 or 2 weeks? 2 week Christmas break?
 - Discussions around change in school day (extending a few minutes to allow for extra lunch time?). Also possibility of play first, eat second, in order to allow the kids a few extra minutes eating time?
- Habits of the heart (project based learning), Chris has been working with grades 2/3 and up, wondering if PAC can support "Pink Shirt Day" with the purchase of pink buttons again this year. It was agreed we would support.
- Meeting tomorrow for Gwillim trip, \$600 from the PAC going towards this trip
- Staff requests
 - Staff would like to see more iPads, enough to make a full class set, approximately 16 more would be required to reach this goal
- No science fair this year, career fair in it's place

DPAC: Christina Wards

- Discussions continue on Erase Bullying as well as 21st Century Learning
- Bussing budget proposal still going through

Miscellaneous:

- Tara Tom requests the PAC support the purchase of new jerseys for the sports teams. Tara will get prices and we will discuss at the next meeting.
- Discussions about movie night and Valentines Day dance? Should we or shouldn't we? Dance planned for February 15, 2013.

Next meeting February 21, 2013

Adjourned 8:30 pm

CANALTA PAC GAMING ACCOUNT

Balance @ December 31, 2012 \$ 4,883.84

Deposits: \$ 1.00 – Interest (Nov 30th)
1.03 – Interest (Dec 31st)**Grade 7's chocolate fundraiser**Sales - \$ 2,140.20 (Oct. 25)
2,552.94 (Nov. 15)
2,571.70 (Dec. 7)

Payments - \$ 4,704.00 (Nov. 9) Chq # 488

\$ 7,264.81
4,704.00

Profit to date: \$ 2,560.81 + 744.31 = 3305.12

Craft Fair breakdown

Deposit - \$1,838.20

Grade 7's bake sale and raffle table - \$ 388.20
Table rental – 875.00
M&M Meats BBQ – 161.00
Door prize tickets – 414.00



Canalta Elementary



Principal: Wanda McIntyre

Vice Principal: Chris Aylward

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PAC Meeting – January 17, 2013

Information Sharing:

1. FSA Provincial testing time for Gr. 4 and 7 students
2. Board Highlights – School Calendar
3. \$525.00 raised to support the sponsoring of a World Vision Child
4. Habits of the Heart
5. Staff requests



School District 59 (Peace River South)

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Board Meeting Highlights for December 12, 2012

Dawson Creek

- **New Legislation for School Calendar** - The province has recently released new regulations for the creation of calendars in school districts. These new rules open up the possibilities for different calendars in different schools or communities depending on their needs. The same requirement for consulting with parents and staff is necessary, and the Superintendent will begin that process early in the New Year.

The regulation also provides new guidelines including the minimum number of hours of instruction that is required in a school year:

- 853 for Kindergarten;
- 878 for grades 1-7;
- 952 for grades 8-12.

A number of things influence how the calendar is developed and the actual hours of instruction that are built into it. The main influence is the bus schedule. In developing pick up and drop off times, it is necessary to keep school beginning and dismissal times between the grades as closely aligned as possible. For a community like Tumbler Ridge that is not served by a bus fleet, there are many possibilities for developing an independent calendar that suits their unique situation.

- **Bus Fleet Cancellations Due to Weather Conditions**

The Transportation Manager is authorized, at his discretion, to cancel school busses due to severe weather and/or dangerous road conditions.

The Transportation Manager will monitor weather/road conditions, utilizing reports from various agencies when/where required. The safety of the students and the drivers will be paramount in consideration of bus fleet operation/cancellation.

Bus cancellations due to severe weather will be announced over local radio stations and posted on the SD#59 website. Principals will be notified.

GENERAL FACTORS WHEN DECIDING TO CANCEL BUS TRAVEL

Cancellation of bus services is based on a review of the weather conditions and combinations. This includes examining temperature, wind velocity, drifting, visibility, wind chill, road conditions, and the weather forecast for the next 8 hours. The Board authorizes the Transportation Manager to exercise judgment and experience based on the following factors:

Busses will be cancelled when the ambient temperature is -35° Celsius or colder.

Additional factors in deciding to cancel fleet travel will include considering the ambient temperatures in the rural areas served by the fleet.

Busses will be cancelled when a combination of falling/blowing/drifting snow and/or cold temperatures present a considerable safety risk for visibility factors or for busses to become stuck on rural roads.

Busses may be cancelled when the wind chill, combined with the ambient temperature, is -35° Celsius or colder.

Busses may be cancelled when a combination of factors have produced poor road conditions that present a considerable safety risk for busses to lose traction.

Note: The Transportation Manager bases his decision on multiple sources of information. He will be in conversation with Caribou Road Services to assess highway conditions, and with his drivers in rural areas to put together the road conditions. Further, he will drive back roads in the vicinity of rural schools (depending on weather pattern) to determine the drifting, visibility, road maintenance, and traction. The Transportation Manager also has access to computer weather forecasting and radar tracking programs that offer as accurate and up to the minute information as can be produced.

The challenge when severe weather is predicted, is that we may have good conditions for picking up the students, however may anticipate deteriorating conditions in the region. The additional heavy truck traffic means that the highways need to be nearly dry for busses to make their highway stops.

- **Admin Announcements** – the following Administrative changes were announced:
 - Leslie Lambie – Assistant Superintendent (effective September 1, 2013)

- **Chetwynd Early Learning Hub** – Don Titus Elementary School in Chetwynd is transforming their extra space into a community early learning hub. There are three classrooms and a multi-purpose room with a licensed kitchen, that will share a hallway, bathrooms and entrance area that are easily separated from the rest of the school with minor renovations. The Chetwynd Early Learning Hub is becoming a welcoming space where families can access early learning and family support programs. The renovations required will allow programming from early morning to evenings. This site started in September with a Before- and After-School Care and a StrongStart BC program.

Plans are in place to renovate one of the classrooms over the next few months to house four South Peace Community Resources programs. A School Community Grant for \$12,500 has been submitted to pay for these renovations. Confirmation on that grant is anticipated before Christmas.

The one remaining classroom has been designated for an indoor playground. The Chetwynd Early Learning Table is responsible for raising the funds to purchase the “fall protection flooring” and preschool playground equipment. The timeline for the playground to open is next September. By creating a hub for early learners, it encourages the co-location of a wide array of services within a local school setting that will benefit the whole community

- **Children’s Health** – Did you know that a child doesn’t need to read the alphabet in order to have a vision test? BC Medical Services provides coverage for children to receive optometric eye exams. Annual eye exams are fully covered up to your child’s 18th birthday.

Children can acquire hearing loss as the result of earaches, colds, or infections. Evidence of hearing loss are when your child has difficulty locating sounds, frequent ear problems, needs constant repetition of sentences and words, confuses consonant sounds, turns electronic volumes up beyond normal, or shows better understanding when he/she sees your face.

- **Learning Improvement Fund Serves Student Needs** – When Bill 22 was introduced in the spring, it assigned money to school districts, targeted to improve learning in

classrooms. The principals consulted with teachers on their professional needs and developed proposals to the Superintendent to address the needs in their schools. The \$535,000 was then allocated based on those proposals. Across the district these resources went to provide services such as literacy and numeracy support teachers, in-service to strengthen professional practices, increased opportunities for teachers to collaborate on student learning, and additional support staff in classrooms.

- **SD#59 to Have Enrolment Audit** – The Ministry of Education randomly audits school districts to ensure they are in “compliance” with the regulations that govern school and District operations. This means the auditors will be reviewing the procedures, practices and policies through a wide range of programs the schools provide, to make certain they are following Ministry requirements. The Schools will need to demonstrate students are appropriately enrolled in their educational programs, are instructed by certified teachers, and that students are in attendance, with plans in place to ensure they are progressing.

The Audit will occur through the week of February 25, 2013. Schools involved are DCSS (including Distant Learning and Alternate Ed), Chetwynd Secondary, and Tremblay Elementary.

Important Dates –

December 21	Last day of classes before winter vacation
January 18	Non-instructional day. Classes not in session
January 23	Regular meeting of the Board (Dawson Creek)
January 28-30	Provincial exams

**Next Regular Meeting – January 23, 2013 at 1:00pm
Dawson Creek**