

Burnsview Parent Advisory Committee Meeting  
Thursday, September 28, 2017

**Attendance:**

Fiona Bircher, Renee Reid, Weimin Wu, Rassamee Ling, Melanie Bannister, Gordon Andrew, Susan Pellaers, Kristine Clark, Cheryl Punshon, Olga Margaritis, Herjote Ahluwalia, Seth Li Larissa Pankevic, Richard & Satu Haukka, Garret Brennan, Garcia Wu, Shareen Ali, Jennifer Booth, Nikita Arora, Traci Northcott, Coco & Kelly \_\_, Don Younger

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm

1. **Adoption of Agenda:** Renee Reid - Moved; Seconded by Gordon Andrew.
2. **Guest Speakers:** none
3. **Welcome:** round table introductions
4. **Adoption of Minutes:** from June 8, 2017 (AGM)  
Motion to adopt: Renee Reid; Seconded: Jennifer Booth

**5. Reports:**

5.1 President's Report -

Thanks expressed to Don Younger for his parent communication so far this year.

- download the free Burnsview App (from App store) to keep abreast of school functions and receive notifications.
- We are members of the BCCPAC and as such benefit from information at the Provincial level and have scholarships available to our students.

5.2 Treasurer's Report - our year-end is September 30th.

- A). Presented the Financial Statements for October 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017.
- B). Presented the Budget Status report for October 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017.
- C). The Gaming Grant for the 2017-2018 school year application was submitted in June. According to the Gaming Commission website, grants will be processed and deposited by September 30th. The grant is \$20.00 per student and based on enrollment numbers.
- D). Gaming fund applications will go out to the faculty early October once funding has been received. I will be requesting that all applications be emailed again this year to avoid any delays. The deadline to apply will be October 31st. The treasurer and president will have a budget meeting with the Principal/Vice principal and a recommended budget will be presented to the PAC at the November meeting for approval.
- E). Our membership in the BC Council of Parent Advisor Councils has been renewed for the 2017/2018 year.

### 5.3 Principal's Report

#### A). First Weeks of School

We have had a very busy school start up, and despite much class balancing; teachers were able to have their classes up and running quickly. Once again we are very full and at our largest ever. The breakdown of our student numbers is:

Grade 8 (189) Immersion 100 Regular 89

Grade 9 (124) Immersion 54 Regular 70

Grade 10 (185) Immersion 73 Regular 112

Grade 11 (154) Immersion 57 Regular 97

Grade 12 (162) Immersion 63 Regular 99

Total = 814

The school is very full this year with many classes operating at 30 students. With the new contract rules, we are working to have classes meet the requirements and this has meant that we have had to open new classes and move students between blocks to get within contract. In addition to working with class size requirements, we are also working within composition requirements. This has meant adding additional blocks to spread out students. This has meant that in some areas (English, Socials, Math) we have smaller classes. However we are considered "full" as there is not space in other classes to build student timetables or move students between classes.

#### Staffing and Scheduling

Although full, we have been able to provide spaces for all students who have moved into our catchment. Unfortunately we were unable to create schedules for out of catchment students

- Presently we have 9 classes over 30. And 2 Foods classes over 26.

- We also have many classes that are over the composition requirement.

In the past week we have created 4 new sections of classes. One of these will take place Friday or Monday.

Unfortunately we have experienced 2 teacher resignations within our Technology department and this has created confusion. We have now hired a new teacher and have stability for the classes.

#### **-Grade Awards and Assemblies**

For the 2016/17 school year awards we decided to follow the lead of other district secondary schools and present the awards at the start of our grade assemblies. The reasoning for this change was based on:

- We wanted to recognize our students in front of their peers and hopefully use this experience to encourage all students to work to the best of their ability.

- Over the past years we have found that many (approx. 50%) of the awards are not being collected at our evening awards assembly. This leads us to question the value that the awards hold for our students.

Unfortunately there were communication issues around our grade 11 and 12 awards with improper times being given out to parents.

We are again reviewing what awards are presented and how this ceremony is run to best serve our community.

- Awards Ceremony for Grade 11 & 12 - error in time given out to parents. School apologizes.

- \*\*Fiona (PAC President): shared feedback she received from disappointed parents

- Don - work is being done evaluating how to determine awards and how to run the awards ceremony. Renee requests opportunity for parent feedback on future changes to awards ceremony.

We had our grade assemblies on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at which we outlined academic and behavioural expectations for the students. These meetings went well, with increasing involvement as we moved through the grades. We were able to talk about opportunities for academic support as well as opportunities to become involved in the school.

#### **-Student involvement**

We have been impressed with the many students involved in both sports and clubs very early in the year.

- Both Girls and boys Volleyball is up and running with Grade 8's, junior and senior girls teams happening.
- Jr and Sr. boys Soccer is also running
- Cross country is running
- Our DYAC group is already meeting.
- Our senior leadership students ran a fun 'welcome to Burnsvew' breakfast for the grade 8 students

B). Over the course of our 2 Pro D days our staff has been focused on creating Self Regulating learners. We have initially started with working on positive school culture and also engaging students in outlining clear attainable learning objectives for each lesson.

- **Collab Days** (every second Wednesday - late start for students) - teachers are focusing on developing Self Regulating learners. (E.g. Clear description of learning objectives at beginning of class. Cell phone breaks - off for most of the class, then 5-8 minute brain break when checking phones before turning off or putting away again). Google classroom instruction for teachers. Department based new curriculum discussions. How to integrate Tech department with other departments in the school. Discussing being a trial school for the new 'numeracy' exam June 2018 (for Gr 11 and younger students, written once over Grade 10, 11 or 12).

#### C). School Events

- Grad boat cruise – Sept 21<sup>st</sup>
- Grade 8 Breakfast – Sept. 27
- Grade 11/12 Parent info night – Oct 12
- Interim reports – Oct 25<sup>th</sup> (check Parent Connect)

#### 5.4 District PAC Report (Melanie Bannister)

- no posted minutes
- According to DPAC past president (thanks to Cheryl for texting him a question), the main content of the September meeting was setting dates for the meetings of the current year.

#### 5.5 Canadian Parents for French - CPF (Weimin Wu)

- There is a new CPF president this year
- Very small attendance at first meeting
- Neil Stephenson, director of Learning Services for the District says - "all Fr Immersion teacher positions have been filled"
- 3 activities planned for this year:
  - Charlotte Diamond concert ~ Jan 20 or 21, 2018
  - French class for parents - run two sessions, one in autumn and one in spring (need to find a teacher)
  - Membership drive - it is the main source of income for Delta CPF. 90% of funds raised will be returned back to our local chapter. Fee is \$25/year. Benefits = online tutoring, online study materials, assistance to parents on how to support their students learning French, Summer French camps. Enrol via the CPF website or link on Facebook. (Fiona encourages parents to support CPF by becoming members. Funding for the Burnsvew trip to Triumph has been cut due to lack of CPF funds).
- November 17<sup>th</sup> is the application deadline for one of two available \$200 grants to support French cultural exposure in a local school.

- CPF scholarship award will decrease from \$600 to \$500 due to budget shortage.
- All parents welcome to attend any of the CPF meetings.
- Next CPF meeting: Nov 23, 2017 @ 7pm at DMEC.

#### 5.6 Dry Grad Update - (Susan Pellaers)

- explained what the event is like. (View description on Burnsvie school website too.)
- The actual event is run by non-Grade 12 parents. Lots of volunteers are needed to run a successful night for our Grads.
- First meeting will happen October 3rd 7pm at Burnsvie library.
- May 25, 2018 is the date of this years Dry Grad event.
- Phone night (parents calling parents - from Burnsvie school) helps get connection with Grade 10-11 parents to request their involvement.

#### 5.7 Emergency Preparedness (Gordon Andrew)

- Gordon wants staff numbers from Don to assist with calculations for required food/water supplies.
- In the event of an earthquake or other catastrophe students will not be released by the school. (Fiona - "Have a discussion with your student about expectations in the event of a catastrophe")
- We have a rolling process for gradual replacement of expiring food/water products.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes: none

7. New Business - content already addressed within body of Principal's Report

7.1. Awards Ceremony

7.2 Collaboration Days (late start Wednesdays - two per month)

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm

Next Meeting: October 26 @ 7 pm Burnsvie library