

Dr Knox Parent Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes | January 18, 2023 | Dr. Knox Library / via Zoom

6 attendees in person, 2 via Zoom

1. Meeting called to order at 6:08 pm.
2. **PAC EXECUTIVE:**
 - Minutes for all prior meetings will be available next meeting for Approval.
 - MOTION to approve the meeting agenda as circulated via e-news put forth by Mike, seconded by Cam, motion unanimously APPROVED.
3. **PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE:** *Luke Campbell, Principal*
 - a) ***Parent Teacher Interviews*** – January 26, 2023
 - These will be held in the gym with teachers at desks around perimeter of the room
 - 4-minute timed/managed sessions; no appointments, parents simply line up to see the teachers they want to see
 - The school expects good attendance, especially based on how well attended the open house was
 - Suggestion was made to allow parents to sign-up for slots; school will look into scheduled sign-ups for next year
 - Gr 9 will be offering tours of the building and running timers to chime for when it's time to switch – great leadership and coordination opportunities for the older students
 - b) ***Learning Goals***
 - As mentioned at the last meeting, the school is aiming to generate an academic goal and non-academic goal
 - Considering:
 - Literacy for academic goal (measurable/quantifiable). Things to consider here:
 - How to measure linear improvement? What kind of historical quantitative data is there available as a baseline?
 - Luke mentioned school wide write and other tools, but there not a ton of historical data
 - Comment that things like FSAs aren't great because they are a measure of a point in time rather than a measure of success
 - Dr. Knox has been randomly chosen re: PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) –two Grade 8 classes in the school have been selected to measure student performance against other countries
 - Belonging/community for non-academic goal
 - Student surveys: have a consistent social-emotional survey that is sent around so there is a data set over several years that is available
 - c) ***Sports Update***
 - Chess Club came in 2nd in High School Chess Tournament and only lost to KSS A Team, beat KSS B Team, Mt. Boucherie, OKM etc. – kiddos were thrilled – had a great turn out
 - Riding the success of that event, there will probably be another tournament for the Chess Club

- Basketball is going really well, a couple of tournaments coming up for Gr 9 boys
- School is planning an exhibition game – a great opportunity to get the student body out to the gym cheering them on and to get some school spirit going
- Gr 7 basketball starts soon; Gr 8 will follow – basketball very popular at the school overall

d) Expansion Update

- Not a lot of news here; it is happening and likely on a timeline to be done September 2024
- The expansion will house additional classrooms, breakout rooms, and gender-neutral bathrooms, and *hoping* for additional locker space – and is planned to be done September 20, 2024
- Gender-neutral bathrooms are a great thing for the school as they are much, much easier to manage re: supervision. They will be well-designed for appropriate privacy. There will still be gender-specific bathrooms for those uncomfortable using a gender-neutral options.
- The drawings are in preliminary stages and will be put out to tender soon; once contractors are selected, the process tends to go quite quickly.

e) Open Floor for Questions/General Discussion

- Discussions re: Castanet rumour re: Dr Knox becoming a high school – that is something that would not be in the near future.
- Discussions re: improvements to weekly newsletter – trimming some of the redundancy within the linked document, adding a bulleted summary list at the top of the outgoing email with highlights so parents will be enticed to click to open
- T-shirts are finally on the way – there were supply chain/ordering issues, so we are glad they are almost here and hoping to have them distributed by the end of January (and that they all still fit!!)
- There will be a school dance on Feb 9 during the school day after lunch:
 - kids can participate in the dance, they can go to their homeroom, there will be a movie room, craft room – they can make a choice if the dance is not appealing for them
 - there will be little movement allowed once they do choose to avoid chaos
- The course selection process for next year has started
- KSS will send info out to parents in February re: course selection process

4. **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT:** *Sarah Bendall, President*

- Everyone in attendance (except Administration) at the General Meeting was at the Executive Meeting tonight, so we'll review quickly.
- School looking forward to having more permanent seating; looking for as few nooks and crannies as possible, so PAC will aim to raise enough for bases.
- PAC needs to have funds in place before we can get on the waitlist for the project with the district.
- We also need to consider timing of the construction, depending on where the wing is coming out, we'll have to see how it works out as to where we end up and if we can get it done this year.
- MOTION to apply for gaming licence and move ahead with running a 50/50 via RaffleBox for school facility improvements put forth by Cam, seconded by Sarah, and motion was unanimously APPROVED.

5. **PAC BUDGET UPDATE:** *Mike Moore, Treasurer*

- **Gaming Account:**
 - No changes to the gaming account.
- **General Funds:**
 - Some payments have now gone out here; we need to work to replenish this account.
 - Need to add \$75 for BC CPAC fees to the budget, as well as some potential end of year costs....again, need to do a push for Recycling fundraiser.

6. **COPAC UPDATE:** *Camila Biffard, COPAC Rep*

- SD23 has a K-12 online school; kids can take extra courses through here – so if high school students want to take extra courses outside of what fits in their school schedule, they can access these online
- Gr 12 students have to do an Indigenous credit and can often do it this way. Careers/Life Skills is also a course that is often cleared online to make room in a high school timetable.
- There was a robust and lengthy debate around the meeting agenda. The school board put forth a motion to remove the opportunity for the public to speak at meetings on general topics:
 - There are two mechanisms to speak at a meeting – 1) to have an item formally added to the Agenda; and 2) to approach and speak during the “General” open floor agenda item.
 - Trustees wanted to remove opportunity to speak generally and to limit the opportunity to speak to only being able to do so if an item was formally added to the Agenda
 - COPAC did *not* support and viewed it as a limitation on speech, motion did not pass

7. **OTHER BUSINESS?**

- Discussions re: vending machines and the school store/cafeteria etc. – the vending machines are open for tournaments/games etc., but tend to cause issues during school hours so they are turned off there. Cafeteria/store lineups move quite quickly and are sufficient avenues for students to purchase treats and snacks.
- Wondering whether the school has had any complaints about kids loitering at the plaza? Not really, no.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm
- Next Meeting March 15, 2023 at 6:00 pm

5. **SNACKS AND SOCIAL:** thanks to Sarah for bringing snacks. Good chats were had by all 😊