

Highland PAC Meeting Minutes November 18, 2024

In Attendance: Laura Roberts (Principal), Melissa Preston (Vice Chair), Jennifer Vaino (Chair), Spring Halasz (Treasurer), Brenda Cairncross, Kristen Sanderson, Vivian Vaillant (DPAC Rep), Paul Vaillant, Jim Wright, Penny Becklumb

Online attendance: Megan Cowling (DPAC rep)

Regrets sent for: Susan Leslie (Trustee), Brooke Finlayson (DPAC rep)

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm

Acknowledgement: We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territories of the K'omoks First Nation. We would like to thank them for the privilege of living on their land and the gift of working with their children.

Welcome & Introductions

Guest Presentation – None

Approval of previous minutes (October 2024) – Motioned by Melissa Preston; seconded by Brenda Cairncross. All in favour. Motion carried.

Approval of agenda – Motioned by Spring Halasz; seconded Brenda Cairncross by. All in favour. Motion carried.

Correspondence – none

REPORTS:

Trustee Report (Susan Leslie) Included in DPAC report

Chair Report – none

Treasurer Report (Spring)

- As of November 1st, 2024:
 - Gaming account \$16271.15 - \$25 paid to Spring for gaming license & \$0.01 interest earned
 - General account \$863.20 – no transactions in the last month
 - The 50/50 for Grad sits at \$570.
 - Zeffy is being used this time as it looks like there are no user fees. At the end of the Grad 50/50, a comparison of cost & time will done with Zeffy & Rafflebox. Zeffy – no cost, Zeffy needs Certification still in BC, is there a privacy policy?, Paul Vaillant has created an app to streamline the process and make it all automated
 - The Italy Exchange will be doing a 50/50 through Rafflebox
 - Band will run a 50/50 for 1 night only Dec 12th

DPAC Report

- [Next DPAC mtg is December 2nd at Mark R. Isfeld library 6:30-8pm. Everyone welcome!](#)

The full minutes from the November 4th DPAC meeting can be found here
<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/72m45ye9mb47tg6xsjj86/MINUTES-2024-11-04-SD71-DPAC.pdf?rlkey=1lqzj907hdbhlgfvu61c15bzw&e=1&st=h978sgqw&dl=0>

Principal's Report (Laura Roberts)

- Nov 18th & 19th – Comox Valley Music Festival
- Nov 21st & 22nd – North Island Region Drama Festival @ Vanier
- Nov 20th & 21st Susan Aglukark is performing at Vanier & Isfeld, 100 + students attending from Highland
- Nov 25th – Grade 11 English First Nations going to The Big House
- volleyball is close to ending
- basketball has started with games in the new year
- Nov 25th - 29th is Careers Week and Communication Week
- For year long courses, no mark is given until the January reporting
- For semester courses (half year), marks are given in November reporting
- There should be no surprises on the report card, communication should be ongoing with teachers & parents if there are concerns
- If parents have concerns, reach out to the teacher first, then the student's house Vice Principal, then the Principal
- Grade 12 – 84% submitted their Capstone proposals on time
- Dec 5th – Grad Dessert Night
- Dec 12th – Band Winter Concert

Budgets – Feeding Futures

\$ available; snacks & lunches spread out throughout the school; new hire – a Food Services Worker – looking at ways to get more access to food for students

Budgets – Student Affordability Funds

financial support is there if needed for food, extra-curricular fees and more; a request can be made through a friend or directly to a teacher, counsellor, or whoever you are comfortable with; no proof required

Staff taking a JEDI stance on Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

- looking at core competencies, curriculum requirements & content

looking at ways to increase student engagement – student centred assessments involving students and looking at observable impact on students

Funding Designations

Here is the link for all things special education/inclusive education by the ministry.

The codes or categories are used for funding purposes. This is a great resource if you like to read about policy and so on.

On the face page if you scroll down it shows the different funding levels.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/legislation-policy/independent-schools/inclusive-education-programs-and-funding-independent-schools>

Click on “inclusive ed Services Category Checklist document” to see each funded special education category and the requirements to receive funding.

Just a caution,

Funding is delivered at a district level and distributed down through schools. Funding does not “follow the student” as some parents may understand. All districts distribute this funding to schools in an equitable way as possible.

Secondly, If a student has learning needs that do not fall into these “funding” categories schools still provide and are required to provide appropriate adaptations and supports for each student who needs it.

Newsletter – suggestions were made; use bold lettering, lighten or remove background, use an email format instead of pdf, make the calendar for parents not students, or send out the pdf but include a paragraph with important info

Old Business – no old business was discussed

New Business

Staff Appreciation – Vivian Vaillant

- December 16th in the Art room at 6pm, Vivian will check with Ms. Merrett
- As this would be a PAC meeting night, no meeting will be held

Garden & Benches – Megan Cowling

- garden grant closes Nov 29th – no news yet
- there are 5 or 6 staff interested
- benches – Jim Wright has volunteered to help, designs will be sent to staff & students for consideration, theft prevention should be considered.

Next Meeting – January 20th, 2025

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm