

Mark Isfeld Parent Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2008

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Joanne Stevens/Sharon Adams

Motion to adopt agenda.

Motion carried.

Diana Kutyn/Margot Yamagishi

Motion to adopt minutes of the October 20, 2008 Isfeld PAC meeting

An error in the meeting minutes was pointed out in the Trustee Report. The correction to read: Rick Grinham declared his intention to run for Mayor in Cumberland against one other candidate.

Leah Taylor/Rhonda Snook

Motion to Adopt minutes of the October 20, 2008 Isfeld PAC meeting as amended.

Motion carried.

Principal's Report – Bill Village

Remember Day Ceremony

The school has received glowing reports on this year's Remembrance Day ceremonies held in the Multi Purpose room. Bill expressed a special thank you to Brad Smith, Gary Alwood and Wayne Kuhnert who collectively pulled together four very memorable ceremonies. Two representatives from the Base were on hand to speak at the ceremonies and both were very impressed with the presentation and student conduct.

Post Secondary Representatives

Representatives from several post secondary institutions visited the school to assist students with their post secondary planning.

Grad Photos

Grade 12 students were able to have their grad photos taken at the school last weekend.

Athletics

Isfeld has had an excellent start to the year. The Senior Boys Football team went undefeated through the regular season. A very disappointing loss in the play downs prevented them from continuing to the post season. It was an excellent year for the team and the best finish for Isfeld.

Both Senior Boys and Girls Volleyball teams have also had excellent seasons. Both teams have advanced to Provincials – GO ICE!!!

Halloween

A big thank you to Lynetta Swanson for her efforts in making this year's Halloween celebrations a great success. About 130 kids gathered in the Multi-purpose room the day before Halloween to carve pumpkins. The pumpkins were displayed in the gym on Halloween for a school assembly and costume parade. Bill reports that the costume parade was a success and was well represented by students from all grades and staff members.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, November 20 th	Grad Fashion Show
Thursday, November 20 th	First Term Report Cards
Friday, November 21 st	School-wide Assembly
Tuesday, November 25 th	Non-Instructional Day for reporting to parents
November 26 th & 27 th	CV Music Festival

Report Cards

The school district implemented new reporting software this year and Bill shared that it has presented its share of challenges. There are some limitations with teacher comments but overall he is pleased with the outcome. Bill welcomes comments on the report card format. Staff will now be following up with students who didn't fair well in the first term.

Busing

There have been issues with busing to the Comox area after school. The bus company won't change the schedule but if there is enough interest they will look at adding a bus which would leave Isfeld at 3:20. A petition has been started for students to indicate their interest. Bill will speak to the petition at Friday's assembly. It was suggested that information also come home to parents on this issue to ensure that the bus company is provided with accurate and complete information.

Drop Off/Pick Up

With the greater population in the school the drop off/pick up area at the front of Isfeld has become very dangerous. It has been decided the bus loop on the other side of the school will also be designated a pickup/drop off area. Bill has contacted the Maintenance Department and they are in the process of painting lines so that bus traffic is not interfered with.

School Name - Amendment

Bill asked the PAC to consider an amendment to the name of the school to include E'cole to acknowledge the French Immersion program. Consensus was to have Bill move forward with the change.

Announcements

When Isfeld was first built the announcements were broadcasted to televisions in each classroom. A group of grade 12 students have approached Bill to resume this program. The broadcasts are on Fridays and there have been two so far. The students do a great job of reporting on different activities taking place throughout the school in a "Rick Mercer" style. So far they are a great hit and can also be viewed on the school website.

Website

Gerald Fussell has been working on the school website and has made progress but there is still a long way to go. Gerald would welcome feedback and ideas of what parents would like to see on the website.

School Dance

The first school dance ever for Mark R. Isfeld will be held on December 4th. There was an organizational meeting today with the student leadership group. The students will officially hear of the dance at the school assembly on Friday. Parent participation would be welcome.

DPAC Report – Leah Taylor

Online Seminar – hosted by NIDES – November 26th

A parent “fireside” meeting will be held to help parents understand issues surrounding online dangers.

DPAC Manual and Website

The manual is in the process of being updated. In the end it will be a wonderful resource for parents. The website is under development and will eventually be linked with all school websites. It will contain a calendar of upcoming events and will hopefully be a good tool for parents to keep apprised of issues within our District. The website can be accessed through the SD71 website.

Emergency Preparedness Plans

Currently the DPAC is asking for risk assessments for all sites throughout the District. There are still a few schools that are at high risk.

Marg Brimacombe was acclaimed as an alternate representative to DPAC for Isfeld.

School Planning Council

The SPC had their first meeting a few weeks ago. They reviewed the role of the SPC and last year’s growth plan. Bill will be meeting with staff to discuss the growth plan in the upcoming weeks. Bill advised that he is looking at forming a Principal Advisory council for students to help them become engaged with activities at the school. The council will be made up of representatives from various interest groups throughout the school. From this council, a few students will be selected to participate in the School Planning Council.

FAC

No report.

Old Business

Budget

Diana Kutyn/Leah Taylor

Approve the request for funds as presented in the November 11, 2008 Treasurer’s Report with the exception of the Multi Purpose Room sound system.

Motion Approved.

New Business

Grad Transition

Lynetta Swanson gave an overview of the Graduation Transition plan. The plan is worth 4 credits and is mandatory for graduation. There are three main components to the plan which are Personal Health, Community Connections and Career and Life Goals. Isfeld has created a booklet to assist grade 12 students with the Career and Life component of the Transition Plan. The booklet is still in draft form but will be distributed to students as soon as it’s completed. The transition plan must be completed by April.

Signage

Joanna Stevens re-introduced discussion on a school sign. Bill has discussed the issue with Chuck Morris and is hopeful that we will see some progress.

Sharon Adams/Leah Taylor

Motion to Adjourn.