

Ecole Mark R. Isfeld Minutes of PAC Meeting – May 11, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Sharon Adams/Margot Yamagishi
Motion to adopt agenda.

Motion Carried.

Jennifer Kennan advised of a correction to the April PAC minutes under the discussion regarding portables in the Administrator's report. The minutes should read "additional portables may not be necessary at Isfeld next year".

Marlene Ricard/Rhonda Snook
Motion to adopt minutes as amended.

Motion Carried.

Administrator's Report – Bill Village

Update on Events at Isfeld

- Final school assembly was held
- Senior Band trip to Alberta. All reports are the trip was a huge success and the children were wonderful ambassadors of the Valley.
- May 1 – ICBC Speaker, Kevin Brooks. Mr. Brooks is an amazing speaker and students were very attentive.
- Articulation visits with feeder schools. This is part of the process of collecting information on the new students who will be coming to Isfeld.
- School Review has been postponed. Bill is looking forward to meeting with the Board Office staff and Trustees to share all the positive things that are happening at Isfeld.
- Valedictorian speeches will be held this Wednesday (May 13th). One male and one female student will be chosen from this group to present the Valedictorian speech at graduation.
- *Bang Bang You're Dead* has its last performance this week. Money raised from the performances will help fund their trip to Provincials.
- On May 28th Grade 7 parents and students are invited to come to Isfeld for an orientation evening.
 - June 2 Bursary tea
 - June 3 Band Concert @ 6:30pm. It will be held outside and there will be a barbeque.
 - June 4 Athletic Banquet
 - June 10 Academic Celebration
 - June 16 Last day of classes
 - June 17 Start of exams

Final Exams

The exams schedule is almost finalized. Grade 8 and 9 students will write their final exams in math, science, socials and English in the gym.

Retention Policy

A draft retention policy is in the works. Currently students who fail two or more of the five core subject areas would have to repeat the grade. The District is now looking at students repeating only failed classes.

Since the most recent report card staff have identified students at risk of not passing. Bill feels Isfeld is making progress in assisting these students. He has created a list of the strategies that are being put in place at Isfeld to assist at risk students. The strategies can be broken into three broad categories – planning, intervention and recovery. For example, letters were sent out to parents of “at risk” kids. The school will be implementing an after school support program which hopefully will start this Thursday. The after school support will run two days a week and will have a tie in with behavioural problems. The sessions will also provide academic support for students who are falling behind in their school work. This may be a result of being away from school for a period of time. It will also be available for students who recognize they need extra help and attendance will be voluntary.

Portables

The fourth portable is finally ready and is now occupied by French Immersion.

Next Year's Enrolment

Enrolment for 2009/2010 at Isfeld keeps growing. The capacity of the school is currently 950 but enrolments are at 989. We are seeing a steady stream of new registrations from students within the Isfeld catchment. In addition eight students from the Francophone program have requested to transfer to French Immersion. The school is hoping to have access to a portable at Valley View Elementary if it is not needed by them next year. The gym will be the main area of concern with regard to crowding. There may also be some crowding issues with the specialty classrooms, eg. science labs, industrial ed. rooms.

Timetable

The hope is to have the 2009/10 timetable issued to students prior to the end of school. However, until the registration stables the timetable cannot be completed so it may be delayed.

Trustee Report – Susan Barr

Susan thanked Isfeld for the letters we recently submitted regarding the portable and bus issues. She advised that they have been referred to Management to report back on. Susan also thanked the PAC for the letter regarding our concern with having Isfeld identified as the high school slated for potential closure. The Board has ensured that no high school will be singled out at this point in the discussion.

The Board currently sponsors “The Trustee Bursary” but has decided to rename it. It will be renamed with a reference to ‘Boomer’ Eykelenboom.

A committee has been struck to discuss potential grade structures within the District. Forecasted cohort sizes within the high schools are of concern because of declining enrolments. There are various issues throughout the district that need to be addressed such as overcrowding in some schools and declining enrolments in others. The committee consists primarily of administrators and teachers from throughout

the District. Some Trustees will be on the committee but only as observers. The Committee has been asked to prepare a report by the end of June.

Treasurer's Report – Diana Briggs

Diana presented the final financial report of the year. Diana suggested that next year we consider dividing the contributions to the Athletic Department by junior and senior programs. A parent was appreciative of the new uniforms that were purchased for grade 8 teams.

New Business

Out of Province Travel Approval

January 30 – February 7, 2010 to Quebec. This has already been approved by the FAC.

Marlene Ricard/Rhonda Snook

The Isfeld Parent Advisory Council supports the request for student travel to Quebec in January 2010.

Motion Carried.

A senior band trip to San Francisco has been planned for April 25 – May 1, 2010.

Margot Yamagishi/Sharon Adams

The Isfeld Parent Advisory Council supports the request to the Board for the senior band trip to San Francisco in April 2010.

Motion Carried.

Teacher Appreciation

The teacher appreciation event will be held on Wednesday, June 10th at 11:30. The PAC will provide coffee & tee for staff and a cake and fruit tray will be purchased. A big thank you to Rhonda Snook, Diana Briggs and Marlene Ricard for assisting with this event.

PAC Retires

Jennifer Kennan and Diana Briggs children will be graduating from Isfeld this year so they will be retiring from the PAC. A bouquet was presented to Jennifer and Diana and Bill thanked them both for their hard work and support this year.

Diana deWitt/Shelley Gailloux

Motion to Adjourn.