

## BCSD Parent Consultative Meeting Minutes

**Monday, February 20, 2017 7 – 8:30pm**

**Present:** Leigh Chan, Laura Batista, Jascine Peterson, Karen Birchenall, Sarah Doucet, Devin Aikin, Marcela Kline, Heather Ratzlaff, Charlie Coyle (on speaker phone), Gwen Wong

**Staff:** Jennifer Zuvik, Margaret Paris, Victoria Lee, Christine Ehrlich-Brady

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1. Introduction and Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Heather offered to chair the meeting. She currently sits on the Southslope Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). Southslope is not allowed to have 2 PACs. However Southslope PAC raises and distributes funds that BCSD can access. Heather reported that the Southslope PAC needs more parent involvement and is in need of a treasurer.</li></ul>	Marcella said that she may be able to offer help with the treasurer position.
2. Body Science Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Charlie raised the issue about why BCSD is not attending the Body Science Presentation. Discussion ensued amongst parents and Admin staff regarding reasons why. Jennifer explained that BCSD attended a similar presentation 2 years ago but it was a straight lecture. Our kids need more visuals. One possible option would be to hire Jessica Dunkley, a local deaf doctor who is interested in presenting with a May time frame. At the end of the discussion, a few parents expressed that if Southslope is having a speaker, they would like the option for their kids to attend as well to have the mainstream experience.</li></ul>	Further discussion needs to take place regarding BCSD students attending mainstream opportunities at Southslope.
3. Deaf Representation regarding Deaf Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Karen raised the issue about the Burnaby School District and whether they have an understanding about deaf education. Discussion ensued about the difference between an elected School Official and School Board Admin staff. It was concluded that BCSD needs a deaf educator (Principal) at the Admin staff level. Victoria shared that Lisa will not be returning this year though they are not sure if she will be returning in the fall. Victoria explained that at any School Board meetings, 50% of the group must be deaf so typically Christine and Terry attend meetings with her.</li></ul>	Consensus that the Principal needs to be a deaf educator.

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4. ASL 11 On Line Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Karen inquired about why BCSD students cannot gain credit for ASL 11. Victoria explained not at this point in time and that BCSD students are above ASL 11. ASL 11 curriculum is set up like a second language as well. Her concern is that the University may challenge this course. However she concluded that upon request from a parent, School can grant credit to the student for ASL 11.</li> </ul>	Upon request from a parent, BCSD student can be given credit for ASL 11.
5. Basketball Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Devin provided background on his basketball experience and training. He also provided a history of basketball teams starting at BCSD. Four years ago, a boys team was started. This year a girls team was started but no boys team. The girls entered a tournament and won for Most Sportsman Like. Last summer, Devin was involved with a basketball camp with Deaf Youth Today which he hopes to continue this summer. Karen shared that there is a 10 year vision with Vancouver Deaf Basketball. She and Devin have a meeting next week. Victoria commented that they are sitting on a good opportunity for fundraising.</li> </ul>	
6. Principal's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jennifer shared the following school news: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. 12 students will be attending the Flying Hands Competition. This will be the second year of participation for BCSD. Jennifer, Terry and Jodi will be accompanying the students.</li> <li>B. Spring Drama Night theme is a World without emotion is a World without colour on May 4<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 8pm mainly with Elementary students. High school is busy in May.</li> <li>C. Media Club has been established by Jodi with 13 students starting from grade 3 who meet weekly on Thursdays at lunch.</li> <li>D. Developing more ASL story on BCSD web site: Kookum's Red Shoes(First Nations), Stuttering Super Hero, And Tango Makes 3.</li> <li>E. Video Relay Service has started – Parents can register on behalf of their children. Children can use their first language. Limited hours right now but goal is 24 hour service.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Christine share the following school news: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Deaf math/science teacher has been hired at the high school.</li> <li>B. School is in the midst of hiring an OT and Pt.</li> <li>C. Counsellor available at Elementary but not yet at high school.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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	<p>D. Deaf Youth Canada Tournament - \$8,000.00 has been raised but goal is \$15,000.00. 13 students from BCSD will be attending. Alberta School for the Deaf is hosting for students ages 13 and up. Web site is <a href="http://www.yctd.ca">www.yctd.ca</a>.</p>	
7. Letter Grades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Margaret provided an explanation as to why no letter grades are given out at the intermediate level at BCSD. Majority of students are on an adapted Individualized Education Plan (IEP) that stays with the student into high school. IEP is based on the student's assessment. From her experience, parents have a concern regarding what the letter grade means. With the new curriculum, Ministry of Education is rethinking the use of letter grades at the elementary level. It appears there may be a movement away. The new curriculum would show parents where their child is at on the continuum.</li> </ul>	<p>Upon the request of the parent, letter grades can be given out.</p>
8. Next Meeting Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tuesday, May 16 from 7 – 9pm.</li> </ul>	<p>Admin staff will be in attendance.</p>