
NISS PAC Meeting Minutes February 9, 2023

Call to Order: 1830

Attendance: Brittany S. Chair; Megan D. Co Chair; Kathryn W. Nicole M. Hannah B. Jen Turner NISS Principal

No formal agenda to approve:

Approval of minutes of December 8, 2022 minutes: (minutes available online NISS website). No corrections. Moved, seconded, carried.

Draft minutes should be sent to Theresa (NISS Secretary) and she will send out to parents attending meeting for corrections before posting to NISS website.

Melisa Fletcher, resigning as NISS Treasurer. Nominations for NISS Treasurer: Kathryn W. nominated and accepted. Moved, seconded, carried.

Addition of Brittany Swanson Chair, and Kathryn Wykes, Treasurer, to NISS PAC signing authority. Moved, seconded, carried.

DPAC Report: Megan D.

DPAC member Kerri R. organizing online Parents presentations by Kerri Isham 6-8pm in March. Dates and presentation topics TBD. Changes in curriculum, school sharing, DPAC's shrinking across province. Affordability Grant good ideas shared. School Calendar 23/24 concerns need to be expressed to SBO by February 1, 2023.

Principal's Report:

- ~ teacher staff levels a concern
- ~ hired Math, Outdoor Ed + PE, French teachers. Still looking for junior and upper Science Teacher
- ~ using Google Classrooms in lieu of teachers for support while teacher shortage
- ~ letters sent home for students with teacher shortage
- ~ Principal and Vice Principal covering classes for extra support, and have received letters from parents acknowledging this
- ~ student teachers coming in spring
- ~ there are challenges, but will pull together as a school community
- ~ joint wellness committee still working towards Wellness Day. Planning workshops and mentoring activities
- ~ Successful Bell "Let's Talk" presentation by NISS student William Grant.
- ~ D + D club, Wild Heart Music choir, intermurals, happening

~ HADA, Indigenous Retreat in Bond Sound, select students there for 1 week for healing, language and other cultural experiences
~ Affordability Grant; students asked for Food Safe and First Aid certifications; art supplies; creation of a cooking garden in courtyard for years to come; breakfast and hot lunch program extending to second hot lunch day possibly; healthy baking and cooking platform; healthy snacks and fresh fruit and vegetables increased. Fees to sports teams with the most going to soccer programs due to high participation of students.

Parent Questions:

~ Gratitude to teachers doing double duty.
~ Why there was no presence from SD85 and recent job fair at VIU? Mixed communications as NISS admin advised parent to contact Superintendent or Vice at SBO, but parent was told by Vice Superintendent to address NISS admin.
*Jen T to inquire if rep sent and report back to PAC.

~ Concerns over when and how teachers leave and what is in place for classrooms. Is there a policy of informing parents?

* No policy in place, but need to have better communications with parents and students in this regard. Parents and students need to have time to adjust to shortages.
* Confidentiality is key. Parents are to contact the NISS Admin directly about any specific issue. If they can't discuss, they will refer to outside agencies for answers.
* Jen T to talk to SBO for a better way to share information with parents in a more thoughtful way.

~ Parent asked if there was any more support for the school from SBO as they are all going over and above their "job".

* Jen T mentioned something is in the works but can't divulge until formalized.

Grad:

Gift Card raffle monies; all costs for grad are fundraised or donated

NISS admin needs PAC to submit letter for NISS's application to Gaming Branch for their raffle. Needs to be done ASAP for the application deadline.

MOTION: that NISS PAC write letter of support for NISS's application of Gaming Licence for Gift Card Raffle for Graduation Class 2023.

Moved, Seconded, Carried.

*Brittany S to collaborate with Jen T for letter.

Next Meeting: February 23, 2023 at 1830 (6:30 pm) via Zoom

Adjournment: 2000 (8:00 pm)

Moved, Seconded, Carried

