



Cooper Landing School Parent Advisory Committee

19030 Bean Creek Road • Cooper Landing, Alaska 99572-9704 • (907) 595-1244

Cooper Landing School PAC Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 9, 2016- Called to order at 12:31PM

The mission of Cooper Landing School is to provide a positive learning atmosphere, placing the highest emphasis on academic achievement and service to the community, while maintaining a balance between school, family and community activities. This will be accomplished by meaningful communication and collaboration to utilize all available talents and resources.

- 1) Roll call: Virginia Morgan, Heather Harrison, Kathy Recken, Laura Johnson, Douglas Hayman, Tommy Gossard, LA Perkerson, Robert Spitzenberger, Susanna LaRock
- 2) Approval of agenda: Virginia moved, Laura seconded, agenda approved.
- 3) Review and approval of minutes: Heather reviewed Action Items. Virginia moved to approve, Susanna seconded. Minutes approved.
- 4) Addition of new members and review of membership rolls: Heather explained the roll of members to Robert and the offer was extended for Robert to join. No new members at this time.
- 5) Reports of officers, boards, committees
 - a) Principal's report: Doug reported that all is going well. Tommy and Susanna do a great job managing the budget. We are in the process of purchasing new flying turtles. Doug also informed all of a project that the Borough and the Forest Service will be working on this summer. They will be cleaning up spruce around the school campus in order to protect the school in the event of a fire and to protect the community fire headquarters. Doug has already made plans with the forest service for them to deck the wood and allow community members to take it for firewood. Virginia asked Doug about staffing and the possibility of another teacher next school year. Doug expressed that now is not a good time to ask for anything with the current budget climate. Doug also expressed that we need to gather concrete evidence of next year's enrollment before we ask for another teacher. He suggested that we get potential students registered.
 - b) Teacher's report: Tommy announced that the school would be taking a field trip to see the Dino-Lights performance at the Anchorage Performing Arts Center on Monday, March 21. There was a discussion about who would be chaperoning, and who needed rides. It was decided that everyone would meet at the school at 9am. **AI:** Susanna and Tommy will

solidify plans for rides. **AI:** Susanna will make sure that a reminder is sent out to parents on the last day of spring break. Then Tommy reminded everyone that there is a ski day Tuesday, March 22. Rides will also need to be worked out for that trip. Friday, April 1 is an early release day; parents can pick up students at 1:45PM. Tuesday, April 5 is the last ski day. Monday, May 16 is Kindergarten Graduation and Authors tea at 1PM. There was a brief discussion about the need for a kindergarten parent to volunteer to make a slide show for the graduation. Susanna mentioned that she has a file of Kindergarten photos; it would be nice to pass it to someone who enjoys doing this sort of thing and would put together a nice slide show. Laura Johnson did a great job last year, and other Kindergarten parents have done a fabulous job in years past. Wednesday, May 18 is the last day of school picnic, and Moose Pass School will be hosting this year. Mr. Hayman announced that the school will have a yearbook at the end of the year; Mrs. Hayman has volunteered to compile our photos into a book. Mr. Hayman has announced an art contest for all of the students to design the front and back cover. The PAC will be judging the art at the next meeting to decide which pieces will be on the cover. **AI:** Susanna will get an order form to parents so that yearbooks can be pre ordered.

c) Treasurer's report: The PAC currently has \$7,264.37 with the last deposit of \$50 from elf auction and \$180 from skiing payments. This year's fundraisers, The Equinox Run and the Holiday Market, brought in a total of \$3,838.75. Virginia has decided that the purchase of new accounting software is not necessary at this time.

d) Other reports

i) Key Communicator report: Heather Harrison reported that she attended the Key Communicator's Meeting. It was discussed that the focus needs to shift from 'Small Schools Matter' to 'Education Matters'. Heather also informed us that there was discussion at the meeting of creative ways to help balance the budget. Heather asked questions about mandates handed down from the State to the Borough that the Borough then has to pay for, and whether these mandates and trainings are necessary or just an extra expense. It was discussed that communications with legislators is key, and that it is important to come up with real solutions. Doug mentioned that it's not enough to just ask that funding for education not be cut, and that it is better to present a solution to the budget problems, ie: I do not want education funding cut and I am willing to give up my dividend to ensure that. Heather also mentioned that she was very impressed with KPBSD and all of the information that they had compiled and the work that they do. Doug mentioned that KPBSD is a leader in the state on all things, from technology, to staffing, to training, to student success. He informed us that Anchorage school district has the money and a lot more people, but they look to our programs as an example of how to structure and implement their programs.

ii) Garden committee report: Everything is growing. There will be transplanting of some of the plants happening in the next couple of days. Susanna has been taking students out two at a time every morning to help with watering and discuss why we are growing the plants. Laura, Susanna and Heather have been working very hard on this project there is much work still to be done in order to be ready for the Garden Sale on Friday, May 13.

6) Special orders

7) New business

a) PTA vs. PAC: There was a discussion about the difference between PTA and PAC and the benefits of each. Mr. Hayman explained that the benefit of PTA is that you are part of a larger organization that covers you insurance wise. Susanna explained that with a PTA we would have control over the account, but with the PAC there are checks and balances as the money goes through the school district accounting. It was decided that PAC was the way to go for us.

8) Unfinished business and general orders

- a) Snail-a-Thon: Tommy announced that he has fire ring, hot dog sticks, and signs all stored at the school. The date for Snail-A-Thon will be Saturday, May 21. The first committee meeting will be held at the school Friday, April 8 at 9AM. AI: Heather, Susanna, Virginia, LA, and Kathy committed to coming to the meeting. Other people who may be invited to the meeting include: Carrie Williams, Heather Pearson, Shannon Meredith, Rachel Sullivan, and Tasha Jeffords.

9) Next meeting – Wednesday, April 13, 12:30pm

10) Adjournment: 1:38pm