



Cooper Landing School Parent Advisory Committee

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

PAC Meeting 1.18.2017

Called to order at 12:31pm

Roll Call:

Heather Harrison, Lynn Hohl (our School Board Rep), Virginia Morgan, Susana LaRock, Jessica Larsen, Tommy Gossard, Laura Johnson, Melissa Fish, Angel Bond

Approval of Agenda:

Lynn Hohl requested to have a space on the agenda. She was given time after line item 8. The agenda as amended was approved.

Reading and Approval of Minutes:

The single action item from the last minutes will be addressed later in this agenda. Minutes were approved as written.

Addition of New Members:

No potential members were present.

Principal's Report:

Mr. Hayman could not be present on short notice and was not able to provide a report. (It was noted that he is now officially the principal of Hope School as well as Cooper Landing and Tustumena.)

Teacher's Report:

February 3 is a World Expo at Moose Pass School, with Hope School also attending. Each child will do a presentation on a different country. **AI:** If you want your child to order hot lunch while there, the cost is, \$2.85 student, \$4.25 adult. On the menu is breaded chicken sandwich, corn, diced peaches, snickerdoodle cookie, milk. If this is wanted, you must let Susanna or Tommy know immediately. If selected, make sure they go to the Expo with lunch money.

February 7 is Battle of the Books for grades 3-4.

February 8 is an early release day (1:45 dismissal).

February 9-10 are parent-teacher conference days, no school.

February 13 is Battle of the Books for grades 5-6.

February 14 is Battle of the Books for middle schoolers.

Due to the middle school Battle of the Books, Valentine's Day will be celebrated in a low-key manner. There will be a card exchange and some treats, but nothing big enough to interfere with Battle of the Book finals in the afternoon if the students progress.

Skiing dates will be Tuesdays, February 21 & 28, March 7, 21 & 28, and April 4. Makeup days if needed will be April 11 & 18. (FYI: Mr. Gossard cannot drive any kids March 7)

AI: Ski money has to be paid to the resort by February 7, so payments from parents are due last week of January, \$20/student.

Spring Break starts March 10.

May 22 at 1pm is the Author's Tea for the written and illustrated books, followed by Kindergarten Graduation.

The school needs regularly scheduled volunteer readers from the community, to come in and read with students 1-on-1, between 9am and lunch. Like all volunteers, they will need to go through the background check process – it is preferable they do this in person with Susana, but it can be done at home as well. Some people have been approached about the opportunity already, other names were suggested during the meeting. **AI:** It is requested that we keep extending these invitations and follow through on them to get the help the school needs.

The school children will be helping to make some garden beds for the Seniors in the spring, probably early May. This will get them involved in some community service as desired.

Treasurer's Report:

\$10,370.12 is the current balance. The changes from the last meeting were \$15 for an ad in Runner's Magazine and the \$300 deposit for Kasitsna Bay. \$1600 will have to come out for skiing soon, and we also need to buy T-shirts for the Equinox Run.

Other Reports:

Angel informed us that CLES had been floating the idea of asking the PAC to take over concessions for the softball tournament. After a brief discussion, it was decided that in the event this request comes up, the answer is NO.

School Garden:

Susanna informed the PAC of plans coming together for the school garden this spring (no plant sale!). In the greenhouse she will have tomatoes, cucumbers, and corn. Peppers were wanted, but many expressed concerns about the aphid problem that always accompanies them, so they probably won't be planted. She also plans to grow flowers for the cemetery and the hall, and donate extra flower starts to the Seniors. **AI:** It was pointed out that Susanna needs to check with Deb Carlson first before making plans for cemetery and hall flowers, as Deb usually handles them.

A motion was made that the PAC pay for seeds for the school garden up to an amount of \$100. This motion was seconded and voting was in favor.

As a side note, Susanna expressed that she is happy to be in charge of the garden.

Kasitsna Bay Trip:

It was first pointed out that this is an expensive trip and the PAC fund will take a big hit from it, getting us very close to our bottom limit of \$2000 in the fund. **AI:** We all need to be brainstorming fundraisers and participating fully in the fundraisers we already have.

After much discussion, the following motion was made:

- Regarding the Cooper Landing School Field Trip to Kasitsna Bay occurring April 12-14, the PAC will pay for all student fees, except \$20/student which must be paid by parents. The PAC will also pay for Mr. Gossard to go, and THREE (3) additional adults to meet the chaperone requirements. (Cost per person is \$179.)
- The total cost for ALL non-teacher adult attendees will be split among all attending adults. (Thus, if 8 adults go, the PAC will pay the cost for 3 of them as per the first bullet-point, and the cost for the additional 3 adults will be split equally among all 8 adults.)
- The deadline for decisions regarding attendance (students AND adults) is February 15. **AI:** All parents must report field trip attendance commitments for themselves and their students to Susanna by February 15.
- The deadline for payment in full of the \$20 student fee and all adult attendee fees is March 22. **THERE IS NO REFUND OF ANY OF THESE FEES AFTER THIS DATE, NO EXCEPTIONS.**

This motion was seconded, and voting was in favor.

School Board Member Report:

Lynn Hohl, visiting from the school board, engaged us in some pertinent issues and questions.

First, we should know that the KPBSD strategic plan is still open for comments, and budget meetings are just starting – she encouraged participation whenever possible.

Second, she informed us that there is no longer a definition of a PAC in the school district. We have been filling the role of a site council, which we know and acknowledge, and have been simultaneously filling the role of a PAC as well. The big issue is that site councils cannot raise money. PACs, when defined, were able to raise money. Since we had submitted our bylaws and gotten no feedback about this from the district, the news of PACs not existing was quite surprising. Apparently the issue has not been significant, but it does exist.

Other options for raising money could be through a Booster Club organization (which is also not defined, but is generally acknowledged as being a fund-raising entity), becoming a PTA (which we are highly not in favor of doing due to the onerous burdens of tax filing, etc.), or asking for PACs to be defined again. We expressed that yes, we would like to see PACs redefined in the district.

Ms. Hohl also described the process the school district has been going through to help distribute the cost of auditoriums and pools (in particular, as very expensive facilities) and other community-used facilities among user groups. There is currently not a standard policy and this has become very confusing and difficult to manage. So the School Board Policy Committee has spent the last year coming up with a uniform requirement for schools to operate under with regards to community and commercial usage of school facilities. The current proposal intends to require schools to charge a standard rate for event cancellations, any commercial events at a school facility, etc. This blanket requirement may work well in

larger schools and communities, but for a small school and community like Cooper Landing, it can be very damaging. For instance, Community Schools may lose the ability to use the school without paying the prohibitively large commercial use fee. Community School's MOA with the school district should protect them from this, but it must be annually renewed and the district does not like to work with MOAs, so this feels tenuous. Without belaboring the issue, Ms. Hohl suggested participation in the School Board Policy Committee meetings, where this issue is being worked on. These meetings are open to the public, but we were unable to verify the date and time of the next one. **AI:** Susanna will work with Ms. Hohl to verify the schedule of the next meeting.

Ms. Hohl also reminded us of the Key Communicator meetings coming up. Heather Harrison is our Key Communicator and she is aware of them.

Lastly, the Principal Evaluation Committee is redoing the evaluation form. There is currently no parent member on the committee nor a representative from a small school – they are seeking to have these holes filled and invited us to consider having someone from our school join. There are 3 more meetings left. They are full day meetings, from 8:30 to 3:30. The draft should be completed in the spring. Mr. Hayman can share the draft with us when done, and we can comment on it.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 12:30 pm. (third Wednesday, not second)

Also, the March meeting was scheduled for March 22. (fourth Wednesday, not second)

Adjournment

[Kenai Peninsula Borough School District](#)