



Tuesday, October 12, 2021 @ 6:30 PM (via ZOOM)

Minutes taken by: Natalie Salem

Edited by:

ATTENDANCE

- Executive:** Bonnie Doyle; Kelly Hoffmann; Dana Jensen
- Stelly's Staff:** Gord Redlin
- Parents:** Natalie Salem; Darcy Winkel; Chantal Ziegler
- Guests:** Chair Tim Dunford (Saanich Board of Education); Trustee Alicia Holman (Saanich Board of Education)
- Absent:** Keely Kastrukoff

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM

2. Approval of Current Agenda:

- MOTION:** Dana
- SECONDED:** Kelly
- VOTE:** CARRIED

3. Approval of September 2021 PAC Minutes:

- MOTION:** Dana
- SECONDED:** Natalie
- VOTE:** CARRIED

4. Strategic Planning 2022-2027 Presentation: (Gord Redlin)

- *See Attached Document*
- *Page 1:*
 - Overview of what we have seen so far for Strategic Planning for 2022-2027.
 - Current 5 year plan comes to a close at the end of this school year.
 - The district is developing central or core values which ties into our school growth plan.
 - Creating a framework for what it is we are going to do and where we are going to go.
- *Page 2:*
 - Build on a lot of the positives that we have already developed within the district and keep on developing those as much as possible.
 - Data driven Strategic Plan: Using provincial and local student achievement evidence to help inform us as to how we are doing and where we might need to find additional places for support and encourage further growth.
 - Align where our priorities are with what our budgets are.
 - Integration between what's going on in our school level and what's happening at within our district.
- *Page 3:*
 - These 3 key points are the same things we look for in our school growth plans.
 - You want to have good reasons for why you're making the decisions that you're making; therefore, collecting data and gathering evidence is very important, but you have to be careful that you don't have so many goals that it becomes watered down and you really cant get to anything because you have too many balls in the air. So having some specific things that we can focus on as a district and within our schools is really important.
- *Page 4:*
 - Same sort of idea, we are looking for information that will help inform our decisions and inform practice.
 - 3 areas of focus: Literacy, Indigenous Learner Success, Mental Health and Wellness.

- Tracking these things is important, not just with what's going on in the school but beyond school as well: where do our students go after they leave? That is always very critical, particularly in secondary schools where we're looking to see if students that are working towards our school goals have also met their own personal goals that they filled out in their individual core competency and self assessments.
- A couple places that we look to gather and place information are provincial reports, Saanich school district reports, and Saanich school framework grants for enhancing student learning.
- There are lots of bits of evidence that we need and that's why it's important to reach out broader now, looking for feedback from all of our partner groups and communities, is essential as we build this strategic plan moving forward.
- *Page 5:*
 - Literacy and building on literacy skills right through to the high school level is critical; it is a key component of success throughout school
 - Levels of literacy intervention means, that our most vulnerable learners are getting the support they need for those improvements that they need to move forward; but we're also peaking the interest of our highest achievers and making sure that they're feeling challenged and moving in the direction that they want to go in as well. As an example: that's why we run an AP English program, it gives students first year university credit while they're still in grade 12, and the cost is significantly cheaper than paying for first year courses.
 - We do have a literacy plan at both the elementary school and middle school level. We had been working on one for the secondary school level pre-pandemic and then it kind of took a side burner to all the remote learning that was going on; and now we're bring that back and building a grade 9 literacy assessment tool for our district, so that we can better support those students that are in need of more support, and to build that literacy assessment even further to the senior grades. Even though there is a grade 10 and 12 literacy assessment that the province does, that every student needs to complete in order to graduate; it's still really important that we have a comprehensive plan from the kindergarten right through to the grade 12 level for literacy assessments for all of our students in order to identify and assess particularly where we need to provide more support in moving our students forward toward success.
- *Page 6:*
 - Take the time to read the Rational statement here; it is so important that we understand it has an impact on everything that we are doing here.
 - One of the best things that we did on our teacher professional development day on September 27th is that we had wonderful presentations in the morning from teachers within our district that are already incorporating indigenous learning principals into their curriculum across Kindergarten, Grade 3, Grade 8, and a Grade 11 life sciences class. It's really important that as a district we are incorporating this across from K-12.
 - The conversations 5 years ago were about "Is it really part of my curriculum area to be bringing in indigenous learning?" The conversation now, is not "Is it possible to do this?" but rather "Here's how we're going to do it. Here's some examples of how we can do it. And here's how we can broaden this out and support it in even more ways."
 - We're looking at data points and ways in which we can support our indigenous learners and help them improve and reach success on par with their non-indigenous peers.
 - We now have 112 indigenous learners in our school, which is 13% of our population. That's a 4-5% increase in the last 4 years for Stelly's.
 - We are continuing to work and make sure that those younger students that are coming in are staying with us, working hard, and getting the support that they need. Evidence of that actually happening at Stelly's right now, is that this year we are running English First Peoples 10/11, English First Peoples 12, Indigenous Culinary Arts, Indigenous Folk Art, and a SENĆOŦEN class. 4 out of those 5 courses haven't run for a while, and this year they are all running. It is a commitment that both our staff and district are making, to make sure that those courses continue to run to support our indigenous learners in feeling comfortable in an academic environment.
 - We need to listen and be creative even more. Right now we are trying to re-start a SENĆOŦEN language club between Stelly's and our feeder elementary schools. All we were waiting for pre-pandemic is transportation to be sorted out; and now we're going to get back into that so that our SENĆOŦEN students, with their new SENĆOŦEN teacher, will be able to travel to the elementary schools and teach some of the elementary students (and their parents) some SENĆOŦEN.

- These are the kinds of things that help bridge our communities and demonstrate that we do honor their language and their culture, and that we want to encourage them to be part of our growth and part of bringing in our indigenous students into courses that they really have some interest in and that they want to dig deep into, and that will encourage their commitment to classes and school, and in turn into greater success.
- The community is talking and they're saying that they're happy to see this revitalization and this acknowledgement of their language, and culture.
- As a side note: The ministry of Education has contacted Stelly's because they had seen one of our videos that we produced around orange shirt day and the tragedy of the discovery of the 215 unmarked graves in Kamloops Residential School. Standard 9, which is the inclusion of the indigenous ways of learning in the teacher preparation curriculum at the university level, is developing this for instructional purposes for preservice teachers. They are coming to Stelly's on Thursday to film some of our students and staff in the Life Sciences and Biology 11 Lab class. Students will be extracting cedar oils from natural cedar and using these oils as an antibiotic. So they have created bacteria plates and use the natural cedar oils to show that it prevents bacteria growth. It's a very impressive science lab and just one example of infusing some indigenous knowledge into our science curriculum for students as part of their learning.
- *Page 7:*
 - In the education field, certainly we are all aware of how important mental health and wellness is; and particularly with the additional layer of complexity that the pandemic has put on the school system, its students, and staff. It is something that we are as a district very much monitoring and looking at ways that we can support positive mental health growth and wellness for all parts of our district students and staff.
 - Trying to gather data on mental health is not always the easiest; but there are ways that we can do it, and we have to do it in a way that is sensitive to both our students and staff. It is something that we need to look at critically so that we are aware and supporting those students and adults in our community that are having some challenges. We see this manifest itself in different ways at different levels; for sure, there is a learning curve about how we respond to those as they are manifesting in a variety of ways, and it is steep. I think we've done a good job; but again, we have to be more contentious about making sure that we are taking the time and providing the support center necessary to help students and parents.
 - One example of that can be as easy as documenting the number of appointments made with our youth and family councillor. How many mental health appointments does our youth and family councillor get in a year, a month, a week etc..? And then tracking that over time. And that doesn't necessarily mean that we're doing a good job at resolving things; but it tells us whether or not we're seeing an increase in the number of concerns, or a decrease. And if we're seeing an increase in the number of concerns, then how are we bridging support for those students to help them function more positively in school? It's not easy. And we don't just see kids with challenges, we see parents who need help as well. This is something that the district is really taking a look at and monitoring and tracking.
- *Page 8:*
 - So this is the part where parents come in; at the very bottom you can see a link for a survey. The board is looking for feedback from parents and this will be posted on our website for parents to be able to participate in this survey. There is a place to offer additional information if you feel that you have anything else that you want to share. While we want to hear positive feedback, I think it's important to hear critical feedback too. If it's just positive that's real nice but it's not going to help in terms of growth. So it's really important to give some thought and honest feedback and if things aren't really in line with what you would like to see, please share that and include some ideas that you might have.
 - We are encouraging AS MANY PARENTS AS POSSIBLE to do the survey and provide the feedback to the board.
 - **Survey Closes: November 7, 2021**
- Trustee Alicia Holman (Saanich Board of Education):
 - The board at this point is really wanting to hear feedback on "These are the 3 priorities, are we missing something? Is there more to add? Should we go in and add or change anything?" The boards' work is going to continue throughout the fall and into the new year to develop the plan. It's a 5 year window. This is very much an invitation to look at the work that's been done so far by the strategic planning committee, that has been supported by the board, but is very much asking for "Is there more?" Please give us input.
- Chair Tim Dunford (Saanich Board of Education)

- The essential part of consultation is really, “What do you think of these data evidence based themes that the committee and the board have distilled from all this work? Is there anything else?” The anything else I would caution shouldn’t be a personal preference. It’s something that would have the stature that these do. We have all been working really hard.
- The day of truth and reconciliation has served as an impetus for the indigenous learner success.
- Covid has served as another impetus on Mental Health and wellness.
- Literacy is so critical to education.
- If folks want to add something else, be thoughtful of how significant it will be for the district. Will it have the same impact, the same stature as the other three things do.
- This is the districts third strategic plan. When the first one came, it wasn’t even required. The superintendent of the day thought we should have one. Now of course it is required by ministry regulation to have a multi year strategic plan. The process of developing it have evolved over time for the better. I don’t think that we have the same level of sophistication in consultation that we have this time vs last time and certainly not the first time. We are going to be consulting not only with school PACs, but as Gord said, with community members, and the WSÁNEĆ nations and communities, with students for their voice, and all of the schools and parents are going to get an opportunity to weigh in too.
- Last year the board made IT Development a budget priority; and when we came across some additional funds, we attributed them to that.

5. Presidents Report: (Dana Jensen)

- Still looking for volunteers to fill vacant PAC positions.

6. Vice-Chair Report: (Vacant)

- Nothing to Report

7. Principals Report: (Gord Redlin)

- Meet the Teacher Night – Thursday, September 23rd: Open to feedback good or bad. It is a new rendition of how we are doing things, not done this way in the past, with a teams meeting introduction. We believe about 124 people representing about 89 families attended the evening in person.
- Classes have settled.
- Grad Spirit Week has been done. Halloween is coming and the kids will be doing a pumpkin carving contest.
- Terry Fox Run was a success from the PE group.
- We had a student vote for elections, and our vote was almost bang on with the national percentages.
- We had a wonderful World Educators Day, where we bought treats for ever single staff member in the school. It was a very fun afternoon driving the treat cart around.
- RYCOR for paying student fees: Asking for parent feedback. “Was it user friendly? How did it go?” Its still a working progress and we’re hoping that it’s finding some success. Please send feedback to Gord Redlin.
- RYCOR PAC contribution box of \$15.00: Gord has looked into whether or not there can be a second box for ‘Other amount \$_____’. This cannot be accommodated; however, we can have more than one box, for more than one identified amount. Alternately, PAC can add the etransfer option to the PAC website. PAC has agreed on \$10 \$20 \$40.

MOTION: Dana

SECONDED: Bonnie

VOTE: CARRIED

- A reminder that school fees are due. Letter to be sent out later in October. Include a note that some things are optional and can be unchecked before making payment (example, student locker locks).
- Enrollment: Domestic numbers dropped a bit; but mostly that is due to students switching over to ILC and cross-enrollment. However International student numbers are up a bit. Over all the numbers still balance out to approximately 840 students. In addition, we have some Parkland students x-enrolled into our SENĆOŦEN class!
- Teachers’ Pro-D Day – Friday, September 27th: Great working session on incorporating Indigenous Learning in all curricular areas. In the morning, we had a presentation from the district on learning some SENĆOŦEN Language

instruction; and in the afternoon, a Keynote speaker: Kevin Lamoureux (U of M, live from Winnipeg) titled “Reimagining Schools as Places of Healing – Truth and Reconciliation through Education”.

- Quote from Sheralyn Macrae: “I was driving past Stelly's on the weekend and saw all the orange hearts lined up at the end of the field. It was very impactful to see them out there, knowing all the students had written messages on them. It really hit home about Kevin Lamoureux saying, *Where schools were once used as a weapon in British Columbia against Indigenous students, yours can now be used as a place of healing.*”
- Orange Shirt Day – Wednesday, September 29th: It was an excellent day. Every student in the school made an orange heart and wrote on it. Then we arranged them in the shape of a giant heart in the field. We had Phill Toms mom came in as a wonderful guest speaker. There will be a video coming out soon: documenting the day and speaking with indigenous Students, teachers and community members surrounding their own thoughts and feelings about Truth and Reconciliation Day. Ministry of Education has recognized our videos and they will be involving us in the development of a Truth and Reconciliation indigenous learning for pre-service teachers (students in teacher training or Standard #9) as a part of their training at universities.
- Health and Safety: Mask rule going well, hand sanitizer stations remain out, all classrooms continue to have their own supply of hand sanitizer and disinfectant spray. Directional flow still monitored, but not needing to be as strictly enforced as last year. Outside as much as possible for break and lunch; eating in classrooms and outside will continue for as long as the weather permits possible – dress for the weather!
- Grade 12 Parent Information Meeting – Thursday October 14th starting @ 6:00 PM.
- Friday, October 22nd is a Non-Instructional Day for students and a Provincial Professional Development Day for Teachers.
- Tuesday, October 26th is Photo Retake Day (includes ICL students) @ 8:30 AM.
- Grad Photo Days – Monday, November 1st through to Tuesday, November 9th: To book your appointment, please go to the link on the Stelly's website grad page. Enter your province (BC), your city (Saanichton) and your school (Stelly's Secondary) to log in and book your appointment. Sitting fee of \$25 (cash or cheque) is due at the time of your appointment (if you know you are not purchasing photos, no sitting fee is required). Photos are mandatory for the yearbook.
- Parents as Education and Career Coaches is a workshop for parents/guardians in Grade 11 + 12. Virtual ZOOM Session is designed to support parents in guiding their student to make informed decisions about their education and career choices after high school. Monday, November 15th @ 7:00 PM. Registration is required!
- The three Teachers in Charge (TIC) this year are Jessica Dildy, Shannon Moore, and Aaron Bailey.
- Constable Tristan Gentile, of the Central Saanich Police Department, is our School Community Liaison Officer.
- Grad event conversations will be happening Thursday October 14th.

8. COPACS Report: (Bonnie Doyle)

- Next meeting: Thursday, October 14th.
- COPCAS has struck a constitution committee to revamp their constitution and bylaws.

9. Canadian Parents for French (CPF) Report: (Chantal Ziegler)

- Last meeting: Wednesday, September 29th.
- Talked about proposed budget from 2021-2022 and what activities they're going to pick.
- Some K-12 events and grad events approved for this year.
- This year, they will be sending a letter to all the French teachers to ask them what they would like to do in terms of events. Using Google Docs.
- Discussion on leftover maple syrup and what to do with it this year.
- They have a grant application that they're writing.
- Next meeting: Wednesday, November 24th.

10. Treasurer's Report: (Kelly Hoffmann)

- **General Account – Current Balance \$12,217.81**
(less \$2.50 monthly account fees, if balance goes below \$10,000.00)
(less service charges, if lump sum account deposits are above \$2,500.00)
Already approved for Athletics and Band (previous PAC meeting): \$8,160.00

Balance Remaining: \$4,057.81

- Funding Request for Outdoor Pursuits: \$1,000.00
 - Gear replacement and upkeep.

Funding Requests for Motion: \$1,000.00

MOTION: Dana

SECONDED: Natalie

VOTE: CARRIED

• **Gaming Account – Current Balance: \$5,854.27**

- Funding Request for All Departments: \$1,500.00
 - Honourariums to cover elders presenting in classes.
- Funding Request for Book Club: \$500.00
 - Books, tea, and cookies.
- Funding Request for Poetry Slam Presentations: \$1,000.00
 - One presentation per term.

Funding Request for Motion: \$3,000.00 (not to be paid until after we get confirmation of our Gaming Grant of at least \$14,000.00; otherwise, we revisit)

MOTION: Dana

SECONDED: Darcy

VOTE: CARRIED

11. Communications Update: (Natalie Salem)

- Been updating the PAC Website; it's a work in progress.
- Facebook seems to be continuing to grow, with more followers every day.

13. Old Business:

- Vacant positions looking to fill:
 - Vice Chair
 - Secretary
 - School Planning Council Liaison
- Gord will put feelers out with parents and ask for help from Ryan Braun.

14. New Business:

- PAC Constitution Review: Keep this on our agenda and move it up month to month until after COPACS has completed their constitution review.

15. Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 9, 2021 @ 6:30 PM via Zoom

16. Motion to Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM

MOTION: Dana

SECONDED: Natalie

VOTE: CARRIED