



**The Board of Education of
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)
MINUTES - ADVOCACY/EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**February 27, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Kootenay Learning Campus - Fernie**

Committee Members in Attendance: Co-Chair Trustee Wendy Turner (virtually)
Trustee Bev Bellina (virtually)
Trustee Sarah Madsen

Regrets: Co-Chair Trustee Alysha Clarke (regrets)

Board/District Staff in Attendance: Chairperson Doug McPhee
Trustee Trina Ayling
Trustee Irene Bischler
Trustee Nicole Heckendorf
Trustee Chris Johns
Superintendent Viveka Johnson
Secretary Treasurer Nick Taylor
Director of Student Learning and Innovation Diane Casault
Director of Student Learning and Aboriginal Education Jason Tichauer
District Principal Student Services Darcy Verbeurgt
District Principal of Transformative Learning Jennifer Roberts (virtually)
Executive Assistant Amanda Skene (recorder)

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

1.1 Call to Order

Co-Chair Trustee Turner called the Advocacy Education Committee meeting of February 27, 2023, to order at 9:44 a.m.

1.2 Acknowledgement of Ktunaxa Territory

Co-Chair Trustee Turner acknowledged that we have gathered on the Homelands of the Ktunaxa people.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

Moved/Seconded by: Bellina/Madsen

THAT the agenda of the Advocacy Education Committee meeting of February 27, 2023, be approved as circulated.

1.4 Approval of Minutes

Moved/Seconded by: Bellina/Madsen

THAT the minutes of the Advocacy Education Committee meeting of January 27, 2023, be approved as circulated.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Gender-Based Violence

Director Casault reported that our schools are working towards providing our grade 11 and 12 students with information and resources on gender-based violence and consent.

Moved/Seconded: Bellina/Madsen

RECOMMENDATION A:

THAT The Board will write a letter requesting funding from the Ministry of Education and Child Care to cover the costs of resources required to educate grade 11 and 12 students on gender-based violence as requested by the Ministry.

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 SEY2KT

Principal Jaslene Atwal and the CBAL Community Outreach Coordinator Chrisy Hill presented on Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten Transition (SEY2KT). Frank J. Mitchell Elementary was chosen as a pilot school as the community is in crisis mode. Approximately 84% of students have experienced at least one adverse childhood event. The community lacks services to support its constituents. Working with school district partners and supports, the focus of the group is to make an impact on parents so they can support their children before kindergarten entry.

3.2 French Immersion Curriculum

District French Immersion Teacher Marzia Bottoni reported on her role, school needs and the future goals for French Immersion for the district.

4. REPORTS

4.1 DSAC Report

Trustee Bellina reported that the next DSAC meeting would be held on March 1, 2023.

4.2 DPAC Report

Superintendent Johnson reported that DPAC is looking to have Scott Rothermel from Safer Schools Together present to parents on student safety. DPAC representatives shared activities and fundraisers their schools have participated in. Some schools still need representation at DPAC.

4.3 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL)

Superintendent Johnson reported that the FESL group determined that our literacy goal will focus on the primary grade level, while numeracy will be a focus at the intermediate grade level for teacher professional development. In both areas, the District Teachers are exploring assessment tools to give a better baseline and follow through for the next best steps for continued growth.

4.4 Childcare

Director Casault reported that the environmental scan is 75% complete. The District's policies and procedures on facilities and facility usage must be reviewed. A survey for parents on the need for before and after-school care will be released on March 1, 2023. The results will be reviewed in April and brought forward at the May committee meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Scholarship Committee

Director Tichauer discussed the process for the District Authority Scholarship Award. Director Tichauer requests a Trustee to volunteer to sit on the scholarship judging committee. Trustees interested are to submit their names to Chairperson McPhee; a decision will be made at the next Board meeting.

5.2 High-Risk Field Trip

Principal Mike Kelly summarized the Outdoor Education class's application for a high-risk field trip for Whitewater Rafting on the Bull River, tentatively set for the end of May or the beginning of June. The Board will discuss this further, and Superintendent Johnson will respond to Principal Kelly's request.

ACTION:

Principal Kelly to inquire with the guiding company, Canyon Rafting Guides, if the most senior and experienced guides would be used for their trip. The Board would also request assurances that the river has been run previous to the students going on the river.

6. ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS - NIL

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Invitation for Endorsement of Universal Food Program

7.1.1 Coalition for Healthy School Food to SD5

Moved/Seconded: Bellina/Madsen

RECOMMENDATION B:

THAT The Board will write a letter responding to the Coalition for Healthy Schools letter of February 16, 2023, supporting their efforts to advocate for a universal, cost-shared healthy school food program. The response to the Coalition will include a copy of the letter written last month to the Ministry of Education and Child Care inquiring as to what stage of the process the Ministry was at with a Universal Food Program. A copy of the letter of support for the Coalition for Healthy Schools will be forwarded to the Minister of Education and Child Care.

7.2 Funding Constraints

7.2.1 SD83 to Minister Singh

7.2.2 Minister Singh to BCSTA

7.3 Exempt Pay Increases

7.3.1 SD52 to Minister Conroy

Moved/Seconded: Bellina/Madsen

RECOMMENDATION C:

THAT The Board will write a letter of agreement with SD83's letter of January 26, 2023, and SD52's letter of September 28, 2023, to the Minister of Education and Child Care on the funding constraints districts are facing in the upcoming year. The letter will also address the response letter from Minister Singh of February 10, 2023, to the BCSTA.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Moved/Seconded by: Bellina/ Madsen

THAT the February 27, 2023, Advocacy Education Committee meeting adjourn at 11:53 a.m.

Have we continued to enhance high standards, noble expectations, elevated commitments and quality performances to support student achievement?