



**The Board of Education of
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)**

MINUTES - ADVOCACY/EDUCATION COMMITTEE

January 23, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

Cranbrook Board Office

Committee Members in Attendance: Co-Chair Trustee Wendy Turner (remotely)
Co-Chair Trustee Alysha Clarke
Trustee Bev Bellina (*Acting Co-Chair*)(remotely)
Trustee Sarah Madsen

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
District Principal Student Services Darcy Verbeurgt
District Principal Transformative Learning Jennifer Roberts
Executive Assistant (recorder) Amanda Skene

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

1.1 Call to Order

Acting Co-Chair Trustee Bellina called the Advocacy Education Committee meeting of January 23, 2023, to order at 9:30 a.m.

1.2 Acknowledgement of Ktunaxa Territory

Acting Co-Chair Trustee Bellina acknowledged that we have gathered on the Homelands of the Ktunaxa.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

Additions: 3.3 Before and After School Care – Julie Bond

Moved/Seconded by: Clarke/ Madsen

THAT the agenda of the Advocacy Education Committee meeting of January 23, 2023, be approved as amended.

1.4 Approval of Minutes

Moved/Seconded by: Clarke/Madsen

THAT the minutes of the Advocacy Education Committee meeting of October 24, 2022, be approved as circulated.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING - NIL

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Heritage Fair

East Kootenay Heritage Fair Committee members Gail Brown and Stewart Wilson presented about the upcoming 2023 East Kootenay Heritage Fair. The committee invites teachers in Cranbrook and Jaffray to register their classes from grades 4-10 to participate. Projects are to be based on Canadian history and tie into the Ministry's curricular competencies.

3.2 CHEQ

Director Casault presented School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay)'s data results on the Childhood Experiences Questionnaire (CHEQ). Parents complete the questionnaire in the first weeks of kindergarten to help teachers and the district staff identify vulnerabilities and experiences that the children have had before entering school to allow for the proper support to be put in place. The District had an 84% participation rate.

The areas of focus for the CHEQ are:

- Physical health,
- Language and cognition,
- Social-emotional well-being,
- Early learning and care
- Community and context.

3.3 Before and After School Care

East Kootenay District Labour Council's Vice-President, Julie Bond, presented on behalf of union members of the BCTF, CUPE, BCGEU, and United Steelworkers, advocating for the need for before and after-school care in our schools.

Director Casault advised that the District will send out a survey for families to respond to help the District identify the need areas.

Trustee Ayling requested that Childcare be added as a standing item on the Advocacy Agenda.

4. REPORTS

4.1 DSAC Report

Superintendent Johnson reported that the DSAC students reviewed the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning and provided feedback for district management. The next DSAC meeting will be on March 1, 2023.

4.2 DPAC Report

Co-Chair Trustee Clarke reported that the PACs collaborated on what their schools have been doing.

4.3 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL)

Superintendent Johnson reported that the District is entering into a new data cycle. Data results are being reviewed to determine the next steps focusing on individual schools and their goals. The District will also focus on our marginalized families, Indigenous students and students with diverse needs.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Gender-Based Violence in Schools

Superintendent Johnson reported that the Ministry of Education and Child Care is highlighting the gap in education on gender-based violence in grades 11 and 12. District staff address the topic in several ways, although it is outside the provincial curriculum.

Moved/Seconded by: Turner/Clarke

Action:

THAT district middle and high schools be surveyed to provide insight into how they are currently addressing consent and gender-based violence with their students; a report to be provided at the February 27, 2023, Advocacy Committee meeting.

6. ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

6.1 Gender-Based Violence in Schools School Survey Report

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Truth and Reconciliation

7.1.1 Minister Whiteside to BCSTA

7.1.2 BCSTA to Minister Singh

Receive and File

7.2 Universal Washrooms

7.2.1 Minister Whiteside to BCSTA

Moved/Seconded by: Turner/Bellina

Recommendation A:

THAT Trustee Ayling is to write a letter expressing concern with the Ministry of Education and Child Care's suggestion of allocating funds from the Annual Facilities Grant to upgrade our current facilities with gender-neutral washrooms in the letter to the BCSTA of October 26, 2022.

7.3 Ventilation Standards

7.3.1 Minister Whiteside to BCSTA

Receive and File

7.4 Universal Food Program

7.4.1 Minister Whiteside to BCSTA

Moved/Seconded: Turner/Bellina

Recommendation B:

THAT Trustee Ayling is to write a letter to the Ministry of Education and Child Care in response to their letter of November 3, 2022, to the BCSTA to inquire at what stage of the process the Ministry is at addressing the Universal Food Program.

7.5 Exempt Compensation Grids

7.5.1 Deputy Minister Zacharuk to BCSTA

Receive and File

7.6 Foundation Skills Assessment

7.6.1 FNLC to BCTF

7.6.2 BCTF to FNLC

Receive and File

7.7 School Liaison Officers

7.7.1 BCSTA to Human Rights Commissioner

Receive and File

7.8 Inflation and Cost Escalation

7.8.1 BCSTA to Minister Singh

7.9 Use of Operating Funds

7.9.1 Minister Whiteside to BCSTA

Moved/Seconded by: Turner/Bellina

Recommendation C:

THAT item 7.9 Use of Operating Funds be referred to Finance-Ops Committee for further discussion.

7.10 Capital Projects

7.10.1 Minister Whiteside to BCSTA

Receive and File

8. ADJOURNMENT

Moved/Seconded by Turner/Clarke:

THAT the January 23, 2023, Advocacy Education Committee meeting be adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

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