



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

MINUTES - ADVOCACY/EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**January 24, 2022, 9:30 a.m.
Virtual Meeting as per SA and Board Procedures By-Law**

Committee Members in Attendance: Co-Chair Trustee Bev Bellina
Co-Chair Trustee Patricia Whalen
Trustee Trina Ayling

Regrets: Trustee Wendy Turner

Board/District Staff in Attendance: Chairperson Frank Lento
Trustee Chris Johns
Trustee Doug McPhee
Trustee Kathryn Kitt
Trustee Krista Damstrom
Superintendent Silke Yardley
Secretary-Treasurer Nick Taylor
Director of Student Learning and Aboriginal Education Jason Tichauer
Director of Student Learning and Innovation Diane Casault
District Principal of Transformative Learning Jennifer Roberts
District Principal of Student Services Darcy Verbeurgt
Executive Assistant (Recorder) Amanda Skene
Executive Assistant Jane Nixon

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

1.1 Call to Order

The Advocacy/Education Committee Meeting of January 24, 2022, was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Co-Chair Trustee Whalen.

I want to acknowledge that we have gathered here in the Homelands of the Ktunaxa people.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Moved/Seconded by Bellina/Lento:

THAT the agenda of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of January 24, 2022, be approved as circulated.

1.3 Approval of Minutes

Moved/Seconded by Bellina/Ayling:

THAT the minutes of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of November 22, 2021, be approved as circulated.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

3. PRESENTATIONS

4. REPORTS

4.1 DSAC Report

Co-Chair Trustee Bellina reported:

- The DSAC met virtually on November 29, 2021.
- Gail Rousseau was thanked for her work over the years with DSAC.
- Overnight trips may still proceed; however, Interior Health Authority states that students cannot stay overnight with individuals from different households; additional rooms would be required. Parents would also need to be able to pick students up should they become ill.
- New technology – Jennifer Roberts and Kim Froehler led the students in an online escape room game called Comic Crusaders. The teams worked together to solve the puzzles. Participants from Mount Baker Senior Secondary won the prize.
- Cellphone Administrative Procedure will be discussed in the Policy Committee meeting on January 24.
- Students thought about and discussed leadership. (Are people born leaders or is it a learned behaviour?) The participants discussed the qualities needed to be a leader. These qualities included the ability to lead and understand, guide others, be adaptable, be unbiased and be able to manage people.
- Director Tichauer reminded students they are “*Change agents for the school.*”
- The next DSAC meeting has not been scheduled. Director Tichauer was hoping to have an in-person meeting; realizing now that this is not an option. Director Tichauer & Amanda will plan a 2-hour virtual meeting.

4.2 DPAC Report

Trustee Johns reported:

- The SOGI 123 presentation was very informative. Trustee Johns thanked the team of presenters.
- Trustee Turner was unable to participate in the January DPAC ZOOM meeting; however, it was reported that Gordon Terrace Elementary and Kootenay Orchards Elementary Parent Advisory Councils are having issues obtaining approval for new playground equipment. Parent Advisory Councils were directed to contact Secretary-Treasurer Nick Taylor on the process.

Superintendent Yardley Reported:

- At the January ZOOM meeting, there was a conversation regarding COVID-19. Superintendent Yardley discussed functional closures and staff shortage protocols.
- The EASE presentation was very informative.

4.3 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) (Items determined by Superintendent)

4.3.1 FESL Project – District Principal Verbeurgt reported on the third outcome for the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (Students will feel they have a place to belong in our schools and our society)

- The network of connections students make helps to foster the feelings of belonging within their schools and in society. When students feel they belong it gives them a purpose to be where they are.
- The most important relationships are with the classroom teacher and with each student in the classroom community.
- District Principal Verbeurgt noted, although schools have been adapting to keep kids safe throughout the interference of COVID-19, the learning development has been disrupted. He stated that the expected developmental level of students is changing.
- In the provincial survey, feeling welcome, safe, and belonging, School District 5 students ranked slightly lower than the provincial average. Indigenous students feel welcome and safe at the same level but feel less belonging as they age.
- In the provincial survey, feeling that there are two or more adults that care about them in the school, the School District 5 students ranked slightly lower than average. Grade 7 students reported the lowest percentage and Indigenous students reported lower levels particularly in Grade 7 and 10. Students with diverse abilities and disabilities' feeling of being cared for declines in the senior levels.
- Outcome objectives: Improve sense of feeling welcome, safe, and belonging to their school. Improve the percentage of students that feel there are two or more adults who care about them.
- Project area: Grade 7 sense of belonging & care. The goal is to raise the average for all students.
- Jaffray Elementary Junior Secondary began participating in the project in November 2021. The school identified a couple of areas they wanted to work on. They would also like to move the project to other grades as well. The project has been placed on hold until staff shortages are rectified.
- Amy Woodland held a meeting on January 6, 2022, with the School Based Team. They would like to build a more welcoming space and a softer start to the day. This would help students that arrive late not feel they are missing out. Release time will be provided to teachers for them to strategize.
- Learning series on Rainbow of Learning provides staff with the opportunity to educate themselves towards the objectives.
- Funding has been provided to schools to create Aboriginal Welcoming Spaces.

- Youth Care Workers attended a mini-conference about social-emotional learning and trauma in October 2021.
- School leaders and staff should understand the importance of the impact students' feelings have when it comes to having students trying to achieve their full potential.

Questions/comments:

- Trustee Ayling: Grade 7 &10 are transition grades for a lot of schools. What can be done to support those students as they move to a new school?

Student Services give advanced visits to their new schools for those students that require longer integration. Dialogue happens between outgoing schools and incoming schools. Some students start the transition in March, while the remainder begin in June. Some schools host a Welcome Week for students entering a new school during the first week back from the summer holidays.

- Trustee McPhee: Staff need to be able to identify the students that will be falling out of the system. How do we support them and assist them?

Drilling down into the data. Darcy and Diane will investigate attendance and other at-risk behaviours. They will also speak to the people on the ground that interact with the students daily.

- Co-Chair Trustee Bellina: Why did schools not want to do it at district level?

Schools look at their data themselves and could then measure and interpret.

5. NEW BUSINESS

6. ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Virtual Attendance

7.1.1 SD 52

Receive and file.

7.1.2 SD 20

Receive and file.

7.1.3 SD 20

Receive and file.

7.2 FSA

7.2.1 First Nations Leadership Council

Receive and file.

7.3 Truth and Reconciliation

7.3.1 SD 57

Receive and file.

7.4 Family Connection Hubs

7.4.1 SD 52

Receive and file.

7.5 BCSPEA Compensation Review for Exempt Staff Salary

7.5.1 SD 42

Receive and file.

7.6 Electric Bus Funding

7.6.1 SD 75

Receive and file.

7.7 Climate Literacy

7.7.1 Minister of Education to BCSTA

Action:

District Principal Roberts will update in a future meeting where School District 5 is with the integration of climate literacy into the K-12 curriculum and the website for resource reference.

Receive and file.

7.8 Declaration of National Opiate Death Crisis

7.8.1 BCSTA to CSBA

Receive and file.

7.9 Annual Facilities Grant

7.9.1 BCSTA to Minister of Education

Receive and file.

7.10 Participation of Indigenous Peoples at Decision-Making Tables

7.10.1 BCTF to Minister of Education

Receive and file.

7.11 Increase Intake of Education Students

7.11.1 Honorable Anne Kang to BCSTA

Receive and file.

7.12 Thank You School Trustees

7.12.1 BCPVPA to BCSTA

Receive and file.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Moved/Seconded by Bellina/ Ayling:

THAT the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting adjourn at 10:22 a.m.

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