



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

**January 25, 2016 9:00 a.m.**

**Board Office**

Committee Members  
In Attendance:

Trustee Whalen (Co-Chair)  
Trustee Bellina (by phone)  
Trustee Blumhagen  
Trustee Ayling

Regrets:

nil

Board/District Staff in  
Attendance:

Trustee McPhee  
Trustee Johns  
Chairperson Lento (late)  
Lynn Hauptman, Superintendent  
Diane Casault, Director of Student Learning  
Darcy Verbeurgt, District Principal  
Jennifer Roberts, District Principal  
Gail Rousseau, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

The Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of January 25, 2016 was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Co-Chair Whalen.

**1.2 Approval of Agenda**

**ADV-16-01**

Addition: 4.6 iRide program

The Agenda of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of January 25, 2016 is approved as amended.

**1.3 Approval of Minutes**

**ADV-16-02**

The Minutes of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of November 23, 2015 are approved as circulated.

## **2. PRESENTATIONS**

### **2.1 School Growth Plan – Steeples Elementary School**

David Martin presented Steeples Elementary School Growth Plan. Highlights included:

- Growth and improvement through experiential learning
- Hired part-time literacy specialist through LIF funds
- Breaking down grade 1, 2, 3 by ability level into guided reading groups– saw huge success last year; also incorporating first peoples’ principles into these groups
- Working on connectedness within the school
- Cross curriculum project – Circle of Life theme – will encompass a multitude of aspects of learning
- Emphasis on critical thinking, creative thinking and communication
- Lion King production end of April early May
- Buddy classes exploring science and literacy
- Garden and composting project – school based
- Planning events with community elders
- Sponsoring a child from a developing country
- Nature walks learning about environment
- Focused animal themes in primary grades
- Connection with Joseph Creek village

## **3. ITEMS FORWARDED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

nil

## **4. CORRESPONDENCE AND/OR NEW ITEMS**

### **4.1 DSAC Report**

Trustee Bellina will meet with the “DSAC Committee” and bring information to a future Advocacy/Education Committee Meeting. There will be a face to face meeting for DSAC/Student Voice on Friday, March 4, 2016 at Elkford Secondary School.

### **4.2 DPAC Report**

There was no report due to the January meeting being cancelled.

### **4.3 Student Services**

#### **4.3.1 Syrian Refugee Update**

Darcy Verbeurgt gave an update as follows:

- Active coordination groups in Cranbrook, Fernie and Kimberley
- The Cranbrook Refugee Committee is currently involved in many fundraising events
- Lynn and Darcy met with Anne Beurskens (one of the members of the Cranbrook Refugee Committee) last Friday as Cranbrook could be receiving a family in the near future
- Information was shared regarding services, costs, schools, physical needs etc.
- Principal of school will play a significant role in welcoming students as well as district supports in place i.e., counselling, ESL services

- will not impact our system significantly; same as working with any child needing ELL
- several teleconferences with MOE team has taken place and they have shared a guide for refugees coming into schools across the province
- won't be a concern at budget time
- COTR have found interpreters willing to help

#### **4.4 Strategic Planning Update**

There will be a working session held at the end of the day today regarding the draft.

#### **4.5 Dress Code Update**

Jason Tichauer is putting guidelines together and will be sending out to partner groups. He has contacted all of the schools to let them know about these guidelines.

#### **4.6 iRide Program**

Trustee Johns introduced a new provincial cycling program. Highlights included:

- Provides a pathway from the playground to the next level of cycling and a life-long love of the sport
- Outcome based, active curriculum recognized under the Ministry of Education's Prescribed Learning Outcomes taught by certified NCCP coaches
- Available for Grades 4-10 with modifications for grades 1-3 district-wide
- Free to all schools
- Four sessions– 25-30 students
- Looking for coaches
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year in operation
- Presenter to be invited to a future meeting
- Also brought up EV – interested in getting coaches there as well
- Put on agenda for next Advocacy Committee meeting
- Website <http://cyclingbc.net/youth/iride-school-program/events/>

### **5. BCSTA LETTERS**

#### **5.1 SD68 MyED Implementation Software**

This item will be forwarded to the Finance/Operations Committee meeting today.

Receive and file.

#### **5.2 SD74 – Exempt Staff Compensation**

Receive and file.

#### **5.3 Report of the Select Standing Committee**

Receive and file.

**5.3.1** SD 69

**5.3.2** SD 57

**5.3.3** SD 23

**5.4 SD46 – FPPA Review**

Receive and file.

**5.5 SD8 – New Curriculum Grant**

Receive and file.

General – a discussion took place on the various advocacy letters that are written, in particular to the Select Standing Committee. These letters do not receive either acknowledgement or replies. Trustee Ayling will draft a motion for Trustee Bellina to bring forward to the BCSTA and this item will be put on the agenda for discussion when the Minister of Education visits SD5 in the near future.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of January 25, 2016 was adjourned at 9:54 a.m.