



**The Board of Education of
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)
Minutes – Student Services Committee**

**January 29, 2018, 10:30 a.m.
Board Office**

**Committee Members In
Attendance:**

**Co-Chair Trustee McPhee (Chair)
Co-Chair Trustee Johns
Trustee Ayling
Trustee Bellina (by teleconference)**

Regrets:

**Board/District Staff in
Attendance:**

**Chairperson Lento
Trustee Blumhagen
Trustee Brown
Trustee Helgesen
Trustee Whalen (departed at 11:30)
Lynn Hauptman, Superintendent
Rob Norum, Secretary Treasurer
Diane Casault, Director of Student Learning/Innovation
Jason Tichauer, Director of Student Learning/Aboriginal
Education
Brent Reimer, Director of Instruction – Human Resources
Darcy Verbeurgt, District Principal of Student Services
Jennifer Roberts, District Principal of Transformative
Learning
Janice Paetz, Executive Assistant (Recorder)
Jane Nixon, Executive Assistant (Recorder)**

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

The Student Services Committee meeting of January 29, 2018, was called to order at 10:47 am by Co-Chair Trustee McPhee. This meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Ktunaxa people.

1.2. Approval of the Agenda

SS-2018-01

M/S that the agenda for the Student Services Committee meeting of January 29, 2018 be approved with the following amendments:

- after some clarification, it was determined that items 3.4 and 3.5 are actually the same so item 3.5 will be deleted
- due to time constraints, only certain items will be discussed and the remaining items will be tabled until the February meeting.

1.3. Approval of the Minutes

SS-2018-02

M/S that the minutes of the Student Services Committee meeting of November 27, 2017, be approved as circulated.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 MOTION-R-17-48

M/S that 2017 students with existing IEP's have their IEP for the 2017/2018 term be reviewed and/or revised following the long weekend in May and completed by the end of June.

Topic carried over from the Oct.30 Student Services Committee meeting.

Consideration of the motion being rescinded, amended or direction provided.

Tabled to the February meeting.

2.2 Bill Standeven Report

Where is SD5 with the Bill Standeven report? Future directions for Support Services: Pilots and other Projects that flow out of "the Plan"?

Tabled to the February meeting.

2.3 MOTION-R-17-151

District Management written response to the email from CFTA regarding reinstatement of the Reference and Regulate Program.

Tabled to the February meeting.

2.4 BCCPAC Survey

How do the BCCPAC survey results apply in SD5? *attachment made available at meeting
Fernie Free Press Article from November 23, 2017

Tabled to the February meeting.

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND/OR NEW ITEMS

3.1 Behaviour Specialist Teacher and the GAUGE Program Update

Discussion included:

- Mr. Verbeurgt gave a brief description of the new Behavior Specialist teacher, Ms. Megan Stasiuk, and the work that she is currently doing in the district (four-week POPARD programs, developing strategies to build better capacity to deal with issues within the school, functional assessments, research, whole classroom strategies)
- The GAUGE program was moved out of AWES as the space was required as a classroom to accommodate the restored language
- the transition from the GAUGE Program to the current structure for behaviour issues
- A room remains designated at SES for intensive behaviour issues. There have been no referrals and therefore no students are currently enrolled in the program. This is due to the fact that schools are better equipped to handle issues at the school level, as a result of the support and services that Ms. Stasiuk is providing/sharing in schools and classrooms
- Ms. Stasiuk has worked primarily in Cranbrook along with the Student Services Coordinator in Cranbrook serving two thirds of the district's student population. The Student Services Coordinator in the Elk Valley has extensive training in this area and is able to deal with all of the behavior issues in those communities, comprising one third of the district's student population.
- the referral process for all behaviour issues and how access to Ms. Stasiuk is established with all referral requests coming to the District Principal
- review of the structure of school based teams
- the mental health component is a large portion of the 240 students in the moderate behavior/mental illness and intensive behaviour/serious mental illness identified students
- alternatives for students who drop out of school (Mr. Verbeurgt to email Trustee Blumhagen with more information)
- there is currently not a need for additional behaviour specialist positions in the District.

3.2 Clarification of Who is Providing Support for Special Education Funding Categories

Discussion included:

- Mr. Verbeurgt reviewed the different levels of support available to Special Education funded students. These supports include but are not limited to: Classroom teachers, Student Service teachers, Educational Assistants, Youth Care Workers, Aboriginal Education Support Workers, School Counsellors, and specialized teachers.
- Mandt System Training (trauma-based approach). District-wide training of Mandt began last year with schools with the greatest need being trained first. Training continues this year with multiple sessions scheduled. This will enhance the ability to deal with children with behaviour issues. Also looking at building capacity for additional trainers as we currently only have three.
- Positive school and home connection – team approach – Aboriginal Education Support Workers do this for students of Aboriginal ancestry and Youth Care Workers do this for the remaining students where this is needed.
- Trustee Johns advocated that more support and trained specialists should be available if necessary and that the Board of Trustees will continue to advocate to the Province for funding in this area
- Trustee Lento emphasized that rather than staff being trained, staff need to be right in front of kids giving support
- Anxiety support and the supports available to children in schools such as Friends, Fun Friends Programs
- Ms. Therrien discussed the need for parent inclusion with anxiety support and the importance of available resources for parents at PAC Meetings
- students who have anxiety issues to the extent that it impacts their education will have an IEP in place (which would be discussed with the parents)
- Mr. Verbeurgt will reinforce the need to share information with parents with our counsellors
- there is a new Ministry of Mental Health and we are waiting to hopefully hear of additional supports/resources
- Canadian Mental Health Association quite often offers sessions for parents (Mr. Verbeurgt to send out the link)

3.3 What Schools are Taking Advantage of the List of Supports for the Previous Reference and Regulate Program?

Tabled to the February meeting.

3.4 The Simplified IEP – has this improved workload?

Tabled to the February meeting.

3.5 Preliminary Report on the New Program Funding

Tabled to the February meeting.

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

Nil

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:41 am.