



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

**November 27, 2017, 10:30 a.m.
Board Office**

**Committee Members
In Attendance:**

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

Regrets:

**Board/District Staff in
Attendance:**

**Chairperson Lento
Trustee Brown
Lynn Hauptman, Superintendent
Rob Norum, Secretary Treasurer
Diane Casault, Director of Student Learning/Innovation
Jason Tichauer, Director of Student Learning/Aboriginal Educ.
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)**

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

The Student Services Committee meeting of November 27, 2017 was called to order at 10:52 a.m. by Co-Chair Trustee McPhee.

1.2. Approval of the Agenda

SS-2017-12

M/S that the agenda for the Student Services Committee meeting of November 27, 2017 be approved as amended.

Addition: 3.2 BCCPAC Survey

1.3. Approval of the Minutes

SS-2017-13

M/S that the minutes of the Student Services Committee meeting of October 30, 2017 be approved as circulated.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 One Page Review of Funding of Student Services

Mr. Norum provided a one-page summary of the Student Services funding.

Discussion included:

- students generate about 6.3 million which is fully allocated to top portion on chart, which is schools' allocations (this is funding from the Ministry of Education)
- there have been changes in funding over the years from formulas to a 'per student' supplemental allocation
- the District has continued to fund areas that were rolled into the 'per student' basic allocation
- the District provides approximately 3.6 million out of the general operating budget (basic allocation) to hire district itinerant staff and to provide funding for supports at schools.
- provincial government does not annually increase funding to what our needs are
- last year we supplemented student services through the Learning Improvement Fund.
- Trustee Johns is giving a presentation later today on these areas identified by the Select Standing Committee as being underfunded
- Discussion about OT/PT services and how it is funded. TREKK provides out OT/PT services
- nine YCW's are hired out of the Community LINK budget and there are two that are funded out of two schools' spec. ed. allocations
- there has been a small increase in LINKS but never to what we feel we need
- it was asked and identified that more funding from Community LINK would provide more adults in buildings to model healthy habits, helpful to use more recent data to provide accurate funding, look at EDI information, child poverty in BC to identify trouble areas.

2.2 Supporting Student Services Teachers with Paperwork (IEP Writing)

- Report on \$40,000 that was set aside to be utilized as Release Time to support Student Services Teachers
 - this will provide about 100 release days
 - currently working on a draft – senior managements needs to review, meet with CFTA on Wed. for their feedback
 - the distribution of days is about building capacity and is based on needs, not necessarily equal school to school
 - Is this funding that we can visit every year? The \$20,000 from Priority Measures will be gone – no additional funding coming. Mr. Reimer's funding comes from recruitment/retention program – not sure if this will be available going forward. Maybe the Board would be interested in looking at this at the spring budget mtgs.

- Feedback from the Student Services meeting on November 23rd:

We asked the question, “What is it that you need to do your job and keep you in Student Services?”

- high number of comments around all staff understanding the roles of Student Service teachers
- for others to respect the work that, they do and ensure that they didn’t expect more than what should be expected from Student Service teachers
- co-mentoring/support from peers
- IEP writing blocks
- staff need to stick to their designated roles
- more YCW and counselling time
- pro-d needed for new resources
- overall, ‘more time’ to work with students and to do paperwork,

These results will be emailed to Trustees.

Discussion included:

- Where are we at with the Bill Standeven report? Mr. Verbeurgt advised that its going to take some time to put together – hope to have it ready for the January meeting.
- May be timely to review some of these comments with PVP’s regarding time, expectations, etc.
- we did talk about balance of workload at the meeting – Student Service Teachers have a variety of people demanding their time and they recognize their own need to fix problems for everyone
- the Living with Balance program will be offered to Student Service Teachers in January – this is a joint effort between the District and CFTA
- Trustee Brown asked “Are there classroom intervention plans for crisis?” We are really working on what we mean by ‘regulation’ – schools are really focussed on this – helping kids know how to regulate themselves, striving for common language throughout the schools.
- What about the adults – do they have a plan? Who responds first? This is really the role of the School Based Team and usually decided on by the school.
- research shows that the relationship between the classroom teacher and the student is by far the most important link. The support staff support the teacher and the student in this work.

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND/OR NEW ITEMS

3.1 Reference & Regulate

Email to Trustees from CFTA requesting the return of the Reference & Regulate (R & R) program to all children in the district who require it.

Discussion included:

- CFTA advised they are being asked repeatedly about the program – teachers are really missing it and noticing an increase of behaviour issues in their classrooms.
- Mr. Verbeurgt has only heard from one staff member about returning the program.
- the program is not designed for whole classrooms – it is designed to work one to one with a student who is on the Autism spectrum disorder.
- R & R was never promoted to deal with behaviour issues in a classroom setting

- There have been many discussions and two full Committee meetings about the decision not to move forward with the program. There are also many reasons, some of which are: it is not evidence based, we do not have clear results, we have a variety of other programs that are meeting students needs, it does not work with students with behaviour issues, approx. 12 students across the district were served, there are more effective ways to utilize district resources.
- SLP's and Student Service Teachers are taking a variety of other courses to address our students' needs and we offer a number of different programs/resources to staff (a separate list of programs/resources will be provided to Trustees and the CFTA).
- we need to get this information out as it appears that many teachers do not realize that all of these resources/supports are in place and available (CFTA)
- there is a PVP mtg. this week – good place to start the communication about this
- we are seeing an increase over the last decade of classroom behaviour issues, not just special needs students, but by all students
- the return of old contract language has spread out students with IEP's in classes and has impacted how Education Assistants can be assigned (we can no longer group students together and assign EA's to one classroom).

Recommendation A

“That the Board of Education approve District Management to prepare a written response to the email from CFTA regarding reinstatement of the Reference & Regulate program.”

3.2 BCCPAC Survey

The survey results were sent to Trustees, Mrs. Hauptman and Mr. Verbeurgt. Trustees would like a report back with SD5 responses in the new year.

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

Nil

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.