



**The Board of Education of  
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)  
MINUTES - STUDENT SERVICES MEETING**

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

**Committee  
Members In  
Attendance:**

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

**Regrets:**

**Board/District  
Staff in  
Attendance:**

**Chairperson Lento  
Trustee Brown  
Trustee Whalen (by phone)  
Trustee Helgesen  
Trustee Blumhagen  
Lynn Hauptman, Superintendent  
Diane Casault, Director of Student Learning/Innovation  
Brent Reimer, Director of Instruction – Human Resources  
  
Jane Nixon, Executive Assistant (Recorder)**

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

The Special Education Student Services meeting of October 29, 2018 was called to order at 10:43 by Doug McPhee.

**1.2 Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda of the Student Services Committee meeting of October 29, 2018 was approved as circulated.

**1.3 Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the Student Services Committee meeting of September 24, 2018 was approved as circulated.

## **2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### **2.1 Updates on Available Supports and Services for Autism Spectrum**

Update on the support for students on the Autism Spectrum.

Speech Language Pathologist position is currently an open and ongoing posting. Preschool Speech and Rocky Mountain is still being covered by Lesley Runzer. Susan Robertson is currently covering Jaffray.

There is a significant shortage of Speech Language Pathologists in rural areas such as Fernie and Cranbrook. There are issues with housing, retention and recruitment.

Trustee McPhee suggested that the School District look into postings in private practice as well as postings in other districts so that School District 5 can offer a more competitive package. It also is important to collaborate with districts in the province to discuss how others are recruiting Speech Language Pathologists.

Trustee Bellina further suggested that housing shortages remain and that it is imperative that we look for long-term solutions for housing.

Trustee Johns also suggested writing a letter to advocate for an increase in the number of seats in universities for Speech Language Pathologists due to the current shortage.

Trustee Johns also discussed sending a letter to the Ministry of Education as well as Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing at both a provincial and federal levels.

### **2.2 Parent Advocacy**

Diane Casault discussed the need for consistency in all websites across the School District. This includes where a parent will find information on available programs for Student Services, etc. The School District is aiming to have up to date information on the Portal, external School District website and on all school websites.

Trustee Blumhagen suggested that once this is ready, a slideshow (demonstration) of the websites should be given at all PAC meetings.

Trustee Ayling discussed the importance of supporting our DPAC and making them aware of all of the resources for parents. This slideshow would also be given at the DPAC meeting.

Trustee McPhee also suggested that a workshop presenting all the services available both in the School District and in our communities might be offered at a DPAC Meeting.

### **2.3 Advocacy for Additional Special Education Funding**

This agenda item was tabled to the November 26 meeting.

## **2.4 GAUGE Review**

The GAUGE Program was reviewed. At the recent Principals & Vice Principals meeting, it was reported that no referrals have come forward for the GAUGE program. Students continue to work with Megan Stasuik.

Further discussions included other ways of supporting children including half days at a program such as GAUGE rather than full-time attendance.

Trustee Johns requested a report at the November 26 Committee Meeting to further discuss where the School District stands with GAUGE program.

Superintendent Hauptman also reported to the Committee the importance and effectiveness of Mandt training.

## **2.5 Compliance Auditor**

Diane Casault gave a report on the session with Ann Dumas on September 26. Ms. Dumas is part of the provincial audit team. This session was hosted by the School District for Student Services Teachers, Principals, Vice Principals, Counsellors and Aboriginal Education Support Workers.

School District 5 received accolades for its reporting and received guidance on moving children forward into funded categories.

## **2.6 Category H Students**

School District 5 is above the provincial average for students in Category H (students requiring intensive behaviour intervention or students with serious mental illness).

A request was made to have the average provincial numbers versus School District 5 numbers available for the next meeting. Trustee Johns further requested a report be available at the next meeting on the funding implications of our Category H students.

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

## **4. INFORMATION ITEMS**

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

The Student Services Committee meeting of October 29, 2018 adjourned at 11:37 a.m.