

The Board of Education of

School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)

Minutes - Advocacy/Education Committee

| May 31, 2021, 9:30 a.m.  Cranbrook Board Office |
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Committee Members Trustee Bellina

In Attendance: Trustee Whalen

Trustee Turner

Trustee Ayling

Regrets:

Board/District Staff in Trustee McPhee

Attendance: Trustee Johns

Trustee Damstrom

Trustee Kitt

Trustee Lento

Silke Yardley, Superintendent Jason Tichauer, Director, Student Learning

Diane Casault, Director, Student Learning

Jennifer Roberts, District Principal

Darcy Verbeurgt, District Principal

Alan Rice, Secretary Treasurer

Gail Rousseau, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

# **1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

## **1.1 Call to Order**

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

The Advocacy/Education Committee Meeting of May 31, 2021 was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Co-Chair Bellina.

Chairperson Lento acknowledged the horrific news about the 215 children in the Kamloops Residential School.

*“A few comments regarding the agonizing and tragic circumstances that have been brought to our attention of not only the Residential School in Kamloops but also the anticipated devastation of others throughout Canada.*

*While we have lowered our flags, our schools, under the leadership of our Superintendent, our Directors of Student Learning and our Aboriginal Education Support Workers, are honoring those in different ways throughout our community schools who suffered trauma, harm and ultimately never returned home. The agonizing circumstances for the families and the community of the Kamloops Residential School is beyond comprehension for me. We are concerned about the trauma and anxiety being experienced by our local Ktunaxa Nation and the impact of our local Residential School. I would request that our Superintendent arrange a meeting with Chief Pierre as soon as possible to offer our help in the form of compassion, understanding, support, resources and hope.*

*Please join me as we begin our day about the education and welfare of our students by taking a moment of silence to reflect on the past trauma and harm and share in the grief of the victims’ families of the Kamloops Residential School.”*

**1.2 Approval of Agenda**

Addition:

Item 5.4 Canadian School Board Association Conference

M/S that the agenda of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of May 31, 2021 is approved as amended.

## **1.3 Approval of Minutes - April 27, 2021**

The minutes have been corrected with the proper attendance information inserted.

M/S that the minutes of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of April 27, 2021 be approved as amended.

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

## **2.1 Minister Whiteside to President Higginson re Anti-Black Racism - back to Advocacy from May 11 Board meeting –** Receive and file.

## **2.2 President Higginson to Minister Whiteside re moving forward after Covid 19 - back to Advocacy from May 11 Board meeting for action –** Receive and file.

# **3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS (10 min maximum)**

## **3.1 Capstone Presentation - Chantel Hennessy and Karen Kettenacker**

Chantel Hennessy, a Grade 12 student at MBSS, presented her Capstone. She shared her personal stories and her struggles with various disorders. She described each disorder and how they have affected her life.

Comments:

* very brave presentation, thank you for presenting
* positive influence in others’ lives
* well researched, pleasant to listen to
* shows strength and self-assurance
* your presentation today if the best gift a student can give their teacher
* you will do amazing things in your future
* your potential is untapped
* great artwork; very impressive

Trustees thanked Chantel for coming today to present.

# **4. REPORTS**

## **4.1 DSAC Report**

Trustee Bellina gave a recap of the DSAC meeting on May 15. Amy Reid spoke to the students about mental health supports in COVID. Director Tichauer continued the work already started on the career development priority for the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning and asked the student what topics they would like to see on future agendas. The next meeting is June 3, 2021.

## **4.2 DPAC Report**

Trustee Turner reported it was a busy meeting in May. Highlights included:

* secondary school PACs discussed grad plans as the Ministry did release guidelines which gave them definitive things to look at when planning special events for students
* traffic around MBSS has slowed down with the school leadership team reminding everyone of the traffic issues
* Director Casault presented EDI information and parents were very grateful
* BCCPAC parent conference was held May 28/29
* LMS hoping to get flashing lights on 2nd Street South
* IDES - heard about the bussing survey and congestion problems – part of transportation discussion
* questions about policies for students riding the bus; the number of kilometers and whether that would be discussed and looked at; they were assured that it is all part of the discussion following survey results from different communities
* SOGI 123 concerns at SSS; more needs to be done to inform parents on SOGI and to make sure they have access to websites and information from BCCPAC to help them have discussions with their own children
* Director Tichauer did a great job talking to DPAC and addressing their concerns; he is meeting with DPAC executive before next meeting in June to set up a parent information session

## **4.3 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) - update by Silke Yardley**

Superintendent Yardley indicated good progress was being made with the Framework document. The DSAC students are meeting this week and their suggestions will be put into the document as strategies. The students have been very engaged.

A survey was sent out last Friday to all school staffs asking about what they would like to see for professional learning from the district. So far, 85 responses have been received. Group meetings are being set up with principals, unions, district staff, and teachers starting June 14 to look at the survey results and to come up with a good plan for offering professional learning for our staff based on the needs of the Framework. The ultimate goal is to finish action items in the Framework, to have a plan for next year and share professional learning opportunities with the Principals/Vice-Principals in August. The final Framework document will be complete at the end of June and then shared with Trustees.

## **4.4 Child Care - Alan Rice/Diane Casault**

Secretary-Treasurer Rice mentioned that renovations were moving forward at the Fernie Learning Center and the Center will be ready to go in September with additional day care and before and after school care. This is Phase 1 of many phases to come. Thanks to the maintenance staff who have been very helpful and organized in getting things moving forward.

# **5. NEW BUSINESS**

## **5.1 High Ground 2021 - Virtual Conference - Trustees Ayling, Whalen – update**

Trustee Ayling sent out her report to Trustees and asked if anyone had any questions to let her know. Trustee Whalen will also send out her notes. They enjoyed the speakers, the presentations and found the agenda very enriching.

## **5.2 Ministry Response to Higginson re Executive Compensation Freeze (SD5 sent a letter of support) – just for information**

## **5.3 HARBIR Protocol - Jason Tichauer**

**Hate and Race Based Incident Response (HARBIR) –** Director Tichauer has been the district representative on the HARBIR Community Consultation Committee. He presented a PowerPoint presentation which was created by HARBIR who asked it to be shared with the community. Highlights included:

* very worthwhile process;
* to provide a coordinated response and support to victims of Hate and Race Based Crime and/or incidents in our community
* City of Cranbrook initiative
* SD5 is a very active partner
* lots of benefits of to having a city wide protocol; systemic and consistent response
* Trustee Mcphee also a very active member of creation team
* Protocol initiated from the Office of the Attorney General; lots of supporting documents
* SD 5 has the responsibility to assign a representative to the HARBIR Community Consultation Committee
* the incident report process was explained and how the response works
* all members on the Community Consultation Committee give input to Protocol
* Director Tichauer is also willing to have a more fulsome conversation about the Protocol at a subsequent meeting

Comments:

* discouraging to see the list of types of incidents; is Restorative Justice part of the support system for these types of actions?
* Trustee McPhee mentioned - in terms of Restorative Justice – covers community and Resilience BC; process to collect resources but not solve the problems; figure out how to support individuals and how to move forward, it’s about public education
* really important to have this conversation and you see what can happen if no one speaks up
* is this Protocol is across BC and is the reporting going to help the BC government determine what supports, education are needed across the province?
* Director Tichauer explained that this is a locally created document which may get provincial funding
* Resilience BC is creating lots of resources
* Humanity Network also linking to provincial resources; helps with what is not appropriate
* many “spokes” to Resilience BC; we are lucky to be on the leading edge in Cranbrook; we represent much larger region; other communities will piggyback on this

***Recommendation A – M/S that Director Tichauer continue to be the School District 5 representative on the HARBIR Community Consultation Committee.***

**5.4 Canadian School Board Conference**

If any trustees or district staff are wanting to attend this Conference the cost is $1,000 to register a group.

***Recommendation B – M/S that the Trustees interested in attending the Canadian School Board Conference (CSBC) are able to attend.***

# **6. ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

## **6.1 Marisa Philips recognized at future Board/Committee meeting for her work on the Aboriginal Education Department logo**

## **6.2 DSAC initiatives - vaping strategies/approaches, climate change discussions - June 2021 meeting**

# **7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

## **7.1 BCSTA AGM**

### **7.1.1 SD 8 to BCSTA**

Receive and file.

### **7.1.2 SD 19 to BCSTA**

Receive and file.

### **7.1.3 SD 74**

Receive and file.

## **7.2 PSEC Freeze Policy**

### **7.2.1 Higginson to SD5**

Receive and file.

### **7.2.2 PSEC to BCSTA**

Receive and file.

# **8. ADJOURNMENT**

The Advocacy/Education Committee meeting was adjourned at 10:59 a.m.