



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

**September 23, 2013, 11:00 a.m.
Board Office**

Committee Co-Chair Trustee Johns
Members in Co-Chair Trustee Besanger
Attendance: Trustee Whalen

Regrets: Trustee Ayling

Board/District Staff Trustee Bellina
in Attendance: Trustee Brown
Chairperson Lento
L. Hauptman, Superintendent of Schools
D. Verbeurgt, District Principal/Student Services
J. Paetz, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

The Special Education Student Services meeting of September 23, 2013 was called to order at 11:34 a.m. by Co-Chair Johns.

1.2. Approval of the Agenda

SPED-2013-004

M/S that the agenda for the Special Education Student Services Meeting of September 23, 2013 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

1.3. Approval of the Minutes

SPED-2013-005

M/S that the minutes of the Special Education Student Services meeting of September 23, 2013 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1. Letters Regarding Collaborative Services Planning - Update

Discussion included:

MCFD

- Mr. Verbeurgt continues to build relations with MCFD through contacts, emails and planning groups
- Currently working on a Mental Health Forum (invitation only) on November 25th & 26th. He is working with the group to create a new network which will follow through on the promotion of mental health wellness and the prevention of mental health illness. There are a wide range of contributors from cross-sector agencies.
- Protocols still need to be ironed out. More cooperation is being demanded from all agencies.
- Phone discussions continue with MCFD and CYMH about services.
- Child Protection work continues.
- A new network is being formed around services to adults with disabilities (STADD) – October 1st workshop.
- Childhood Development Centre - Trustee Brown advised that there are still several positions open (striving to create a complete team of childhood specialists at the Centre).
- Mr. Verbeurgt will still send a letter to MCFD requesting collaboration.
- It would be helpful for the Kootenay Child Development Centre to send the district a letter identifying what their needs are. Trustee Whalen will follow-up on this.

Early Childhood

- Mr. Verbeurgt has asked to be invited to their meetings.
- Met in June regarding students with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder)

- Met with Elk Valley Early Childhood services (OT, PT, SLP, Childcare). Good conversation - asked by OT to another meeting in October.
- Met with IHA regarding therapy providers. Trying to rewrite the contract with OT/PT (SD6 also involved). Concerns about where school-age children and pre-school children are being serviced (no data recorded or provided at this time).
- Formal / informal transition meetings - met with daycares, child care centers to determine what services kids receive in preschool and then try to match those in school.
- Need for on-going conversation on transitions (children in transitions with ASD). Needs to be a role for parents in those discussions.
- East Kootenay Childhood Coalition meeting in November (Mr. Verbeurgt will attend).

2.2. SPED/Student Services Committee Terms of Reference

This item was dealt with in the Policy Committee meeting.

2.3. Policy 3.10 Student Services Programs - Statement of Philosophy

Discussion included:

- Policy was written in 2001. Does this reflect our current values and beliefs about Student Services?
- Some programs are not mixing well due to different philosophies. Some parental concern over different opinions about what services/programs work together and what don't.
- Parents have the right to choose programs outside of school.
- It's the ability of what the school can provide. We can't give choices in everything. Funding dictates how much we can do.
- Mr. Verbeurgt recommends moving to learner support service (belief that children have a right to a full education).
- Language in policy is very dated. Our philosophy statements should come from our beliefs.
- Mr. Verbeurgt will redraft the policy and bring back to the October meeting.

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND/OR NEW ITEMS

3.1. BC-CASE Summer Meeting - Update

Mr. Verbeurgt provided a summary from the BC CASE meeting in August. Discussion included:

- K-9 reveal for curriculum review - still in process. Large amount of teachers involved with curriculum specialists. Should be an update out sometime in the fall.
- Request to management to include full terms for acronyms in future meetings.
- DPAC commented that Early Learning seems to be the dominate focus in the news and media. Are things being done for our older students?
- Research clearly shows early intervention optimizes learning and is most effect in the early years.
- Still a need to rebuild around Gr.8 and those important transition times through the high school years.
- UBC now has a MDI (Middle Development Index) in addition to the EDI (Early Development Index).
- Need to let others know that our resources are not just at the K-3 level.
- Mr. Verbeurgt will create a one page document for the new website that lists resources currently being utilized in the later grades.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The Special Education Student Services meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.