



EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 4:00 P.M.

SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE

425 Jermyn Avenue

MEMBER PRESENT: Barb Sheppard, Chair
Shelley Clarke, Trustee
Ginny Manning, Trustee
Linda Van Alpen, Trustee
Bruce Johnson, Trustee

MEMBERS ABSENT: Todd Manuel
Maureen Hayter

ALSO PRESENT: Wendy Hyer, Superintendent of Schools
Todd Manuel, Assistant Superintendent
Bonnie Roller Routley, Secretary Treasurer
Jason Corday, Director of Instruction
Susan Thomson, Director of Instruction
Jane Owen, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

Barb Sheppard called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: Duly moved and seconded.
That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

3. Presentations

3.1 School Completion - Update

Superintendent Hyer shared information on the work taking place regarding cohort data from grade 8 to 12 and what type of indicators in which students didn't complete school. Judith King, School Completion District Helping Teacher provided an update on her combined work with Sharon Jeroski. They shared the findings of this information with administrators and discussed how this work has had an impact on students. They compared cohort information from 2010 (Graduating 2011) at 84% and information in 2014 (Graduating 2015) at 87%. They are very pleased with the overall percentage increasing by 3% and look forward to continuing this influential work in the district.

3.2 Mini-Study at Princess Margaret Secondary School

Judith King spoke on the enthusiasm around finding evidence in the 2015 data and what that would suggest progressing forward for Princess Margaret. As a staff they were successful in making a difference. They have worked closely together as a staff to make raising collective awareness with all teachers in the school.

Naryn Searcy presented with Judith King and mentioned that they can do things differently now if they chose to with the new curriculum coming up. They know more effective ways to work with kids at risk, as well as students who are not at risk. As Ms. Searcy mentioned, the challenge is to remember what we know, not what has necessarily been achieved in the past.

3.3 Through a Different Lens Project

Naryn Searcy and Judith King commented on the four groups they are working on.

They are pleased about the process in rethinking the traditional learning in the classroom by taking it outside – moving beyond the four walls on a regular basis. Classes of all levels are enjoying being out in the community. Some examples are: going to a museum, learning of personal stories within the Metis Culture, being outside on the mountain, etc.,

Teachers are looking at various choices for Professional learning. There are many good discussions and positive ideas on how to teach in provoking but mindful ways. Bringing balance, structure and freedom into how we teach. Students are learning in a more effective way and having fun at the same time.

4. Information Items

4.1 BC Winter Games Legacy Fund

Superintendent Hyer - had pleasure in attending the Penticton 2016 Winter Games Legacy Celebration night that took place on January 16. Superintendent Hyer thanked the Legacy Committee for the funds that were donated to the district, which included \$10,000 to Princess Margaret for archery equipment and \$7,000 that went towards the elementary schools for equipment for winter games sports. Both donations support the development of skills in sports that are part of the winter games.

Superintendent Hyer also thanked Trustee Bidlake for all his work and efforts with regards to the Winter Games.

4.2 District Science Fair and Inquiry Expo

Superintendent Hyer commented on the very first science inquiry expo that will take place on March 9 at Summerland Secondary School. This date had been changed from March 7 to March 9 due to a conflict with the Okanagan Valley Concert Band Festival.

March 9 is referred to as the 'evening of science'; the Science Fair takes place from 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm. This is open to all Grade 6 to 8 students who would like to compete for the opportunity to participate in the Okanagan Regional Science Fair. Students will present their study, experiment or innovation and be formally judged by a group of local scientists. The top 30 science fair projects from our district will then compete at the Regional Science Fair in April.

The Science Inquiry Expo takes place from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm and is followed by a science activity from 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm. The expo provides students with the opportunity to informally practice their scientific communication skills and have conversations about the science inquiry processes. This is a non-competitive format for students to celebrate some of their inquiries.

4.3 Okanagan Concert Band Festival

On March 7th & 8th, a number of middle and secondary school concert bands from throughout the Pacific Northwest will be performing at the Cleland Theatre. A copy of the schedule is attached for your information. In addition, the festival will include Band-O-Rama on Tuesday, March 7th and Wednesday, March 8th, which is a mass band performance that all bands are welcome to participate in.

The Okanagan Concert Band Festival is also featuring a special performance by The University of Calgary Wind Ensemble at the Cleland Theatre. There will be two shows: 6:30 pm and 8:00 pm and tickets cost \$6.00, and I have been advised that both shows are sold out.

4.4 Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement

Allen Beckingham, District Principal of District Programs and Aboriginal Education District Coordinator, presented an honorary drum that was commissioned by the SD67 Aboriginal Education Department to commemorate our Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement. The beautiful hand-crafted drum was created by Jeremy Chow of the Lower Similkameen Indian Band.

6. Upcoming Policies

Superintendent Hyer commented that upcoming policies will be reviewed as time permits.

- Policy No. 211 – Distribution of Materials to Students
- Policy No. 230 – School Response for Critical Incidents
- Policy No. 240 – Parent Advisory Councils
- Policy No. 300 – Student Registration
- Policy No. 440 – Locally Developed Courses

7. Question Period

No questions were presented.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

MOTION: Duly moved and seconded.

That the Education Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED