

**The Board of Education of**

**School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)**

**MINUTES - ADVOCACY/EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**February 22, 2016 9:00 a.m.**

**Board Office**

Committee Members Co-Chair Blumhagen

In Attendance: Trustee Bellina

Trustee Ayling

Regrets: Trustee Whalen

Board/District Staff in Trustee McPhee

Attendance: Trustee Johns

Trustee Helgesen

Trustee Brown

Chairperson Lento (late)

Lynn Hauptman, Superintendent

Jason Tichauer, Director of Student Learning

Diane Casault, Director of Student Learning

Gail Rousseau, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

1. **COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**
   1. **Call to Order**

The Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of February 22, 2016 was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Co-Chair Blumhagen.

* 1. **Approval of Agenda**

**ADV-16-03**

The Agenda of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of February 22, 2016 is approved as circulated.

**1.3 Approval of Minutes**

**ADV-16-04**

The Minutes of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of January 25, 2016 are approved as circulated.

1. **PRESENTATIONS**
   1. **School Growth Plan – Mt. Baker Secondary School**

Viveka Johnson, Dave Hill, Dan Noble, Jo-Anna LeGrandeur, Paul Duczek and Sean Sinclair presented Mt. Baker Secondary School’s Growth Plan. Highlights included:

Three focus areas for Growth Plan:

1. Students at risk:

* Developing a transition program for students transitioning from the middle schools before they get to MBSS
* staff started collecting stats last year to see if transition program was successful
* trying to shift focus on what students can do instead of what they can’t do
* developing COTR transition program
* interviewed grade 10 students to ask what could be done better with transitions
* anxiety is a huge issue with grade 9 transitions
* many presentations have been shared with parents, staff and students at the middle school level and with MBSS staff to try to alleviate some anxiety, to address needs and concerns so that everyone on the same page
* presentations will be available on the website for parents and students

1. Revised curriculum:

* looking at inquiry based learning and alternative deliveries; keeping successful programs i.e., KES – 100 students this year – space fully maximized
* more flexible with timetabling

1. Study skills:

* *Mindset* by Carol Dweck, a new psychology resource, teaches that brains can be rewired
* it is all about the process and not the end result which can transfer into study skills, aid in learning a new curriculum and help students at risk
* Also working with staff to do the same

Discussion/Comments:

* Examples presented on ways MBSS staff work with feeder schools to ease anxiety for students and parents i.e., mini exam week, explanation of linear vs semester timetabling, school tours, obtaining timetables in the spring, attaching a staff member to all new students
* Addressing needs of at-risk students through KES and flexible, creative outreach programming and accessible administration

1. **ITEMS FORWARDED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**
   1. **iRide Presentation** – will be held at the next Advocacy/Education Committee meeting in April.

1. **CORRESPONDENCE AND/OR NEW ITEMS**
   1. **DSAC Report**

Trustee Bellina reported that there is a Student Voice/DSAC meeting on March 4 at Elkford Secondary School. A report will follow.

* 1. **DPAC Report**

Trustee Ayling reported:

* + Letters being sent in support of 3 recommendations by Select Standing Committee
  + draft recommendations are being prepared on how to update PAC Constitutions
  + A “best practice” document is being written
  + BCCPAC Spring Conference and AGM - April 29 – May 1 – Debbie Therrien attending
  1. **Student Services**

Syrian Refugee update:

* First family arrived on Friday
* Children (2 boys, K and grade 2) will be attending AWES
* Darcy Verbeurgt will be coordinating services with Principal Thorn and the family tomorrow with the aid of an Arabic interpreter
* the group of families that have been working on bringing the Syrian family to Cranbrook have been very successful with obtaining resources for them
* Superintendent Hauptman will ask them on behalf of Board if there is any additional support needed
  1. **Strategic Planning**

A meeting will be held at the end of the day to decide on two models presented.

* 1. **Enhancement Agreement Report Update**

Jason Tichauer reported:

* This report highlights our progress with the current Enhancement Agreement
* highest 6 year completion rate for SD5 aboriginal students ever; 1.6% difference between non-aboriginal and aboriginal students
* SD5 is the only district in the province that has had an aboriginal completion rate that has gone up
* New document will have more sophisticated performance indicators;
* focusing on who is not succeeding
* the percentage of students who have self-identified has not changed; if number of SD5 students goes up so does the percentage of aboriginal students; 839 students accessing services this year

Discussion/Comments:

* Well-written report
* Evergreen Certificates – no issue in SD5 – only provincial issue
* The purpose of the Enhancement Agreement report is to reports on goals, objectives and performance indicators
* Aboriginal data compared to non-aboriginal student data – this is done provincially
* FNESC has been very vocal about their support of an elementary assessment
* Aboriginal education support workers time - support money is distributed according to enrolment and need
* hired an additional AESW this year due to higher ratios at schools; every year it is reviewed; cultural project money is the same;
* still using FSA results until there is something else
  1. **Summer School**

Jason Tichauer reported:

* Summer school changed last year to included courses for graduation
* looking at results there was a real distinction – 21 out of 29 completed courses - 72% success rate
* students who were repeating a course or completing a course had low success rates - only 10 courses were completed by students redoing courses - this model is not working for students
* lots of discussion with DL staff and union co-chairs looking at expanding program to incorporate students who traditionally access summer school
* 85% of kids staring DL completed their courses
* when students take courses supported by teachers they do better
* this year - students will be supported by their DL teachers throughout the summer
* no firm start or end times for students to complete courses
* summer school will not exist as a stand-alone entity

Discussion/Comments:

* Collaborating with SD6
* Year-round schooling
* Clarification on funding
* Sharing of good practices at all high schools in district

1. **BCSTA LETTERS**
   1. **SD63 TTOC Part-Time Teachers Funding for New Curriculum**

Receive and file.

* 1. **Compensation**

**5.2.1 SD28 -** receive and file

**5.2.2 SD20 –** receive and file

**5.2.3 SD23 –** receive and file

***Recommendation A – that the Board writes a letter to all Boards to forward any responses to letters received from the Ministry of Education through the BCSTA for distribution to all Boards.***

***Recommendation B – that the Board write a letter to Mike Roberts requesting him to forward any Ministry responses to Board letters to all Boards.***

* 1. **SD47 – My Education BC**

Receive and file.

* 1. **SD19 – Select Standing Committee**

***Recommendation C – that the Board send a letter to government expressing our concerns regarding the provincial budget, the report of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services, the “prosperity fund” and funding.***

***Recommendation D – that the Board send a letter to the BCSTA expressing our profound disappointment with the media release regarding the 2016 provincial budget and our concerns regarding the BCSTA “media strategic plan”.***

Receive and file.

**5.5 SD61 – 22M Surplus**

Receive and file.

* 1. **SD72 – Concerns re Government Action Funding Reduction**

Receive and file.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of February 22, 2016 was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.