

**The Board of Education of**

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

**Minutes - Advocacy/Education Committee**

| November 25, 2019, 9:30 a.m.  Cranbrook Board Office  Committee Members Trustee Bellina (by zoom)  In Attendance: Trustee Turner  Trustee Ayling    Regrets: Trustee Whalen    Board/District Staff in Trustee McPhee  Attendance: Trustee Johns  Trustee Kitt  Trustee Damstrom  Trustee Lento  Silke Yardley, Superintendent Jason Tichauer, Director, Student Learning  Diane Casault, Director, Student Learning  Jennifer Roberts, District Principal  Alan Rice, Secretary Treasurer  Darcy Verbeurgt, District Principal  Gail Rousseau, Executive Assistant (Recorder) |
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# **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 November 25, 2019 was called to order at 9:33 by Trustee Turner.

## **1.2 Approval of Agenda**

Additions: nil

M/S that the agenda of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of November 25, 2019 is approved as circulated.

## **1.3 Approval of Minutes**

M/S that the minutes of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of October 28, 2019 be approved as circulated.

# **2. PRESENTATIONS**

## **2.1 COTR Research - Place Based Learning - COTR Practicum Students**

Tina Sandhu and Kyla Patton, 4th year nursing students from the College of the Rockies presented their research and their personal observations/recommendations from a nursing perspective on the benefits and challenges of conscious place-based education.

Observations:

* location of school and funding either worked well or it did not
* the higher the grade level the less engagement
* safety was another barrier; teachers were not feeling comfortable taking students outside without first aid training
* place-based education has the environmental piece which connects with health and the environment
* connecting mental health with the environment is very important; helps to build fundamentals in children at a young age

Recommendations:

* effective planning key
* place-based workshops for teachers
* help build community in schools; bouncing ideas off each other/collaborating with other teachers
* first aid courses for teachers
* flexible timetabling to allow longer lunch hours to access community
* opportunities for place-based learning in urban community as well
* place-based learning very broad; important to define barriers

## **2.2 Performing Arts BC Festival - Gail Brown and Corinna Robinson**

Corinna Robinson, representative from the East Kootenay Performing Arts Festival presented information on the BC Performing Arts Provincial Festival coming to Cranbrook June 2-6, 2020.

Highlights included:

* 2400 visitors over 4 days; 650 plus children and youth performers across the region including our students
* encouraging SD5 students/staff to attend concerts/events
* opportunity to showcase the East Kootenays promoting return visitors and perhaps relocations
* will increase the awareness of the Arts in our region
* various venues around the region have already committed to holding events/concerts/practises
* budget of $65,000 – looking for partnership with SD5, support, in-kind donations, sponsorships, use of SD5 facilities, Key City Theatre days
* Local community keeps 25% of the proceeds

Director Tichauer met with Gail Brown and has secured pianos for practises at two schools (SES and AWES). Key City Theatre days will be donated but can not be determined until closer to year end. The use of SD5’s facilities for practises will also be donated.

A discussion took place as to other venues in the Elk Valley which could be utilized. The provincial board is encouraging visitors to stay around and explore the Cranbrook area. A letter of support will be drafted from the Superintendent’s office for the Provincial Festival. Trustee Johns will work with Gail Brown on the walkable map project.

***Recommendation A – M/S that the Board provide in-kind support as well as advertising support for the BC Performing Arts Provincial Festival in Cranbrook June 2-6, 2020.***

## **2.3 September 20 Pro-D Survey Results - Jason Tichauer**

Director Tichauer gave a brief summary of the district day survey. Highlights included:

* 97 responses
* great comments on the physical space at both venues and how things were set up
* few negative comments about sitting all day vs. interactive or moving around
* some teachers thought this day was going to provide more tools/resources/teaching strategies for reconciliation
* this day was not supposed to be a workshop type of a day but more overarching; was not meant to be researched based

A discussion took place on how to improve this day. Director Tichauer met with ʔaqʾam last week and they discussed co-planning the next Indigenous focussed professional development day with us. This is great news. District Management will be looking at which specific day next year will be Indigenous focussed and will discuss who should be attending this day. We are now ready to move forward with the planning. Buy-in from all staff, management and the community is evident due to the great work we are doing in Aboriginal education.

# **3. ITEMS FORWARDED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

## **3.1 Board DPAC/PAC Working Group - update (carried at Board meeting Nov. 13)**

Trustee Ayling reported there is now a full DPAC executive. It is still very important for Trustees to advocate for new DPAC members. Superintendent Yardley connected the DPAC with a strong parent representative from Vernon to offer some ideas.

## **3.2 Review of Climate Action Initiatives - update (carried at Board meeting Nov. 13)**

The Committee would like the Secretary-Treasurer to provide a list of what is currently being done, areas to improve on and whether or not a policy should be in place. This item will be brought back to the January Advocacy/Education Committee meeting.

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

## **4.1 DSAC Report**

The next DSAC meeting will be held in Fernie on January 9, 2020. Climate action will be put on agenda for the students to discuss along with vaping i.e., how they would inform their peers on the harms of vaping and how to handle it in their schools.

## **4.2 DPAC Report**

This item was covered under item 3.1 above.

## **4.3 Draft Advocacy Plan - Kathryn Kitt**

This item was deferred to the next First Team session.

# **5. BCSTA LETTERS**

## **5.1 Vaping –** Director Tichauer outlined initiatives that the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and our district are currently undertaking to combat the vaping crisis. The information will be presented by district management at the January Advocacy/Education Committee meeting. It was also suggested to gather students for a discussion and/or the DSAC look at this issue at their meeting in January. Parents also need to be educated so once this information is presented we should look at sharing with DPAC/PACs.

### **5.1.1 Letter to BCSSA from MLA Kamloops**

Receive and file.

### **5.1.2 SD 42**

Receive and file.

### **5.1.3 SD 73**

Receive and file.

### **5.1.4 SD 78**

Receive and file.

### **5.1.5 SD 19**

Receive and file.

## **5.2 School Site Land Acquisitions**

### **5.2.1 SD 42**

## This letter was referred to Public Finance Operations today. Receive and file.

## **5.3 Menstrual Products**

### **5.3.1 Ministry of Finance response to BCSTA**

Receive and file.

## **5.4 Funding Distribution Model – refer to public finance ops**

### **5.4.1 BCSTA to MOE**

This letter was referred to Public Finance Operations today. Receive and file.

### **5.4.2 SD 72**

Receive and file.

## **5.5 MSP for International Students**

### **5.5.1 BCSTA to Minister of Health**

Receive and file.

## **5.6 Communities On the Move Declaration**

### **5.6.1 SD 52**

Receive and file.

## **5.7 Education Governance Structure**

### **5.7.1 CSBA to Leader of People's Alliance Party**

Receive and file.

### **5.7.2 CSBA to Liberal Party**

Receive and file.

### **5.7.3 CSBA to Green Party**

Receive and file.

### **5.7.4 CSBA to Premier of NB and MOE NB**

Receive and file.

# **6. ADJOURNMENT**

The Advocacy/Education Committee meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.