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Always growing
Grandissons ensemble

Education Committee of the Whole Report
Tuesday, October 17, 2023
Via Video-Conferencing
2:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Trustee Austin

Mandate:

To discuss and make recommendations to the Board on aspects of teaching, learning and educational equity. We will strive to have all students receive whatever they need to develop to their full academic and social potential and to thrive every day.

SCHOOLS AND/OR PROGRAMS

Daycare and Childcare/Early Learning Update – Gillian Wilson/Sheila Morrison

Sheila Morrison, District Principal of Early Learning provided an update on childcare at our schools. We have expanded childcare spaces from 2 last year to 4 this year. After school care is available at École Oceanside Elementary and presently has 24 participants, running from 2:36- 5:30 pm. There are three responsible adults at this site and it receives some funding from supportive childcare. There are presently enough participants on a wait list at that site to have another program. Those details are being worked out.



Bowser Elementary School is the newest program and it has 14 participants already, which is serving a need in that community. They're open from dismissal time at 2:45 PM until 5:30 PM on all regular school days, staffed again by three responsible adults because they're more than 12 people.

Errington Elementary is in its third year of the seamless day program. It's a pilot project for Kindergarten to grade 1, operating on a grant from the Ministry of Education and Childcare. It has an ECE who works from 10:00 o'clock in the morning alongside the classroom teacher. And then she stays into the late afternoon and evening until 5:30. It's really a lovely model where she co-educates alongside the classroom teacher and provides that early childhood perspective. The other program at Errington Elementary is in another empty classroom. There are 14 participants ranging from grade 1 to grade 5. They're open until 5:30 on regular school days and staffed by three.

The Community Sources funding was acknowledged as a great help to staff some of those students that need additional support in the childcare setting.

September 30 Enrollment Report – Gillian Wilson

Associate Superintendent Gillian Wilson gave another report on enrollment but from the perspective of educational program opportunities. The number of children is reduced in the CEAP (Collaborative Education Alternate Program). We continue to be reflective around how we make sure we're providing support blocks for our CEAP learners.

The TIDES (Technology Integrated Distributed Experiential Studies) program was moved last year for our junior tides to our KSS program because it really didn't meet the needs and the mandate for online learning. We moved the secondary TIDES program over to KSS this year and so they're part of the FTE and head count for our KSS program.

The numbers for the alternative school program are down this, but that means the other school sites are keeping those students. There is, however, a waitlist for the Alternative Outdoor Education program. These programs are always popular!

Resources: CEAP, Qualicum SD [https://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/CEAP/Pages/default.aspx#/=](https://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/CEAP/Pages/default.aspx#/)

French Immersion Update – Rudy

Rudy Terpstra, Director of Instruction, gave an update on our French immersion program. There are 40 new kindergarten students to the program, five are on a wait list but we are anticipating through next year that we will be able to offer them seats through blended classes. Numbers are holding steady in the elementary and we are up six students in the secondary program.

The big goal of our French immersion program is graduating bilingual students with options. We want to make the programs more inclusive and accessible to students while creating a vibrant culture around French immersion.



Resources: Qualicum SD French Immersion:

[https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Programs/french/Pages/default.aspx#/=](https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Programs/french/Pages/default.aspx#/)

Sharing of Acknowledgement of Truth and Reconciliation

The work that our teams do to make truth and reconciliation and meaningful day for our students is phenomenal and we need to ensure we give credit to to our schools and how they do that from assemblies, to activities, to acknowledging that this work continues year round. Trustees and staff gave heartfelt stories of some of the activities that our schools, students and staff did to acknowledge the National day of Truth and Reconciliation.



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND CLIMATE ACTION

Trustee Austin mentioned the work being done in the Vernon School District. This past year, over 70 students worked with 40 community mentors to work toward meaningful action for Climate Change. This was in collaboration with the Fresh Outlook Foundation and their CARE (Climate Action Ripple Effect) program. It's worth a look for those that would like to try something similar in our district.



Resources: Fresh Outlook Foundation <https://freshoutlookfoundation.org/>

CARE -Climate Action Ripple Effect <https://freshoutlookfoundation.org/climate-action-ripple-effect-care/>

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY

At this point in the meeting the floor was opened up for anyone to speak freely on recent events associated with the SOG123 support resource material. Trustees and staff expressed their concern and frustration over the misinformation that has been circulation, primarily through social media.

If you have any questions regarding your child's education we encourage you to review the BC curriculum and familiarize yourself with the SOG123 resources. If you still have questions please ask your child's teacher or school administration. Please keep yourself honestly informed.



ask your child's teacher or school

SHARED LEARNING

Director of Instruction Updates

Following on the heels of the sexual health discussion, Rudy Terpstra informed attendees that he would be attending a provincial SOGI Summit as the district lead. This year the grade nines will be writing an article on either the effect of light and/or open oceans. This will bring together our teacher teams and they will plan some learning around these articles.

Class reviews are presently happening and hopefully the data collected can target how best to support our teachers and students.

There are some targeted grants available for Indigenous learning, physical literacy, the zero waste grant as well as inclusive practices in French. The annual Learning Grant applications have gone out to our teachers and we look forward, as always, to hearing about those in June 2024 .

INFORMATION

Next **Coffee with Trustees** – Wednesday, November 1 at Arrowview Elementary

Trustees will be visiting one school per month during the school year to make themselves available to parents/caregivers, staff and students for information sharing...please join them for coffee/tea and goodies. Trustees will arrive shortly before each school's end of day bell to set up where school administrator has a space arranged.



COFFEE WITH TRUSTEES 2023-2024 SCHEDULE		Bell
OES	October 4	2:34
AES	November 1	2:31
SES	December 6	2:45
PASS/CEAP/WLC	January 10	2:57
QBES	February 7	2:40
BSS	April 3	3:05
KSS	May 1	3:00
BES	June 5	2:48

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION TO MOVE TO THE BOARD MEETING

Nothing going forward

UPCOMING TOPICS

- Careers and Trades
- Teaching and Learning Team

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, November 21 at 2:30 p.m. via video conferencing

ADJOURNMENT: 4:05 pm