



Education Committee of the Whole Report
Tuesday, January 17, 2023
VIA ZOOM
2:30 p.m.

Chair: Trustee Austin

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES

MANDATE:

A proposed revision to the mandate of the committee was discussed and the committee agreed to the following version:

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.

PRESENTATIONS:

- **District Processes to Support Students Towards Graduation**
Superintendent Jory and Associate Superintendent Wilson gave an overview on the work being done to support students towards meaningful graduation that began in earnest several years ago, prompted by a struggling cohort. The practice of tracking and supporting students has evolved every year since then, and utilizes a team approach with district staff supplying Ministry student data and school principals taking the lead in the school level work. With these efforts, not only have grad rates improved in all three main categories, but the percentage of adult graduates contributing to those totals has dropped each year as well.
- **Principles of Learning**
Superintendent Jory also shared the new draft Principles of Learning that were developed at the November Curriculum Implementation Advisory Committee (CIAC) meeting. He noted that they were being discussed in school staff meetings this month and that feedback would be brought back to CIAC at the February meeting for consideration before bringing them back to the Board for approval.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND CLIMATE ACTION

- Chris Brown (NBES) and guest, Tessa Stiven, from Farm to School BC presenting. Chris provided an overview of the school district strategic goals, vision and mission statements reminding us of the importance of environmental stewardship in the district and for our learners.

Tessa, using examples from other school districts, introduced the concept of a District Learning Coordinator/Teacher Position or Outdoor Classroom Prep Teacher. The coordinator/teacher position could: Facilitate environmental stewardship activities for classes, provide revitalization of school gardens with technical and teaching support, create resource kits to support environmental stewardship teaching, connect to community resources, First People's ways of knowing and facilitation of Pro-D opportunities.

In some districts, Tessa shared that the prep teacher did outdoor classroom learning.

- Resource Available - BCSTA Climate Change Working Group Report
This report from the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) working group on climate change looks at districts across the province and how they are approaching climate action. There are some informative links and good recommendations for both operations and educational priorities.

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY

- Gillian spoke to the Youth Development Index and the latest student sessions addressing topics such as social media and drug addiction. The students will be involved in coming back to the table with a working action plan.

SHARED LEARNING

Update from Director of Instruction

- Rudy Terpstra reported on Graduation Credits and Reporting Order. Rudy guided attendees through “My Blueprint”, an education and career software that helps learners and teachers achieve aspirational goals in career education planning. They were also introduced to “EdPlan Insight”, a technology based platform to support data use for teachers, administrators, and district leaders. It provides staff with a ‘one-stop’ experience for accessing K-12 student-related data.

ITEMS TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Revised Mandate for the Education Committee of the Whole

FUTURE TOPICS

Looking down the road we want to ensure that the shared learning of the learning grant recipients have an opportunity to fully present to the benefit of us all. We are looking at possibly spreading these out over two meetings or have an in-person set-up (i.e., science fair style) that will enable more dialogue and sharing. Stay tuned!

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, February 21 at 2:30 p.m. (via Zoom)

ADJOURNMENT: 4:05 pm