



**QUALICUM SCHOOL DISTRICT
POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT
MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2025
1:00 P.M.
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING**

Facilitator: Trustee Eve Flynn

Mandate: To discuss and make recommendations to the Board on all matters related to Bylaws, Policy, and Administrative Procedures.

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Flynn gave thanks to the Qualicum and Snaw-Naw-As (Nanoose) First Nations People for their stewardship of the land on which the District lives, works, plays and learns.

2. FOR INFORMATION

3. BYAWS/POLICIES POTENTIALLY GOING TO FIRST READING OR APPROVE AS CURRENTLY WRITTEN

a. Board Policy 706: Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect

Trustees were assured that there is an annual review provided to continuing and new staff, who are provided with the relevant support materials as well as extensive training for counsellors and Child & Youth Care Workers. There are also one or two workshops organized by the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). It is always stressed that staff are only to report the facts and not judge or investigate as that is the purview of the RCMP and/or MCFD.

It was also noted that the Trilateral Protocol Agreement is still relevant and had only needed to be invoked a couple of times over the years with the Qualicum School District working closely with MCFD and the RCMP. Alongside that is also the Safer Schools and Threat Assessment Protocol.

A change to the administrative procedure was recommended in order to advise staff, who may be unsure whether a report should be made, that they should also consult with their school principal/counsellor or site manager.

It was also recommended to check the links to ensure that they are current.

No revisions to the policy were suggested. The policy will be presented to the Board at its June meeting for approval as currently written with the revised administrative procedures brought forward for information.

b. Board Policy 707: Students Right to Engage in Peaceful Protests

Trustees debated the need for this policy; however, after discussion, it was determined that, while students had that right with or without a district policy, it was important for students to know that the Board upheld that right and that they could be comfortable raising their concerns in a peaceful manner.

It was determined that no revisions were needed. The policy will be presented to the Board at its June meeting for approval as currently written.

c. Board Policy 708: Emergency Preparedness and Closures

Trustees requested that the administrative procedures be melded into one document to avoid confusion. Consideration was given as to whether it might also be more fitting in the future to place it in another policy section.

No revisions to the policy were suggested. The policy will be presented to the Board at its June meeting for approval as currently written, with the Administrative Procedures to be reviewed by management staff.

d. Board Policy 709: Board of Education Scholarships-Bursaries

Trustees discussed the purpose of the policy and whether it was more relevant to refer to it as a Bursary.

Trustees agreed to remove the references to whom would organize and facilitate the interview process, and to include wording so that the committee might have latitude as to how the funds for each secondary school/program were allocated. Changing references under definitions was also suggested in order to emphasize economic need as is the first consideration in the administrative procedure.

The policy was not forwarded for first reading. The Director of Instruction will redraft the policy and administrative procedures for consideration by the Policy Committee in September.

e. Board Policy 710: Resolution of Student and Parent/Caregiver Complaints

Trustees debated whether to merge this policy with 701: Student Discipline. Staff and partner group representatives felt they should remain separate; however, there was consensus in giving each policy a more thorough review prior to deciding if they should be combined. Ensuring that any missing links were included and current links still relevant was also recommended.

The policy will not be forwarded for first reading. Policy 710 and Policy 701 will be reconsidered in the Fall with any revisions being brought forward for consideration to the Committee in October.

4. BYLAWS/POLICIES POTENTIALLY GOING TO SECOND READING

None

5. BYLAWS/POLICIES POTENTIALLY GOING TO THIRD AND FINAL READING

a. Board Policy 703: Student Fees and Subsidies

Wording was presented to provide clarity as to when a boarding subsidy might be provided for a student to attend school beyond the grade levels offered at False Bay School.

It was acknowledged that a further review would be given to this policy once the new school is built, if that school accommodates the opportunity for students to remain on the island for secondary grades.

Changes were recommended to remove '*that is required for graduation*' from the second sentence of the policy statement, to refer to a '*meaningful*' graduation program in the 1st Guiding Principle, and ensure that parents/caregivers have '*access*' to procedures to request financial assistance with school fees.

The policy and its administrative procedures will be brought forward for third and final at the June Regular Board Meeting.

6. FUTURE TOPICS

- a. **Continue Review of 600 and 700 Series**
- b. **Review of 800 Series**

7. NEXT MEETING DATE:

Monday, September 15, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.