

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Reporting to Public Session, Tuesday, March 12, 2013

The Education Committee met on Monday, March 4th at 4:15 pm. In attendance were Trustees Ron Burton (Chair), James Wang, and Harman Pandher, Assistant Superintendents Heather Hart and Roberto Bombelli; BTA representative Patrick Parkes (for item #2 only); and DPAC representative Jennifer Mezei.

1. International Baccalaureate Program – Survey Results

The committee received a report from Deputy Superintendent, Gina Niccoli-Moen and Director of Instruction, Wanda Mitchell, outlining the community consultation process and survey results regarding the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program. In the spring of 2012, the district reviewed the feasibility of offering an International Baccalaureate Program in Burnaby, which included determining the level of community interest in such a program.

The survey, conducted in May 2012, yielded 423 responses with the majority of families indicating support for the program and already accessing district programs in Burnaby. While support was noted for each of the IB Programs (Primary Years Program; Middle Years Program; Diploma Program), there was not support for any one program in particular.

The most widely noted responses in favour of the IB Program indicated that families believed the program would provide increased university entrance opportunities, increased academic challenge and international recognition for students. Further comments requested consideration of the cost of an IB Program as well as other budget priorities. The success of the district's Advanced Placement Program was also noted with suggestions for further expansion.

In response to community feedback, the committee received information regarding a new program currently being piloted in Canada. The *Advanced Placement Cambridge Capstone and Credential Program*, developed by the College Board's Advanced Placement Program and the University of Cambridge International Examinations, is currently being offered in one Canadian school and only 18 schools world-wide. The program engages students with rigorous college/university curricula, promotes a critical questioning approach to information, and develops disciplined and scholarly research skills. It is a 2-year program aimed at recognizing students in the college/university admissions process and ensuring their success in post-secondary/higher learning organizations. The program is recognized in a multitude of institutions world-wide with students receiving advanced entrance and credit opportunities. The program will be available in select schools world-wide by September 2014.

The committee requested staff embark on the process of the Burnaby school district being one of the select Advanced Placement Cambridge Capstone Program sites for September 2014.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive and approve this information.

2. Collaboration Time – Cariboo Hill Secondary

Cariboo Hill Secondary School Principal Sue Montabello presented plans to implement Collaboration Time in the 2013-2014 school year as a strategy to support improved student learning at Cariboo Hill Secondary School. Principal Montabello outlined the details of delivering the collaboration time model that included: the work of the school community in developing the proposal; the focus on improving and supporting student learning; attendance reporting; development of a student mentorship program; tracking of progress and reporting out strategies; and highlighting learning successes.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information and approve the Collaboration Time model as presented.

3. Next Meeting

The next committee meeting will take place on Monday, April 8, 2013 at 4:15 pm.

4. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, March 12, 2013

The Finance Committee met on Wednesday, March 6, 2013 at 5:40 p.m. In attendance were Trustees Ron Burton (Chair), Meiling Chia, Larry Hayes, Baljinder Narang, James Wang and Gary Wong; Superintendent of Schools Kevin Kaardal, Secretary-Treasurer Greg Frank, Deputy Superintendent Gina Niccoli-Moen, Assistant Superintendents Roberto Bombelli and Heather Hart and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Roy Uyeno.

1. 2013/2014 Preliminary Operating Budget Update

Secretary-Treasurer Greg Frank and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Roy Uyeno provided Trustees with an overview of the 2013/2014 status quo operating budget and related issues, including time lines, meeting dates for the budget development process and key issues and budget assumptions used to prepare the budget. The committee discussed the report in detail. Staff will continue to work on refining the status quo budget and will bring further information to the next meeting.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

2. Potential Areas of Budget Adjustments

The committee discussed potential areas of budget adjustments and provided direction to staff on further information to be prepared for board consideration.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

3. Next Meetings

The next meetings are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, March 27: 3:30 p.m. Partner Groups; 5:00 p.m. Finance Committee
Wednesday, April 3: 7:00 p.m. Public Budget Meeting, Schou Education Centre
Wednesday, April 10: 3:30 p.m. Partner Groups; 4:30 p.m. Finance Committee

4. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Reporting to Public Session March 12, 2013

The Youth and Community Services Committee (YCSC) met on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. In attendance were Trustee committee members Larry Hayes (Chair), Meiling Chia, Harman Pandher, Gina Niccoli-Moen, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Doreen George, Coordinator Community Services for item 2 and Sue Dorey, Manager Youth Services for items 3 and 4.

1.0 Reports from Community Committees

Trustees who represent the Board on community committees updated the YCSC on items that would be of interest to the Board.

1.1 From the City of Burnaby's Task Force on the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth

The committee received a report from Trustee Narang regarding the Burnaby New Westminster Task Force on Sexually Exploited and At-Risk Youth's *Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Week* which is held March 11-17th. The annual *Walk to Raise Awareness* will be held at Confederation Park on May 4 during *Youth Week*.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2.0 Childcare Update

The committee received an overview of current childcare challenges in Burnaby. Families and childcare operators are facing a number of challenges at this time, including increased childcare costs, decreased subsidy availability and access, recruitment and retention of quality childcare staff and availability of appropriate spaces in which to operate childcare facilities.

At the present time, the district has received notification by the childcare provider at both Twelfth Avenue and Suncrest Elementary schools, of notice to vacate. The Burnaby Association of Community Inclusion (BACI) has notified the district of its intent to terminate their lease agreement and to vacate the childcare facilities effective, March 31 and June 30, 2013, respectively. In collaboration with parents and community members, Twelfth Avenue and Suncrest are inviting proposals from non-profit societies wishing to deliver childcare services at their school sites. A Request for Proposal (RFP) for both facilities has been circulated with a deadline for submission of March 8, 2013.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3.0 Ministry of Justice Grant

In March 2012, the Burnaby school district received a one-time grant from the Civil Forfeiture Office in partnership with Victims Services and Crime Prevention division of the Ministry of Justice. The grant is in the sum of \$203,000 and was awarded for the development of a coordinated community gang prevention initiative. The funds will be used to develop targeted interventions of high-risk youth who have been identified as showing behaviours that are consistent with involvement in gangs.

The process of addressing the issue of youth gang and crime recruitment involves a high degree of community collaboration. Community stakeholders have worked together to ensure efficient use of funds and avoid duplication of community services. Stakeholders in this project include the Burnaby School District, St. Leonard's Society, Lower Mainland Purpose Society, Odyssey Substance Abuse Services, Fraser Health, Burnaby RCMP and Ministry of Children and Families.

One of the priorities of the process includes the development of a gang-prevention coordinator position—one that will work directly with youth and families to provide intensive support plans and link at-risk youth with the necessary services and support required. After significant research and literature review, a Request for Proposal (RFP) process was launched for the selection of a lead agency to assume responsibility for hiring and supervising the gang prevention coordinator. The position will be offered as a pilot project, subject to ongoing review. The lead agency will be selected by April 2013, with the hiring of the coordinator to follow.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

4.0 Safe and Caring Schools – ERASE Update

The committee received an update regarding the district's participation in the Ministry of Education's ERASE Bullying Strategy. Theresa Campbell, President of *Safer Schools Together*, is the lead trainer in developing and implementing training to prevent bullying and ensuring safe and caring school communities throughout the province. On February 7, teams from each of Burnaby's elementary schools attended the Level 1 training session on *Preventing Bullying and Ensuring Safe and Caring Schools Communities*. The session focused on the importance of creating a positive school experience for students—connectedness to the school and community and establishing a positive school climate and culture are key components of prevention and intervention strategies.

Level 2 Basic Threat Risk Assessment training took place on February 26 and March 4. Teams from each of Burnaby's secondary schools were joined by members of the New Westminister school district and community partners, including Burnaby RCMP, Youth Custody and a variety of non-profit agencies. Together, teams discussed the importance of a multi-disciplinary and multi-agency approach in dealing with worrisome and potentially violent incidents.

5.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

6.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Youth and Community Services Committee is Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 4:30 p.m.