

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
**Reporting to Public Session, Tuesday, March 13, 2012**

The Education Committee met on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 4:06 pm. In attendance were Trustees Ron Burton (Chair), James Wang, and Harman Pandher (items 3 and 4), Assistant Superintendents Kevin Kaardal and Heather Hart and DPAC representative Jennifer Mezei and Alternate, Kum Heng Poon.

**1. International Baccalaureate Program (IB)**

Director of Instruction, Wanda Mitchell presented information for consideration regarding the International Baccalaureate Program. This included a proposed overview, outlining a framework for terms of reference and the formation of a district Adhoc committee. Additional information was provided regarding visits to IB schools in the Metro Vancouver area. School visits will take place in the month of April, with a community forum to follow in Burnaby in May, 2012.

Recommendation: THAT the Board approve this information.

**2. Community Leadership Board Authorized Courses at Cariboo**

Susan Montabello, Principal of Cariboo Secondary presented rationale for a Board/Authority Authorized Course, *Applications of Leadership - Community Leadership 11*. This leadership course explores the complexity of leadership in the community and the role a leader plays in mobilizing a community and bringing the community together as a whole. The course does not require a prerequisite, however completion of the Leadership 9/10 course would be of benefit, as would time spent in a volunteer position. Teachers of this course would work closely with Burnaby's Community School Coordinators and Burnaby's Neighbourhood Learning Coordinator. This course requires students to shift their thinking about leadership and take a world view on how community builds and changes through assessment, consensus and communication.

Recommendation: THAT the Board approve *Applications of Leadership – Community Leadership 11* as a Board/Authority Approved Course.

**3. Delegation Item Referred from the January 24, 2012 Public Session**

The committee read the delegation letter that was referred January 24<sup>th</sup> by the Board to the Education Committee. The committee also read Ms. Sylvia Gung's February 28th Public Board Meeting delegation submission.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

**4. Delegation Item Referred from the February 28, 2012 Public Session –  
Canadians for Reconciliation Society (CFRS)**

Assistant Superintendent Kaardal suggested that the Director of Instruction responsible for the Social Studies curricula will introduce the information provided by the CFRS for discussion and possible inclusion in appropriate units of study and report back the results of these conversations and any planned action to the education committee.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

**5. Next Meeting**

The next committee meeting will take place on Monday April 2, 2012 at 4:15 pm.

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:37 pm.

**YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**Reporting to Public Session March 13, 2012**

The Youth and Community Services Committee (YCSC) met on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. In attendance were Trustee committee members Baljinder Narang (Chair), Meiling Chia, Harman Pandher, Gina Niccoli-Moen, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Jen Mezei (DPAC) and Doreen George, Coordinator Community Services for item 2.0.

**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 Social Issues Committee**

The committee received information from Trustee Hayes that the City of Burnaby's Social Issues committee heard a presentation by the "Our City of Colours" organization. The group is involved in promoting the acceptance of LGTBQ youth in ethnic communities to assist in breaking down cultural and generational barriers amongst families.

The committee also received a presentation about the "Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination." The possible work that cities can do to support this cause was outlined for further consideration.

**1.2 From the City of Burnaby's Community Policing Committee**

The committee received information from Trustee Hayes outlining a presentation regarding an overview of the City's Youth Services and Restorative Justice office. It was reported that the City's office works closely with the school district in identifying and assisting youth who are experiencing conflicts in the community that could, potentially, lead to more serious criminal involvement.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

**2.0 Immigrant Parents as Literacy Supports (IPALS)**

Doreen George, Coordinator, Community Services, outlined the district's Immigrant Parents as Literacy Supporters (IPALS) program, now operating in its 5<sup>th</sup> year in Burnaby. The interactive and bilingual program is designed to assist immigrant families in supporting their pre-school and kindergarten-aged children in learning. IPALS programs have been offered in Punjabi, Mandarin, Spanish and Farsi, as well as a multi-language series. Families are invited to attend up to nine sessions and enjoy the benefits of learning through play with their children – interactive materials and bilingual books are used in the sessions. Families also receive a kit to take home so that parents can continue to learn and read with their children. An "adult only" session is built into the program so that parents may have the opportunity to learn about classroom activities and to network with other families in the community.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

### **3.0 Acceptance Campaign**

The committee received a report on the district's *Acceptance* Campaign. The anti-bullying campaign, operating throughout the month of February in support of Pink Shirt Day, saw a myriad of school and district-based events, including assemblies, pink shirt initiatives and performances throughout the community. Board of Education Chair, Larry Hayes and Superintendent of Schools, Claudio Morelli, sent an open letter to families outlining the district's commitment to ensuring safe and caring learning environments for all. Members of the district's safe and caring school team visited schools and presented workshops for parents while staff and students explored *Acceptance* in a variety of media. The campaign culminated in a parent information session on February 29, hosted by the school district, in partnership with the Burnaby RCMP and the district's parent advisory committee (DPAC).

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

### **4.0 Keeping Your Kids Safe from Bullying, Harassment and Intimidation**

The committee received an update on the district's parent information session, *Keeping Your Kids Safe from Bullying, Harassment and Intimidation*. The event was hosted at Burnaby Central on February 29, in partnership with the Burnaby RCMP and DPAC. The free information evening focused on bullying, attachment theory and positive connections in the school and community. The presentation raised awareness of the risks posed to youth that lack supportive home environments and on positive parenting and partnering with schools to support children.

In addition, the Burnaby RCMP, as part of their gang education strategy, introduced to parents a series to be launched in each of the district's elementary and secondary schools. The series includes an interactive, fun session with elementary students focusing on "kindness"; an educational session for secondary students on the "reality versus image of gang life"; and, for parents, a "Let's Talk" session focusing on the parent role in providing a positive home environment. The innovative and informative series will extend well into the 2012-2013 school year.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

### **5.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

### **6.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Youth and Community Services committee will be on Tuesday, April 3, 2012.