

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Reporting to Public Session, Tuesday, June 11, 2013

The Education Committee met on Monday, June 3rd at 4:15 pm. In attendance were Trustees Ron Burton (Chair), James Wang, and Harman Pandher, BTA representative James Sanyshyn, DPAC representative Jennifer Mezei, and Assistant Superintendents Heather Hart and Roberto Bombelli.

1. 3-Year Advanced Learning Proposal

Director of Instruction, Wanda Mitchell presented a three year proposal for the Elementary Advanced Learning Program. In September 2013, there will be an increase in spaces available for students in the Grade 2/3 and Grade 4/5 Challenge Programs as well as in the Grade 6/7 Twice-Exceptional Program. The proposal included adding two cluster classes, one at a Grade 4/5 level and one at a 6/7 level in September 2014. Additional two cluster classes at Grade 4/5 and Grade 6/7 will be added in September 2015. The proposal also includes allocating a .4 FTE School Psychologist who will be dedicated to the program as well as setting up a Mentorship Program for students in the cluster classes. The Advanced Learning District Committee will design the Cluster Class Pilot Program.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information and approve the 3-Year Advanced Learning Proposal.

2. Take-a-Hike – follow-up

Project Consultant Sonja Jensen, from the Take-a-Hike Foundation, updated the committee on progress made in exploring a fit with the Royal Oak Secondary program. Take-a-Hike is an alternative education program that engages at risk youth through a unique combination of adventure-based learning, academics, counseling and community involvement. The District and the Take-a-Hike program have entered a formal assessment process to determine if this program is well suited for the Royal Oak Secondary program. Ms. Jensen provided an overview of the steps involved in the assessment process.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3. School Plans - report

Assistant Superintendent Heather Hart outlined the school plan visit and review process. The presentation highlighted the school planning cycle and the structures and interventions used to improve student learning. Schools were visited by either a district team, comprised of a trustee, district staff, a parent and/or an administrator from another school, or had a focused conversation with the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent or an Assistant Superintendent.

Using the *Response to Intervention* framework, schools examined student performance data, which is then used to identify the focus of the school plan. Feedback, including the recommendations and planning implications outlined at each visit, assists schools and the district in future planning.

School plan visits provide opportunities to share exemplary practices throughout the district. This process targets support and allocation of appropriate resources to each school, resulting in budgetary recommendations.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive and approve this information.

4. Next Meeting

The next committee meeting will take place on Monday, September 9, 2013 at 4:15 pm.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Reporting to Public Session June 11, 2013

The Youth and Community Services Committee (YCSC) met on Tuesday, June 4, 2013 at 5:15 p.m. In attendance were Trustee committee members Larry Hayes (chair), Harman Pandher, Meiling Chia, Gina Niccoli-Moen, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Jocelyn Schonekess, DPAC, and Director of Instruction, Peter Dubinsky and Coordinator of Community Services, Doreen George for item 2.

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 District Community Schools

Trustee Narang reported that the District Community School Advisory and Coordinating Committee met on May 23, 2013 at Stride Avenue Community School. The committee approved the 2013/2014 community school budget that included a recommendation to formally designate and fund Byrne Creek Secondary as the district's eighth community school program. The committee passed a motion that requested the Burnaby Board of Education and the City of Burnaby each include in their respective budgets, funding to support and operate eight community schools during the 2013/2014 school year.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information and approve the designation of Byrne Creek Secondary as a district community school program and refer the request for funding to the Board Finance committee for consideration.

1.2 Parks & Recreation

Trustee Hayes reported on the receipt of a thank you letter from Stoney Creek Community School for the 2013 school playground grant. In addition, Trustee Hayes shared that the grand opening of the Edmonds Community Centre will take place on July 1, 2013, to coincide with Canada Day celebrations.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2.0 Community Schools

Director of Instruction, Peter Dubinsky and Coordinator Community Services, Doreen George, presented a preliminary report on the district's community schools. The report provided background and historical information on the city's community school designations, philosophy and indicators of success.

There are currently 7 community schools in Burnaby – the first to be designated was Lochdale in 1976. Four additional schools were designated prior to 1984, with Edmonds and Maywood designated in 1995 and 1997, respectively.

The Community School Management Team (CSMT), comprised of City and school district staff, is currently working to review Burnaby's exemplary model to ensure continued support and maximized use of resources to meet the diverse needs of changing communities.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

4.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Youth and Community Services Committee is Tuesday, October 1, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.