

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Reporting to Public Session, Tuesday, November 13, 2012

The Education Committee met on Monday, November 5, 2012 at 4:15 pm. In attendance were Trustees Ron Burton (Chair), James Wang, and Harman Pandher, Assistant Superintendent Kevin Kaardal; BTA representative James Sanyshyn; and DPAC representative Jennifer Mezei.

1. Ministry of Education, K – 12 Graduation Requirements

Director of Instruction Lynn Archer presented an update on the Ministry of Education's British Columbia Education Plan highlighting some of the proposed changes to the Kindergarten to Grade 12 Curricula, the graduation requirements and the assessment framework. Highlights of the work include focusing partner groups involved in regional consultations across the province on the following essential questions:

- What do you think are the core or essential things all students should know, understand and be able to do by the time they leave secondary school?
- Beyond the core, how could pathways for choice or exploration be provided?
- How could student learning be communicated to: students, parents/guardians, and post secondary institutions/employers?
- How would you design an awards program to recognize student success in a personalized learning environment?
- How do you think students could demonstrate these five cross-curricular competencies?
 - Communication
 - Critical Thinking
 - Creative Thinking and Innovation
 - Personal Responsibility and Well Being, and
 - Social Responsibility.

The proposed changes to curriculum involve reducing the number of learning standards (formerly prescribed learning outcomes), increasing flexibility and choice, focussing on the concepts and the big ideas. Emphasis will also be placed on how students demonstrate the identified competencies. The assessment framework is moving from reporting student progress, to communicating student learning. The District partner groups are engaged in the consultations proceeding around the province.

Recommendation: **THAT** the Board receive this information.

2. Elementary Report Cards

Informing parents about their children's learning is critical to improving student achievement. One of the legislated methods of communicating student progress is student report cards. Assistant Superintendent Kevin Kaardal and Director of Instruction Wanda Mitchell presented the Elementary Report Card Joint Committee's work on producing an electronically written report card for Kindergarten, Primary and Intermediate report cards.

The rationale for developing electronic written report cards includes:

- providing templates that will make report card writing more efficient for teachers and easier to read for parents.
- meeting legislated and district reporting requirements.
- providing a consistent format for parents of K-12 students.
- creating the initial step for storing report card data in a district data warehouse.

The committee consulted with teachers, principals, parents and district staff in developing the report card format. The feedback received to date has been very positive. The district will implement the new report card format beginning in term one of this current school year. Feedback from teachers, principals and parents will be sought prior to term two report cards being distributed so that revisions may be considered.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3. Next Meeting

The next committee meeting will take place on Monday, December 3, 2012 at 4:15 pm.

4. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:29 pm.

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Reporting to Public Session November 13, 2012

The Youth and Community Services Committee (YCSC) met on Tuesday, November 6, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. In attendance were Trustee committee members Baljinder Narang (Chair), Harman Pandher, Gina Niccoli-Moen, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Gjoa Andrichuk, DPAC Representative, Doreen George, Coordinator Community Services for item 2 and Sue Dorey, Manager Youth Services for item 3.

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 a report from the City of Burnaby's Social Issues Committee regarding a survey of Burnaby childcare providers. The purpose of the report is to provide the results of the survey regarding childcare programs and the transition to full-day kindergarten in Burnaby elementary schools.

The survey, conducted in December 2011 and January 2012, revealed that most of the respondents had experienced effects from the implementation of full-day kindergarten. Most common effects noted were vacancies in some programs and a reduction in revenues. A need for additional information regarding childcare processes for approval were noted, as well as the continued need to raise awareness of the importance of quality childcare for families.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2.0 Association for Community Education (ACEbc) Provincial Conference 2012

The committee received information regarding the Association for Community Education (ACEbc) conference which was hosted by the district from October 18-20, 2012. Over 185 people attended, including community school coordinators, parents, school district staff, non-profit organizations, and City of Burnaby staff. The conference was hosted in two venues – Shadboldt Centre for the Arts and Burnaby Central Secondary School.

In addition to a host of very well-attended workshops, three keynote speakers enthused and inspired audiences. The first, Molly McClusky, Managing Director of the ASCD Whole Child Initiative, focused on the need to ensure that each child, in each school, in each community is healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged. The second address by Abe Fernandez, Deputy Director of the National Centre for Community Schools, presented on *Engaging the Whole School's Community to Drive Decision Making*, and the final keynote speaker, Jim Diers, Seattle Community Developer, focused on the importance of community development and involvement.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3.0 Youth Summit

Sue Dorey, Manager of Youth Services, provided information to the committee on the Second Annual Youth Summit which was hosted by the district at Shadbolt Centre on October 25, 2012. Over 135 students attended from 8 secondary schools and 3 district alternate programs. The one day conference offered students a choice of 12 sessions. The sessions focused on developing social emotional skills and included:

- Kung Fu
- Fitness and Nutrition
- At What Cost: Understanding Underground Economies
- Spot it and Stop it: Let's End Racism and Discrimination
- Who am I Who are You: Self Awareness
- Urban Art
- This Stage is Yours - Song Writing
- Now Hiring - Students Wanted
- Love is Love isn't - Healthy Relationships
- Women's Self Defence
- Creating and Catching Dreams - Aboriginal Dream Catcher Workshop

The Youth Summit was very well attended and well received. Feedback collection is currently underway in order to plan for next year's summit.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

4.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

5.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Youth and Community Services Committee is to be determined.