

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Reporting to Public Session, Tuesday, November 25, 2014

The Education Committee met on Monday, November 3rd at 4:30pm. In attendance were Trustees Harman Pandher (Chair) and James Wang, BTA President Rae Figursky (for items 2 and 3 only), DPAC representative Jennifer Mezei and Assistant Superintendents Roberto Bombelli and Heather Hart.

1. Sprouthire

Nicolas Stefan, Cofounder of Sprouthire Ltd., presented his company as a resource for Secondary School students and Career Program departments. Sprouthire is an innovative job board designed to assist students match their temporary employment needs and fluctuating student schedules with local jobs. It is focused on three key industries – Retail, Food Services, and Customer Service – that regularly employ students. The service is free to students and can help them overcome barriers to employment such as proximity to the workplace, as well as, lack of qualifications and experience.

The District is exploring more information to determine if this service will be made available to students through our Career Programs Department in Secondary Schools.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. AP Capstone Update

AP Capstone Teacher, Laurent Scaligine presented the committee with an outline of the Advanced Placement Capstone District Program which is currently located at two sites; one at Burnaby South Secondary and the other at Burnaby North Secondary. Historically, Burnaby students have scored extremely well on advance placement examinations. This has factored into two schools from Burnaby being chosen, from within a total of ten schools across Canada, to offer this program.

The AP Capstone Program is an inquiry-based approach to learning that fosters critical and creative thinking. It builds on skill development using university-level curricula focussing on core academic skills while expanding students' ability to research and defend arguments. Students work with information from various perspectives, applying skills in a cross-curricular context.

This program is designed for grade 11 and 12 students. A district committee screens applications and selects candidates based on suitability for the program. In year one, students are required to complete a team project and presentation, a research-based essay and presentation as well as a written exam. Year Two involves the completion of an academic thesis and a public presentation and defense.

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in both of the AP Capstone courses and on four additional AP examinations of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma. Those students who earn scores of 3 or higher in both of the AP Capstone courses, but not the four additional AP Examinations will receive the AP Capstone Certificate, signifying successful performance in those courses.

The AP Capstone program is regarded highly by post secondary institutions and it has begun to receive recognition in the form of scholarships. The University of Alberta is the first university to offer scholarships for the AP Capstone Diploma.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3. Early Intensive Program

Director of Instruction, Deborah Simak, and teacher Julianna Cipparone presented the committee with research supporting the importance of early intervention for young children entering school. Researchers Raver and Knitzer find that the social, emotional and behavioural competence in young children predicts their academic performance in first grade over and above their family background. As a result the district has established *The Intensive Intervention Program for Early Learners* at Morley Elementary. This district program has been established for Kindergarten children who are unable to self-regulate, play or interact appropriately with other children and, who engage in aggressive or unsafe behaviours.

The teacher and staff in the classroom use *The Teaching Pyramid Framework* for addressing the social and emotional development and challenging behaviour of these young learners. The framework is based on an effective hierarchy of strategies designed to teach students to learn how to be emotionally literate, to control anger and impulse and to demonstrate interpersonal problem solving and friendship skills. A district school psychologist, behaviour analyst, district learning support teacher and speech and language therapist support students in the program.

Enrollment in this district program is of a temporary nature, with the expectation that students will transition to their regular kindergarten program at their home schools.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

4. Next Meeting

The next committee meeting will take place on Monday, December 1st, 2014 at 4:30 pm

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, November 25, 2014

The Youth and Community Services Committee (YCSC) met on Tuesday, November 4, 2014 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, Kristin Schnider, DPAC, Director of Instruction, Peter Dubinsky and Coordinator of Community Services, Doreen George for items 2, 3 and 4.

1. 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.

District Community Schools

It was reported to the committee that at its meeting on Thursday, October 23, the District Community School Advisory and Coordinating Committee (DCSACC) passed the motion that the document, *A Snapshot of Burnaby Community Schools 2014*, be received and that the Burnaby Board of Education and the City of Burnaby each receive information regarding findings of the report.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI)

The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a self-report survey that is completed by students in grade 4 to obtain information about their lives inside and outside of school. The survey uses a developmental assets/strengths-based approach to assess five dimensions of children's well-being: social emotional development; feelings of connectedness to school, family, friends and communities; school experiences; physical health and well-being; and time use during the after school hours. The intent of the survey is to get a glimpse of how students are feeling about their lives and how districts can use the data to inform practice and find ways to promote positive development.

Surveys are scheduled to be completed in each of the district's elementary schools at the end of November. An analysis will be completed by the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at UBC and school districts will receive results that can be shared with communities.

Recommendation: That the Board receive this information.

3. Community School Review

Director of Instruction, Peter Dubinsky, provided an update to the committee regarding the process of the Community Schools Review. The document, *A Snapshot of Burnaby Community Schools 2014*, was presented.

Consultant, John Talbot, has been supporting the process and working with the Community School Management Team. Burnaby has gone through significant changes in demographics, socio-economics, population, needs and development since the inception of Community Schools in 1976. These changes have provided an opportunity to review the Burnaby Community School model to determine how it meets the current and projected needs of neighbourhood communities.

Burnaby schools have shown an interest in Community School practices, with a view to possibly expanding their own community/school based services and programs. The School District and the City of Burnaby agreed that they would conduct a two part review.

The first phase was completed in the spring of 2014 and is a snapshot of Community Schools: how students, parents, teachers, and community partners feel about their school's level of success in achieving the six community school goals.

The second phase will be completed in the fall and winter of 2014-15 and will lead to the development of specific recommendations on the future direction of Community Schools in Burnaby. A Working Committee will be established, consisting of key stakeholders (representing the School District, City of Burnaby, local Community Schools and community members) to examine the available data and analyze various future scenarios. Recommendations will be made to the District Community School Advisory and Coordinating Committee (DCSACC), the School District and the City of Burnaby on possible expansions of community education within the current resources.

The data shows that community schools are meeting the changing needs of their communities. There is a strong sense of connection between the community school, parents, children and local agencies. One of the greatest impacts is the level and quality of relationships that exist. People feel very positive about the role the community school plays in their neighbourhoods.

As the process moves into Phase 2 of the project, an initial meeting has been set for Tuesday, December 2.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

4. Vancouver Sun – Adopt A School

Coordinator of Community Schools, Doreen George, informed the committee that Douglas Road Elementary School was selected to be supported by the Vancouver Sun's Adopt A School Campaign. The Vancouver Sun Children's Fund is a registered charity, receiving

donations that are overseen by the Vancouver Foundation. Money donated is distributed to schools to have direct and immediate impact on supporting students and learning.

Employees of the Beedie Development Group, a local Burnaby business, embarked upon a campaign to raise funds and donate it to a worthy cause. The Adopt A School Campaign and support for Douglas Road is that cause.

The Adopt A School Campaign is committed to helping Douglas Road and its community – the school will be on the receiving end of funds to support food and other programs for children.

Recommendation: That the Board receive this information.

4. Adjournment

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

5. Next Meeting

The meeting of the Youth and Community Services Committee is Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.