

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Reporting to Public Session on Monday, February 26, 2018

The Education Committee met on Monday, February 5, 2018 at 4:30 pm. In attendance were Trustees Harman Pandher (Chair), Meiling Chia and Baljinder Narang, DPAC Representative Kristin Schnider, BTA Representative Kevin Potvin and Assistant Superintendents Heather Hart and Wanda Mitchell.

1. Update on District Advanced Learning Programs

Jeannette Laursoo, Director of Instruction and Jennifer Carson, District Helping Teacher for Advanced Learning presented an update on Elementary and Secondary Advanced Learning Programs and plans for moving forward. The Advanced Learning Team of Helping Teachers teach the Challenge Programs, provide resources and support to enhance the learning experience of students.

The Challenge Program includes advanced learners in Grades 2-7 and is located at Parkcrest Elementary School. Students in the Grades 2-5 program attend a weekly session and complete three modules per year. Students in the Grades 6/7 program attend one or more of three interest-based modules offered.

The Multi-Age Cluster Class (MACC) Program, a full-time program for advanced learners in Grades 4-7 and consists of a Grade 4/5 cluster class and a Grade 6/7 cluster class. It is located at Capitol Hill and Suncrest Elementary schools. The MACC Program is an inquiry-based program for high-ability learners seeking heightened cognitive and creative challenge in a supportive classroom community.

Beta Mini School at Alpha Secondary School is designed to support advanced learners in Grades 8-10. A humanities specialist teacher and a math/science specialist teacher work closely together to plan interdisciplinary, challenging lessons and field study opportunities. Grade 11 will be added in September, 2018 and Grade 12 will be added in September, 2019.

Advanced Placement (AP) Capstone is offered at Burnaby North and Burnaby South Secondary Schools and provides the opportunity for Grade 11 and 12 students to engage in rigorous university-level study of the critical skills necessary for success in university. It includes a 2-course sequence: AP Seminar and AP Research.

Over the next year, school support, Challenge, MACC and Beta Mini Schools Programs will continue to be monitored to ensure that we are best benefitting students in these areas. There will be an update to Education Committee in February, 2019.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

2. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

3. Next Meeting

The next committee meeting will take place on Monday, March 5, 2018 at 4:30 pm.