

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
**Reporting to Public Session on Tuesday, February 25, 2020**

The Education Committee met on Monday, February 3, 2020 at 4:00 pm. In attendance were Trustees Gary Wong (Chair), Peter Cech and Jen Mezei, DPAC Representative Maria Gunner, and Assistant Superintendent Wanda Mitchell.

**1. Working Together to Resolve Concerns Specific to Student IEPs**

Heather Hart, Assistant Superintendent, presented the committee a draft pamphlet called “Working Together to Resolve Concerns about your Child’s IEP.” The pamphlet is designed to help parents/guardians navigate different levels of support available to them should they have concerns regarding their child’s Individual Education Plan. The left side of the pamphlet outlines questions and answers while the right side is a flow chart outlining the process and who may be contacted should parents have questions.

The draft will be revised as a result of feedback from the committee and will be presented at a future Education Committee meeting.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

**2. Mandarin Language Arts Program Update**

Brandon Curr, Director of Instruction, provided the committee with an update on the District Mandarin Language Arts Program. The program began at Forest Grove Elementary in September 2010 with the first class completing Grade 7 in June 2018. Students completing the program at Forest Grove have the opportunity to continue with Mandarin language classes at Burnaby Mountain Secondary.

The Kindergarten to Grade 7 program focuses on Mandarin oral communication skills, basic reading and writing skills in Simplified Chinese Language, as well as developing an understanding of and appreciation for Mandarin Chinese culture.

Students in Kindergarten through Grade 7 study the regular curriculum in English with Mandarin being delivered through a component of Language Arts. Primary students receive approximately 150 minutes per week of instruction in Mandarin while students in Grades 4 through 7 receive approximately 150-180 minutes of instruction per week. Depending on their level of language acquisition students transferring to Burnaby Mountain Secondary have been placed in Mandarin 9 or Mandarin 10.

For the past two years, the focus for the District Mandarin Program staff has included reworking the K-7 Mandarin program learning outcomes to better align with the redesigned curriculum. Creating opportunities for program teachers to participate in ongoing professional development has been, and will continue to be, a focus as we create engaging and integrated learning opportunities for students.

The committee was also provided an update on a number of points to consider moving forward including student attrition rates, the recruitment and retention of Mandarin teaching staff, the transition of students from Forest Grove to Burnaby Mountain Secondary as well as Mandarin language options for those students who transition to Burnaby Mountain.

As was reported through Education Committee in January 2020, the district will be undertaking a formal review of our current district programs of choice, which will include the Mandarin Language Arts Program. Progress of the overall review will be reported through the Education Committee of the Board.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

### **3. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

### **4. Next Meeting**

The next committee meeting will take place on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 4:00 pm.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, February 25, 2020**

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 5:30 pm. In attendance were Trustees Gary Wong (Chair), Bill Brassington, Peter Cech, Christine Cunningham, Jen Mezei and Ryan Stewart; Superintendent of Schools Gina Niccoli-Moen, Secretary-Treasurer Russell Horswill, Assistant Superintendents Roberto Bombelli, Heather Hart, Wanda Mitchell and Richard Per, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Ishver Khunguray and Manager, Finance and Budgets Matt Mydske.

**1. 2019/2020 Amended Operating Budget**

Russell Horswill, Secretary Treasurer, and Ishver Khunguray, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, provided the committee with an update of the 2019/2020 Amended Operating Budget.

The 2019/2020 Amended Annual Budget will be presented to the February 25, 2020 public board meeting for approval.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

**2. 2020/2021 Status Quo Operating Budget**

Mr. Horswill and Mr. Khunguray reviewed with the committee the draft 2020/2021 Status Quo Budget, including the process and timelines. Key dates include:

- February 18 – Provincial government budget announcement
- February 25 - Board approval of the 2019/2020 Amended Annual Budget
- March 13 – anticipated Ministry announcement of the 2020/2021 preliminary operating grant funding
- April 28 – Board approval of the 2020/2021 Annual Budget
- April 30 – Budget Bylaw submitted to the Ministry of Education

The budget process will include use of the district's website to provide information on the district's budget process, budget details and related information and to seek input from the public on budget priorities and related issues. Partner group participation will play a key role in the budget development process. The Board will hold a public budget meeting on April 8.

The 2020/2021 status quo operating budget includes projected student enrolment, budget assumptions and projected cost factors. Staff will continue to review all budget issues and assumptions and an updated draft 2020/2021 status quo operating budget will be presented at the next Finance Committee.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

### **3. Budget Calendar**

The budget meetings scheduled through the budget process in April were confirmed.

### **4. Adjournment**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:34 pm.

**YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**Reporting to Public Session, Tuesday, February 25, 2020**

The Youth and Community Services Committee (YCSC) met on Tuesday, February 4, 2019 at 4:30 pm. In attendance were Trustees Bill Brassington (Chair), and Christine Cunningham, Assistant Superintendent Roberto Bombelli, and DPAC representative Ashley Sandquist.

**1. Safe and Caring Schools Update**

Sue Dorey, Managing Director Safe and Caring Schools, updated the committee on the following items:

**Student Voice**

The district has created a youth advisory group to support developing safe school programs for vulnerable youth. We have hosted several meetings and approximately 20 students have been engaged. The students have written grant applications and the district has received several grants to help develop our vulnerable student projects, such as:

- \$5,000 for the creation of a peer-led vaping information program that secondary students will teach to elementary students.
- \$3,000 to host a Mental Health Symposium called *Balancing our Mind*, a youth led session supported by Kelty Mental Health and BC Children's Hospital, to be held in May 2020.
- \$22,000 for the startup of a Girls Club Network to increase the health outcomes and social connections for girls, modeled after the Boys Club Network at Byrne Creek Community Secondary and our Learning Pathways Programs.

**Foundry Short List**

The Lower Mainland Purpose Society (LMPS) has been shortlisted to develop a *Foundry* centre. *Foundry* offers young people ages 12-24 a variety of health and wellness resources, services and supports, both online and through integrated service centres. The application for the *Foundry* center is also being supported by the Burnaby Youth Services Hub Committee. Burnaby Youth HUB will host two community consultations to help learn the specific needs of our community, a session for youth and another session for parents/guardians.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

## **2. Pink Shirt Day 2020 Events and Activities**

Pink Shirt Day is February 26, 2020. The district is collating a list of events and activities planned for Pink Shirt Day throughout our schools and, once completed, will provide this information to Trustees.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

## **3. 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**

Trustee Brassington reported that the committee is planning for a review of the Community Schools model beginning next fall. In preparation for the review District staff, Community School Principals, Community School Coordinators, and Community Councils will revisit the five Recommendations from the 2015 Community School Review to gather information and consider next steps.

### **Parks & Recreation**

Trustee Brassington reported that at the January meeting a grade 8 student from Alpha Secondary wrote a letter, as part of their Social Studies Project, to the committee requesting a skate park be created at Confederation Park. City staff will follow up with the request.

### **Public Safety**

Trustee Hayes reported from the January meeting that the Youth Investigative Team (YIT) were involved in working with school staff to prepare for Halloween in October. The YIT were engaged in presentations to large groups of students, in elementary and secondary schools to help them understand trick-or-treating safety and the dangers and legal aspects of using fireworks.

In early November, YIT officers organized a "Take Our Kids to Work Day" at the main Burnaby RCMP detachment in which they included nine students whose parents were not employees of the detachment, but had been identified by the YIT officers at their schools and given the opportunity to join the event.

The Burnaby-New Westminster Task-Force on Sexually Exploited and At-Risk Youth also presented to the Public Safety Committee. Within the next two-year (2020-21) work-plan, the Task-Force will work through actions included in its strategic plan focusing on empowering youth through engagement, coordinating awareness activities and producing new messaging and increasing service provider capacity.

## **Traffic Safety**

Trustee Cunningham reported on a presentation on pedestrian safety given by Tom Woods from the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC). ICBC believes that elementary school children are generally well protected by their parents but high school students, seniors, and people running to get on a bus are more at risk. ICBC has a variety of safety programs in place at Burnaby schools.

In addition, it was reported that City staff have not yet concluded their review of the district's request to have speed humps installed in front of all schools as well as extending the hours of the 30 kph school zones.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

## **4. New Business/Updates**

### **a) Spring Break Opportunities**

Information outlining the City of Burnaby's Spring Break offerings available at local community centres, libraries, recreation complexes and other community resources is now available. Edmonds Community School, in partnership with SFU, is offering a four day Spring Break Camp where students will participate in a number of different activities such as arts and crafts, indoor/outdoor games, sports, science experiments, drama.

Recommendation: THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

## **5. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 pm.

## **6. Next Meeting**

The next Youth and Community Services Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 4:30 pm.