



**Education Policy and Directions Committee
May 6th, 2019 – Tolmie Board Room**

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Nicole Duncan - Chair, Tom Ferris, Diane McNally, Ryan Painter
Other Trustees Present: Jordan Watters (Trustee Watters left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.)

ADMINISTRATION: Shelley Green - Superintendent, Deb Whitten - Deputy Superintendent, Greg Kitchen - Associate Superintendent, Colin Roberts - Associate Superintendent, Louise Sheffer, Director - Learning Team, Harold Caldwell, Director - Learning Support Team, Carey Nickerson, District Vice Principal - Learning Team, Pam Halverson - District Administrator, Learning Team, Carolyn Howe - GVTA Representative, Maryanne Trofimuk and Carrie Schlappner- VPVPA Representatives, Jeanette Alexander - ASA Representative, Jane Massy - CUPE 947 Representative, Audrey Smith - VCPAC President, Karen Walters-Edgar - Meeting Notetaker

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Duncan welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting.

Chair Duncan also recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories we live, learn and do our work.

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

A1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Painter

That the May 6th, 2019 Education Policy and Directions agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Trustee Painter

That the April 8th, 2019 Education Policy and Directions Committee Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Superintendent Shelley Green spoke to the concept of feminine hygiene products being free of charge in all district schools. The Superintendent stated that the Student Representative group was to meet tonight to discuss this issue, but many of the students were too busy to attend the meeting. The Superintendent added that currently it is usually the school counsellors who make female students aware of hygiene products available in schools. The District is currently looking at piloting the provision of feminine packages in schools as well as non-coin dispensers. The Superintendent advised that she will report back to the Committee with the findings in September, 2019 after the pilot project has been launched.

B. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

Jenn Sutton, South Park Family School PAC Chair made a presentation to the Committee in regard to proposed catchment/boundary changes.

Kristil Hammer, from the South Park Family School PAC, also expressed her concern in regard to catchment changes.

Chair Duncan thanked Ms. Sutton and Ms. Hammer for their presentations.

C. NEW BUSINESS

C1. Introduction of Student Representatives

Superintendent Shelley Green advised that the student representative for today's meeting was unable to attend.

C2. Literacy Presentation - PowerPoint

Learning Team Director, Louise Sheffer, introduced District Vice Principal, Learning Team, Carey Nickerson and District Administrator, Learning Team, Pam Halverson. Both Ms. Nickerson and Ms. Halverson spoke to their 3 goals for tonight's meeting:

- Briefly review the context of literacy teaching & learning in our district
- Provide some examples of the literacy supports offered for educators this year
- Share what worked well and what needs to be considered moving forward.

Trustees and stakeholders provided feedback and asked questions of clarification.

C3. Inclusive Education - Strategic Engagement Update

Superintendent Shelly Green stated that she met with VCPAC President, Audrey Smith to discuss inclusive education and stakeholder engagement. Discussion highlights included such topics as: how do we open up engagement at all levels; brainstorming about what are the needs for staff and students; look at an Ad Hoc committee and the different stakeholders that could be a part of that; every stakeholder group expressed interest in further discussions.

The Superintendent also stated that Deputy Superintendent Deb Whitten will put out a survey in regard to staff seeking feedback in regard to Goal 1 of the Learning Support Plan. Next fall we will also organize forums and provide the opportunity for district and community stakeholders, to bring questions to these forums. We will also look at what space might be available to host these forums. The compiled information can then be brought back to an Ed Policy or other committee meeting. We are still looking at what people want and also what they might want to get out of these discussions.

Trustees asked the Superintendent questions of clarification.

C4. Revised Grade 11/12 BAA Courses

Associate Superintendent Colin Roberts introduced District Vice Principal, Jon Hamlin, who provided background information in regard to this motion.

It was moved by Trustee Ferris:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the 49 revised Grade 11 and Grade 12 Board/Authority Authorized courses.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Duncan, Ferris, Painter

Against: Trustee McNally

C5. Late French Immersion (Motion from Feb 4/19)

Superintendent Shelley Green asked Associate Superintendent Colin Roberts to speak to this motion.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to establish and document a process for undertaking a review of Late French Immersion programming that takes into account the current Ministry of Education policy on French Immersion programs and that includes a consultation process which involves relevant stakeholders prior to implementing a change to the program, in line with Policy 1163 – Consultation, be referred to the May 6, 2019 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

Discussion ensued amongst Trustees and stakeholders with the recommendation that an update be provided at a future Ed Policy meeting.

It was moved by Trustee Ferris:

That the motion “That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to establish and document a process for undertaking a review of Late French Immersion programming that takes into account the current Ministry of Education policy on French Immersion programs and that includes a consultation process which involves relevant stakeholders prior to implementing a change to the program, in line with Policy 1163 – Consultation, be referred to the May 6, 2019 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.” **be tabled until the Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting of October 6th, 2019.**

Motion Tabled

D. NOTICE OF MOTION - NONE

E. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

F. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Trustee Ferris:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.