



**Education Policy and Directions Committee
December 2nd, 2019 – Tolmie Board Room**

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Nicole Duncan - Chair, Tom Ferris, Ryan Painter

Regrets: Diane McNally

Other Trustees Present: Rob Paynter

Administration: Shelley Green - Superintendent, Kim Morris - Secretary-Treasurer, Greg Kitchen – Associate Superintendent, Colin Roberts - Associate Superintendent, Louise Sheffer – Director, District Team, Harold Caldwell – Director, District Team, Andy Canty – Director of Information Technology for Learning, Cindy Graf - GVTA Representative, Shawna Abbott - CUPE 947 Representative, Jodi Whiteman - VCPAC President, Andree Porter – Executive Assistant (recorder)

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

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

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

A1. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Trustee Painter

That the December 2, 2019 Education Policy and Directions agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A2. Approval of the Minutes

It was moved by Trustee Ferris

That the November 4th, 2019 Education Policy and Directions Committee Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A3. Business Arising from the Minutes – None

B. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

B1. Parents for Early Language Education / Marc Cittone

B2. Parents for Early Language Education / Chris Hazeldine

B3. Parents for Early Language Education / Melinda Jolley

B4. Behaviour Management App “Class Dojo” Concerns / Dr. Cara Gibson

C. NEW BUSINESS

C1. Introduction of Student Representatives

Superintendent Shelley Green advised that there were no student representatives available for the meeting.

C2. Industry Training Authority Scholarship Recognition

Lindsay Johnson, District Vice Principal of Pathways and Partnerships, Kevin Blecic, Youth Work in Trades District Coordinator and former Youth Apprentice Coordinator Don Cameron presented 10 GVSD secondary students with the Industry Training Authority's Youth Work in Trades award along with a \$1000 award from the Ministry of Education. Each student logged at least 900 work based training hours in their chosen trades (Electrician, Cook, Welder, Mechanic, Carpenter, Hair Stylist, Pipe-fitter/Plumber) while still school age, maintaining a C+ average in their grade 12 courses and graduated with a Dogwood Diploma.

Committee Chair Nicole Duncan extended her congratulations on behalf of the Board of Education, noting that this achievement showcases each student's hard work and dedication to their schooling and future pathways.

C3. ISP Annual Report

Jeff Davis, Director of the International Student Program, provided the committee with a walkthrough of the ISP Annual Report. The group reviewed the status of goals and main strategies listed on the Operational Plan Progress Report. Mr. Davis highlighted next steps and questions of clarification were asked.

C4. Literacy App Update

Louise Sheffer, Director of Learning – District Team and Maria Nordstrom, Learning Support Teacher (Craigflower School) provided the committee with an overview/update regarding the Literacy App. The Literacy App was created for GVSD partners; the Songhees & Esquimalt Nations, with the purpose of monitoring literacy growth and progress for on-reserve students. The functionalities of the app and its reporting capabilities were highlighted. The next steps will be to meet with the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations to review the application and obtain feedback. Questions of clarification were asked.

C5. Diversity & Inclusion Forum Update

Deputy Superintendent Deb Whitten provided an overview of the November 28th 2019 Diversity & Inclusion Forum. Facilitated by Dr. Leyton Schnellert, Dr. Wendy Carr & Shelly Niemi, approximately 90 attendees reviewed the following topics: Indigenous Learners, LGBTQA+ Learners and Neuro-diverse Learners and Learners with Disabilities. Ms. Whitten noted that the feedback received from the forum attendees was that they would like to see more opportunities to take part in similar events. A second Diversity & Inclusion Forum with a focus on student voice has been scheduled for April 1st 2020.

C6. IT for Learning - Data Privacy & Security Update

Andy Canty, Director of Information Technology for Learning, provided the committee with an update regarding the current work being done by the IT for Learning department to stay on top of any data privacy & security concerns. Questions of clarification were asked.

C7. Late French Immersion Program Review

Associate Superintendent Colin Roberts provided a follow up in regards to the Late French Immersion program Review and recent feedback received from parents following the consultation. The next steps for implementation by September 2020 were highlighted. Questions of clarification were asked.

D. NOTICE OF MOTION

E. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

F. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Trustee Ferris :

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.