



## Education Policy and Directions Committee Meeting

### MINUTES

February 3, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Trustees Present: Nicole Duncan, Tom Ferris, Ryan Painter, Angie Hentze , Rob Paynter

Trustee Regrets: Diane McNally, Elaine Leonard, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

Administration: Shelley Green, Superintendent of Schools, Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Deb Whitten, Deputy Superintendent, Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent, Colin Roberts, Associate Superintendent, Sheyda Shams, Student Representative, Louise Sheffer, Director of District Team, Harold Caldwell, Director of District Team, Cindy Graf, GVTA Representative, Jodi Whiteman, VCPAC President, Connor McCoy, VPVPA Representative, Andree Porter, Executive Assistant (recorder)

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#### **A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m.

##### **A.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories**

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

##### **A.2 Approval of the Agenda**

**Moved by** Trustee Painter

That the February 3, 2020 Education Policy & Direction Committee agenda be approved.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A.3 Approval of the Minutes**

- a. Approval of the January 6, 2020 Education Policy and Directions meeting minutes

**Moved by** Trustee Painter

That the January 6, 2020 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting minutes be approved.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A.4 Business arising from Minutes**

**B. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE**

**B.1 Mentorship Program / Ilda Turcotte (GVTA)**

**B.2 Mentorship Program / Lena Palermo (GVTA)**

**C. NEW BUSINESS**

**C.1 Introduction of Student Representative**

Superintendent Shelley Green introduced and welcomed Student Representative, Sheyda Shams of Esquimalt High School, to the Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

**C.2 Greater Victoria Students Visit to Tokyo Board of Education: Dec 2019 - Jeff Davis, Teacher(s), Student Group**

Jeff Davis, Director of the International Student Program and Reid Litster, Senior Manager of Marketing and Student Support Services at Uplands Campus provided the committee with a brief background of the Student Outbound Program. In December 2019 and in partnership with the Tokyo Board of Education, ten Greater Victoria School District students and one chaperone/teacher (Dan Geneau) took part in Tokyo Study Abroad. Two of the students presented their experiences and highlights of the trip for the committee. The students made note of the positive impact the Tokyo trip and Student Outbound Program has made in their everyday lives, specifically boosting confidence in themselves, their ability to connect with other cultures, and to seek out future opportunities that will allow them to

grow further. Questions of clarification were asked and kudos were provided to the group

### **C.3 Pathways & Partnerships Annual Report - Lindsay Johnson**

District Vice-Principal of Pathways and Partnerships, Lindsay Johnson, and District Coordinators, Bonnie Alexander and Kevin Blecic, provided the committee with an overview of the February 2020 Pathways & Partnerships Progress Update, highlighting the 2 main goals for the department along with the related strategies that have been created to help achieve these goals. The group reviewed in-depth, the programs currently being offered by the department, noting how each program relates back to the main goals and strategies. Mrs. Johnson highlighted the TASK – Bike Shelter Project which is a collaboration with the Facilities department, noting that 3 new bike shelters will be built by students alongside CUPE members at Lambrick Secondary. Mrs. Johnson also highlighted the new Discover Technology Program, which is fully funded through a grant from the Ministry of Education and hosted by Camosun College and South Island Partnership. Questions of clarification were asked and kudos were provided.

### **C.4 2019/2020 Parent Education Funds Update - Deb Whitten**

Deputy Superintendent, Deb Whitten, referred the committee to the report provided in their agenda packages with respect to the Parent Education Fund for 2019-2020. Mrs. Whitten made note that \$1400 of the budget is remaining and will be carried over to the 2020-2021 year. Questions of clarification were asked.

### **C.5 Parent, Staff & Student Survey Update - Deb Whitten**

Deputy Superintendent, Deb Whitten, provided a verbal update in regards to the Inclusion Survey which will be aimed towards Parents, Students & Staff. Feedback from the VCPAC Sub Committee has been received and will be reviewed and implemented where possible prior to deploying the survey in early to mid-February 2020.

### **C.6 District Team Updates - Harold Caldwell & Louise Sheffer**

District Team Directors, Harold Caldwell & Louise Sheffer, provided the committee with a verbal update in regards to the District Team's on-going work, highlighting the Traumatic Events Systems Training (TES) that was completed in January 2020, the current vetting of applicants for the Arbutus Program, and the upcoming Enhancing Learning Grant

Celebration taking place in May 2020. Questions of clarification were asked.

- D. NOTICE OF MOTION**
- E. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- F. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by** Trustee Painter

That the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer