

Equity Ad Hoc Committee

Minutes for November 21st, 2024

Meeting start time: 3:45pm

Location: Tolmie Building in Main Room

In attendance: Emily Mahbobi, Tom Aerts, Ai Linh Trinh, Matt Christie, Heather Brown, Amy Read, Ellie Proud, Deanna Reid, Peyton Yip, Nadine Naughton, Sean Macartney, Matthew Christie

Absent: Mavis David, Tara Knight, HeYoung

- a. Emily Mahbobi (she/her) (School board Trustee)
- b. HeYoung (she/her) (Student Representative)
- c. Peyton Yip (she/her) (Student Representative)
- d. Tom Aerts (he/him) (Associate Superintendent)
- e. Ai Linh Trinh (she/her) (GVTA)
- f. Matt Christie (he/him) (GVTA)
- g. Heather Brown (she/her) (VPVPA)
- h. Amy Read (she/her) (VCPAC)
- i. Ellie Proud (CUPE 382)
- j. Tara Knight (CUPE 947)
- k. Deanna Reid (she/her) (VPVPA)

COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

A.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories –

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

A.2 Approval of the Agenda – passed by consensus

A.3 Approval of the Minutes, October 30, 2024

PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

NEW BUSINESS

C.1 Review share point shared document – Tom Aerts

Include reference documents, terms and definitions, policies, and feedback. If anyone wants something specifically from the shared document to be included in the minutes it would need to be pulled forward at an Equity Committee meeting and agreed to. The only people who have access to this shared folder are people on the committee.

C.2 Review Policy 5148 – Alternatives to the Integrated Classroom

Policy review suggestions presented by District Principals Nadine Naughton and Sean McCartney – document shared via round table. Two policies – consideration proposed: should we combine (5147 & 5148) Suggestions: modernizing language. Consider combining both policies into 1. District Principals McCartney and Naughton to share a draft combined policy by next committee meeting.

Looked at the Accessibility Plan on the district page following the audit last year.

Discussed accessibility issues in schools – physical barriers like ramps, elevators, parking.

C.3 Review Policy 5147 - Inclusion of Students with Special Educational Needs.

To be combined with Policy 5148.

C.4 Review Policy 110 Equity – add suggestions or feedback to shared doc

C.5 Review Board Motion – Approved Motion: “That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to provide the Board and the Equity Ad Hoc Committee with a break down of student to staff incident for each Elementary school; AND FURTHER Break down each elementary schools data into student to staff incident in English track and student to staff incident in French track and within these categories indicate the number of students with an IEP, a designation (indicate the designation) or an assigned learning support (note the nature of the assigned learning support) by timeline to be determined.” be added to the agenda under H.1. New Business. Tracking around reports of discrimination/ direction around reporting – streamline

The data was reviewed and discussed. Some questions from the committee were:

What is the connection between priority schools and dual track?

What stories does this data represent?

C.5 Next steps

Present two motions to the December 2nd Education and Policy Committee meeting

Motion #1

Recommended motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) authorizes the engagement of an external agency to complete an equity audit of our district.

AND FURTHER

Direct the Equity Ad Hoc committee to return by the February 2025 Board meeting with a cost estimate for the equity audit.

Motion #2

Recommended motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) directs the board chair to write to the Ministry of Education and Childcare to advocate for additional funding for Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) initiatives.

Next meeting Dec 17th @ 4:15pm

D.GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

E.ADJOURNMENT 5:05 pm