

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 – BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Education and Student Services DATE: April 1, 2009

CHAIRPERSON: Trustee Jeff Watson STAFF CONTACT: Hugh Gloster, Assistant Superintendent

Board Attendees:

Trustee J. Watson – Chairperson
Trustee A. Hunt-Binkley – Committee Member
Trustee G. Scanlan – Committee Member
Trustee W. Horning

Staff:

H. Gloster, Assistant Superintendent
Clara Sulz, Director of Instruction K - 12
Norm Bradley, Director of Instruction K - 12
B. Bertram, Executive Assistant (*recorder*)

Partner Group Representation:

COPVPA Rob Tucker, Principal – Glenrosa Elementary School
COTA Michelle Davies, First Vice-President

Absent: Representation from COPAC
Representation from CUPE
Representation from District Student Council

1. Agenda – Additions/Amendments/Deletions

The Chairperson advised that Glenrosa Middle School had withdrawn their information item #7.1 (Collaboration Time Proposal).

2. Early Learning Initiatives Report

Clara Sulz - Director of Instruction K - 12, Pat Smith - Speech Language Pathologist and Donna Kozak – Literacy Teacher, provided information on Early Learning Initiatives within S.D. No. 23 which include Early Learning Partnerships, Parents as Literacy Supporters (PALS), High School Playschool Program, Young Parent Program, E.C.E. Mentorship/Coaching, Strong Start Centers and Hanen Early Language Programs. Three early literacy grants have also been received:

- \$1,500 from the “Excellence in Literacy” Program (funds directed towards parent education and high-quality literacy materials for families to take home)
- \$24,000 from the “Strengthening Community Connections” Program (funds directed towards providing language and literacy resources)
- \$18,000 from the “Success By Six” group (funds used to support 32 PALS sessions to date)

It was noted that, in order to impact as many families as possible, programs need to be provided in the evenings and on weekends, to increase accessibility for working parents.

Outcome

The Committee recommended that the Early Learning Initiatives Report be sent to the Board for placement as an Information Item on a future Board meeting agenda.

3. S.D. No. 23 Student Readiness Annual Report

Norm Bradley - Director of Instruction and Barb Leclair - District Graduation Coordinator presented information on student readiness within S.D. No. 23. The 14-Point Action Plan for graduates has been amended and includes a revised goal: By June 2013, 89% of students will graduate or earn their school completion certificate within six years of starting grade 8, and be ready for the transition beyond secondary school.

S.D. No. 23 data has been extracted from Ministry information and is being used to provide a summary of graduation and readiness trends ranging over several years. The creation of an electronic withdrawal system for all students leaving the District is expected to greatly improve student tracking of those who leave prior to graduating. Readiness (a passing rate in all five core subjects) and transition (moving on to the next grade without necessarily having passed all subjects in the previous grade) trends were discussed as well as the budget implications for retaining Readiness Department Heads in middle/secondary schools.

Outcome

The Committee recommended that the S.D. No. 23 Student Readiness Annual Report be sent to the Board for placement as an Information Item on a future Board meeting agenda.

Information Items

1. Items for Future Education and Student Services Committee Meetings

- Student Support Services Program Review (*May 2009*)
- Extra-Curricular Activities/Academies and Fees (*May 2009*)
- BCeSIS System (*May 2009*)
- Draft Achievement Contract Review (*June 2009*)
- Career Development Education (*June 2009*)
- Transition Programs (SSA/Dual-Credit BCIT/OC Programs) (*June 2009*)

It was requested that a presentation on the BCeSIS demographic system be provided to the Committee at either the May or June meeting.

2. Future Education and Student Services Committee Meetings

May 6, 2009

June 3, 2009

All meetings are scheduled for 6:30 pm in the School Board Office Board Room.

Questions – Please Contact:

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