

## SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 – BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Education and Student Services DATE: February 4, 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 M. Baxter

### Staff:

M. Roberts, Superintendent  
H. Gloster, Assistant Superintendent  
B. Bertram, Executive Assistant (recorder)

### Partner Group Representation:

COPVPA Rob Tucker, Principal – Glenrosa Elementary School  
COTA Carole Gordon, Second Vice-President  
CUPE 3523 Margaret Varga, CUPE Member  
District Student Council Jessica Lenoble (Kelowna Secondary School)

Absent: Representation from COPAC

The Assistant Superintendent provided background information on the guidelines for proposals for substantive change as outlined in Board Policy 540 “Schools of Choice” and 540A “Proposal for Substantive Change”. In July 2008, the Ministry of Education provided requirements for schools to follow when establishing specialty academies. These requirements will come into effect in September 2009. All existing and proposed academies within the District are in full compliance with Ministry regulations.

### 1. Proposal for Substantive Change (Soccer Academy) – Const. Neil Bruce Middle School

The Principal of Const. Neil Bruce Middle School provided information on the development of the proposed Soccer Academy which is a one block, two-year program open to grade 8 and 9 students. In order for the program to be viable, a minimum of approximately 24 students would be required. A maximum of 30 students could be accommodated within the academy. Students involved in the academy would receive fitness and class 5 officials training and be instructed in CPR techniques. Participants would receive credit for Physical Education 8 or 9, depending on their grade level. The school has options in place to assist those students who may find enrolling in the academy a financial hardship.

#### Outcome

**The Committee recommended that the Board approve the Proposal for Substantive Change (Soccer Academy), as presented at the February 4, 2009 public meeting of the Education and Student Services Committee, to be implemented at Const. Neil Bruce Middle School starting September 2009.**

### 2. Proposal for Substantive Change (High Performance Hockey Academy) – Glenrosa Middle School

The Principal of Glenrosa Middle School provided information on the proposed high performance academy which would be offered as a two block, one-year program to students in grades 7, 8 or 9. The Vision outlined in the proposal is consistent with the overall School Planning Council goal to bring opportunity to students and promote student engagement within the school, and supports the West Kelowna mandate to increase recreational programs for children living in the community. A plan is in place to help those students needing financial assistance, either through sponsor donations or volunteering at the school.

The committee requested clarification on the expected skill level of students wishing to join the academy. The Principal advised that students of all skills would be accepted; the academy is designed to have breakout sessions that would ensure that students are taught at their own skill level. The Principal was requested to ensure that when the academy was advertised to parents and the community, emphasis be placed on the fact that it is open to all students, regardless of skill level or ability to pay.

#### Outcome

**The Committee recommended that the Board approve the Proposal for Substantive Change (High Performance Hockey Academy), as presented at the February 4, 2009 public meeting of the Education and Student Services Committee, to be implemented at Glenrosa Middle School starting September 2009.**

### 3. Proposal for Substantive Change (Hockey Skills Academy) – Dr. Knox Middle School

The Principal of Dr. Knox Middle School presented background information on the academy proposal which was created after discussion with the PAC, School Planning Council and students. The academy will be implemented as a two-block, one-year program and will be open to students in grades 9, 8 or 7 with preference given to senior students, depending on enrollment. A minimum number of 25 students will be required to offer the program and students will receive credit for

Physical Education 7, 8 or 9 depending on their grade level. The school has options in place for those students who may find enrolling in the academy a financial hardship.

### **Outcome**

**The Committee recommended that the Board approve the Proposal for Substantive Change (Hockey Skills Academy), as presented at the February 4, 2009 public meeting of the Education and Student Services Committee, to be implemented at Dr. Knox Middle School starting September 2009.**

#### **4. Proposal for Substantive Change (International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program)**

The Superintendent of Schools provided the committee with information on the IB Primary Years Program for elementary students which prepares students for success in high school and post secondary education. The program could be run as either single or dual-track within a school. The proposal has come forward as a result of the planned opening of the Chute Lake Elementary School in the Mission area and requests from parents in that community for information on programs that may be offered at the three area elementary schools in September 2009. All three school communities have been surveyed (grades K – 6) with results indicating that parents are most interested in programs that offer enrichment, either in Fine Arts, academics or athletics. The Superintendent advised that the IB Program aligns well with the current District work in Quality Assessment and encourages students through a more open, exploratory way of learning while following the regular curriculum.

The Committee discussed a variety of issues associated with the program, including financial implications and the requirements expected of teachers involved.

### **Outcome**

**The Committee recommended that the Board approve the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program as a program of choice for schools with sufficient parent interest.**

#### **5. SD23 Goals and Objectives**

The Superintendent provided an overview of the intended direction of the District's recommended goals for the coming year. The intent this year is to refine the existing goals of literacy, numeracy and the grad rate, looking at performance targets for each of the goals and establishing a three-year signpost for targets. The District is moving increasingly towards assessment that best meets the needs of students and moving away from using assessment tools that do not supply the District with information needed to improve targets or align with the data warehouse. Ultimately, District goals will be included in the Achievement Contract and come to the Board for approval prior to submission to the Ministry of Education by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Information Items**

#### **1. Items for Future Education and Student Services Committee Meetings**

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

Following discussion, the committee agreed that the single agenda item scheduled for the March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting be moved to the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and the March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting cancelled.

The Committee requested that "Extra Curricular Activities" be added as an agenda item to the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting with financial information provided on teams involved in extra-curricular activities throughout the District as well as information on District Academy enrolment and the number of students receiving financial assistance.

#### **2. Future Education and Student Services Committee Meetings**

April 1, 2009                      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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