

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 – BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Education and Student Services DATE: April 7, 2010
CHAIRPERSON: Trustee Jeff Watson STAFF CONTACT: Terry-Lee Beaudry, Assistant Superintendent

Board Attendees:

Trustee W. Horning - Acting Chairperson
Trustee A. Hunt-Binkley - Committee Member
Trustee M. Baxter - Acting Committee Member
Trustee R. Cacchioni

Staff:

H. Gloster, Superintendent of Schools
T. Beaudry, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
C. Sulz, Director of Instruction K - 12
E. Sadlowski, Director of Finance
N. Bradley, Director of Instruction K - 12
L. McCullough, Director of Instruction K - 12
B. Bertram, Executive Assistant (*recorder*)

Partner Group Representation:

COPAC Sharlene Drohomereski, Past President
COPVPA Rob Tucker, Principal - Constable Neil Bruce Middle School
C.O.T.A. Michelle Davies, First Vice-President
CUPE Chris Neufeld, Shop Steward
District Student Council Josephine Schrott - Grade 12, Kelowna Secondary School

Absent: Trustee J. Watson, Chairperson

Agenda

Addition: The Assistant Superintendent requested the addition of new agenda item 2.2 - Program Reviews for 2010/2011.

Reports/Matters Arising

March 3, 2010 Committee Report - Received.

The Assistant Superintendent provided a follow-up to the request at the March 3, 2010 meeting that the Three Year Rule and Central School Program Reviews be added to the 2010/2011 program review cycle. The Three Year Rule Program Review will be completed as a level three review in 2010/2011. The Director of Student Support Services has advised that a thorough external review of all Student Support Services (including Central School Programs) was conducted in May 2009, and in keeping with the three-year cycle, Student Support Services would not be up for review again until the 2011/2012 year. The possibility of separating Central School Programs from the Student Support Services Program Review, for an independent evaluation, was discussed. This topic will be added to the Education and Student Services Committee May 5, 2010 agenda for further discussion.

Action Items

1. CommunityLINK Report

Clara Sulz, Director of Instruction K - 12, and Eileen Sadlowski, Director of Finance, provided background information on the CommunityLINK (*Learning Includes Nutrition and Knowledge*) Program and funding parameters/disbursement for current and previous years. The Ministry of Education requires an annual report be submitted which clearly outlines the allocation of these funds. The Director of Instruction noted that a large portion of the funding is used to support the School Meals Program. With Full Day Kindergarten beginning in 2010, with full implementation at all district elementary schools in September 2011, it is anticipated that the need for school meals will rise proportionately. The committee discussed senior staff's decision to discontinue CommunityLINK funding for the Bankhead and Rutland Elementary Community Schools, as the Bankhead Elementary Program is self-sustaining by generating funds for programs offered, and Rutland Elementary School does not meet the vulnerability index to warrant a Community School funding allocation. Several other district schools have a higher vulnerability index and the intent is to redirect the funding to best support schools with the most vulnerable students.

Members of the gallery expressed concern over the proposed withdrawal of CommunityLINK funds for Bankhead Elementary Community School, and provided personal information on the family programs offered at the school. The committee requested more information on the district's Bankhead Community School partnership with the City of Kelowna and clarification on how the City may be changing the way programs are run.

Outcome

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

AND FURTHER:

The Committee recommended that the Board of Education send a letter to both the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Children and Family Development, emphasizing the importance of continuing CommunityLINK funding in order to meet the needs of the district's most vulnerable students.

AND FURTHER:

The Committee recommended that, once Ministry funding for CommunityLINK for 2010/2011 has been announced, discussion on the distribution of those funds be placed as an Action Item on a future Board meeting agenda.

AND FURTHER:

The Committee recommended that the Secretary-Treasurer provide a report to the Board clarifying how the Bankhead Community School is managed and what support, financial or otherwise, is provided by the City of Kelowna. It was also requested that the report include alternative options for the school, should the "Community School" designation be removed, i.e. rental costs and custodial costs.

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

Norm Bradley, Director of Instruction K - 12, and Barb Leclair, District Graduation Coordinator, reviewed the contents of the Student Readiness Annual Report. It was noted that the district's six-year completion rate has risen to 82.9% for 2008/2009, an increase of .7% from the previous year. The provincial public school average for 2008/2009 was 78.3%, with the provincial average for all schools resting at 79.2%. Grade (academic) readiness trends were reviewed. Readiness data (having a passing rate in all five core subjects) provides an early red flag for those students who may be more vulnerable, i.e. socially, emotionally or academically.

Next year's goals include maintaining the current strategies and structures at the school/district level, institutionalizing a transition process, supporting the formalized creation of a Readiness Improvement Plan in each middle/secondary school, and continuing the work to align the district's delivery of the Health and Career Education Curriculum (K - 12). The committee discussed the information provided as well as the impact of the Three-Year Rule on returning secondary students.

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.

3. Health Promoting Schools Program Review

Lisa McCullough, Director of Instruction K - 12 and Janelle Zebedee, Health Promoting Schools Coordinator, provided a brief recap of the history of the Health Promoting Schools (HPS) Program. The program has seen significant changes since its inception in 2003 including healthier choices in vending machine and in school stores, Action Schools! BC daily physical activity, the establishment of school goals related to health promotion, the development of a district HPS toolkit, employee wellness initiatives and strong partnerships including the Interior Health Authority, the City of Kelowna, the Canadian Cancer Society and many more significant partner groups. These partnerships have enabled school communities to be involved in free family activity nights, bike to school week, international walk to school week and the creation of school gardens. HPS goals are also now included in School Planning Council reports.

Outcome

The Committee recommended that the Health Promoting Schools Program Review be sent to the Board for approval.

Recommendations/Referrals to the Board/Coordinating Committee/Other Committees

Future Public Board Meeting Action Items:

- Letters to the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Children and Family Development re: CommunityLINK funding.
- Discussion of CommunityLINK funding allocation once 2010/2011 figures are received.
- Health Promoting Schools Program Review.

Future Public Board Meeting Information Items:

- CommunityLINK Report.
- S.D. No. 23 Student Readiness Annual Report.

Request to the Secretary-Treasurer to provide a report to the Board re: Bankhead Community School.

Discussion/Information Items

1. The first meeting for the Education and Student Services Sub-Committee (formed to review district policies regarding Schools of Choice) has been set for Monday, May 17, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm in the School Board Office small meeting room. Committee members include: Trustee Watson, Trustee Horning, Trustee Hunt-Binkley, Trustee Baxter, COPAC Representative Sharlene Drohomereski, C.O.T.A. First Vice-President Michelle Davies and the Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Terry Beaudry.
2. It was requested that an executive summary be added to all future Program Reviews in order to provide a brief overview of the information contained within the review. The Assistant Superintendent will add this request to the next Admin. Council agenda.

Items for Future Education and Student Services Committee Meetings

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| - Committee discussion re: separating the 2011/2012 Program Review for Student Support Services into separate reviews of Special Education and Alternate Education/Central School Programs and Services (May 2010) | - Draft Achievement Contract (June 2010) |
| - Review of Policy 525A "Field Trip Activities" Appendix (May 2010) | - Central Okanagan Community and School District No. 23 Literacy Plan (June 2010) |
| - SD23 Achievement Contract (Brief Presentation) (May 2010) | - French Immersion Program Review (June 2010) |
| - International Education Program Review (May 2010) | - Outline of Program Reviews scheduled for 2010/2011 (June 2010) |
| - ESL Program Review (May 2010) | - Current Homework Practices K - 12 (fall of 2010) |

Future Education and Student Services Committee Meetings

May 5, 2010

June 2, 2010

October 6, 2010

November 3, 2010

December 1, 2010

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

Questions – Please Contact:

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