

## SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 – BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Education and Student Services DATE: May 7, 2008

CHAIRPERSON: Trustee Cheryl Wiebe STAFF CONTACT: Hugh Gloster, Assistant Superintendent

### Attendees:

Trustee C. Wiebe - Chairperson  
Trustee G. Scanlan - Committee Member  
Trustee A. Hunt-Binkley - Committee Member  
Trustee M. Baxter  
Trustee W. Horning

### Staff:

M. Roberts, Superintendent of Schools  
H. Gloster, Assistant Superintendent  
C. Sulz, Director of Instruction K – 12  
J. Rever, Director of Technology and Education Service Programs  
B. Bertram, Executive Assistant (recorder)

### Partner Group Representation:

COTA Karen Bernath, Professional Development Chairperson  
CUPE 3523 Margaret Varga, CUPE Trustee  
District Student Council Michael Lenoble (KSS)

Absent: Representation from COPVPA and COPAC

### Agenda Amendment:

*Each Presentation Item will be followed immediately by a public question period, committee member queries and then the corresponding Action Item so that each item is completely dealt with prior to proceeding to the next agenda topic.*

### 1. Achievement Contract (Draft)

The Superintendent provided a brief recap of the recently received 2008/2009 Ministry District Achievement Contract Guidelines. As laid out in the guidelines, a review of the document with Superintendents of Achievement will occur in June and the Board-approved Achievement Contract must be submitted to the Ministry by July 15<sup>th</sup>. Broad-based consultation with the Literacy Committee, the Numeracy Committee and the Graduation Performance Committee, as well as District administrators and teachers, has occurred in the creation of the District's Achievement Contract. This document's primary objective is to address student achievement. The District has a responsibility to lead and set direction in a variety of areas but must also consider the needs of individual schools. It was noted that District Goals (numeracy, graduation and literacy) were listed in no particular order and are of equal importance. The Superintendent advised that, in the future, the emphasis will be on gathering and using local data rather than continuing to rely on FSA information and provincially gathered statistics. The committee discussed several amendments/additions to the document as well as the viability of setting up similar tracking procedures for special needs students for data/objectives inclusion in future Achievement Contracts.

#### Outcome

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT: The Achievement Contract, as presented and amended at the Education and Student Services Committee meeting on May 7/08, be sent to the Board for approval.**

### 2. Community Literacy Plan

The Director of Instruction K – 12 provided a brief background of the sequence of events leading to the development of the Central Okanagan Community and District Literacy Plan which must be approved by the Board and submitted to the Ministry by July 15. Stakeholders who have contributed knowledge, ideas and insights into the creation of the Plan include individuals and/or agencies from the Westside through to Lake Country. The Plan is divided into four neighbourhoods (Westside, Central Kelowna, Rutland, and Lake Country) due to distinct demographics, resources and needs in each area. Each neighbourhood will then have a literacy plan to incorporate the four pillars: early learning, K – 12 learning, adult learning and Aboriginal learning. Funding for the creation of the literacy plan will be provided by 2010 LegaciesNow and is separate from the K – 12 literacy grant received from the Ministry of Education. The Director of Instruction was commended on the work involved in creating the Community Literacy Plan. Several text edits have yet to be made to the document prior to it being submitted for Board approval at the May 28<sup>th</sup> public Board meeting.

#### Outcome

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT: The Community Literacy Plan, as presented at the Education and Student Services Committee Meeting on May 7/08, be sent to the Board for approval.**

### 3. iLearn Transitional Plan

The Assistant Superintendent and the Director of Technology and Education Service Programs provided a brief Power Point that presented a summary of the iLearn Transitional Plan. Factors influencing the recommendations in the document included a finite iLearn budget allocation of \$2.38 million dollars. In order for the program to be successful, it must be stabilized and sustainable from year to year, system capacity must be built with ongoing support for learning and professional development, and strategic applications of educational technologies must be maximized with a focus on areas that have the greatest potential gains in student learning and achievement.

The committee discussed the recommendations as laid out in the document. The discussion included the emphasis on core curriculum (language arts, science, mathematics and social studies) versus elective courses, copyright issues and internet safety. With the proposed cart model for grades 7 – 12, the laptops would become a part of each school's equipment inventory with a sign out procedure in place for students.

If the Board approves the core curriculum cart model for grades 7 – 12, it is anticipated that rollout would begin in the fall of 2008. Wireless infrastructure in two secondary schools would need to first be completed in order to accommodate the cart model, and teacher professional development must occur prior to deployment.

The Assistant Superintendent advised that full-time laptop access for Special Needs students would be decided at the school level in conjunction with the School Based Team. Secondary schools would continue to have some computer labs for specialty programs, i.e. computer drafting and animation; however cross-curricular labs could be phased out with the use of the laptop cart model.

#### Outcome

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT: The iLearn Transitional Plan, as presented at the Education and Student Services Committee Meeting on May 7/08, be sent to the Board for approval.**

The Committee also agreed that a supplementary document be provided to the Board outlining how the recommended changes will affect elementary grade 7 students, clarifying extenuating circumstances for Special Needs students and/or other needy students and providing information on how the laptop cart model will contrast with the current use of senior secondary cross-curricular labs.

### Information Items

#### 1. **Family Life Program Review**

This item was tabled to the June 4<sup>th</sup> Education and Student Services Committee meeting.

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

- Family Life Program Review (*June/08*)
- Achieving a Necessary Future - Program Review (*June/08*)
- BCSTA Okanagan Branch - Education Committee: Items for Discussion (*for February, June and October meetings*)

#### 3. **Meeting Schedule**

2008/2009 meeting schedule to be determined.

#### Questions – Please Contact:

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*Cheryl Wiebe, Chairperson*