



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**
Together We Learn

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

Policy Committee

Public Meeting

Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 4:00 pm

School Board Office

1040 Hollywood Road S

Kelowna, BC

Board of Education: Trustee J. Fraser, Chair
Trustee A. Geistlinger, Committee Member
Trustee L. Guderyan, Committee Member
Trustee L. Tiede
Trustee W. Broughton
Trustee C. Desrosiers
Trustee V. Johnson

Staff: Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO
Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Terry Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent
Lise Bradshaw, Executive Assistant (recorder)

Partner Groups: Lori Dawson Bedard, First Vice-President, COTA
Wynter Oakes, Pro-D Finance, COPVPA
Nicola Baker, Vice-President, COPAC
Zach Johnson, Co-President, DSC

There was no representative from CUPE.

**The Central Okanagan Board of Education acknowledged that this meeting was being held
the unceded, Traditional Territory of the Okanagan People.**

AGENDA

March 1, 2023 Committee Agenda - approved as presented.

REPORTS/MATTERS ARISING

Policy Committee Public Meeting Report - October 5, 2022

October 5, 2022 Committee Report - received as distributed.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public questions/comments.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS QUERIES/COMMENTS

Trustee Johnson asked about Policy 390 that had been listed on the October 5, 2022 Report as an item for a future Policy Committee meeting, but was not on the March 1, 2023 Agenda.

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO advised that this Policy had been brought forth by a former Trustee and had been updated with names and titles, but that there was not a reason to bring it forward again at this time.

The COPAC Vice-President and the COTA First Vice-President queried the process of developing a Policy to handle harmful public comments made at board meetings, that contain misinformation and discrimination.

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO advised that District Staff were already looking into this matter.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Annual Review of Committee's Mandate, Purpose and Function: Policy 168 - Policy Committee

The Chair stated that the Committee reviews *Policy 168 – Policy Committee* on an annual basis. There are no recommended changes to the policy at this time.

Outcome:

THAT: The Policy Committee recommends to the Board of Education:

THAT: The Board of Education affirm Policy 168 - Policy Committee, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the March 1, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting.

Amendments to Policy 115 - Inaugural and Annual Board Meetings

The recommended amendments include the reference to Secretary-Treasurer changed to Secretary-Treasurer/CFO; and the removal of the administration of an Oath of Allegiance at the Inaugural Meeting.

Trustee Geistlinger further recommended that item 3 of the Policy be amended regarding the "destroying of the ballots (if any)", in case the Board separates the agenda items between the inaugural meeting and the first regular meeting of the Board:

"3. The Board may separate the agenda items between the Inaugural and the first regular public meeting if desired. Items 2.1 – 2.8, and 2.14 shall be included in the Inaugural meeting and items 2.9 – 2.14 shall be included in the first regular public meeting of the Board."

Trustee Geistlinger further recommended that the term "cheque signature plate" in item 2.8 be updated to read "cheque signature form".

Outcome:

THAT: The Policy Committee recommends to the Board of Education:

THAT: The Board of Education approve the amendments to Policy 115 – Inaugural and Annual Board Meetings, as attached to the Agenda and as further amended at the March 1, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting.

Amendments to Policy 631 - School Closures/Consolidation and Regulations 631R - School Closures/Consolidation (Regulations)

The recommended amendments include the reference to Superintendent changed to Superintendent of Schools/CEO.

Outcome:

THAT: The Policy Committee recommends to the Board of Education:

THAT: The Board of Education approve the amendments to Policy 631 - School Closures/Consolidation and Regulations 631R - School Closures/Consolidation (Regulations), as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the March 1, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting.

Amendments to Policy 632 - School Reconfigurations and Regulations 632R - School Reconfigurations (Regulations)

The recommended amendments include the reference to Superintendent changed to Superintendent of Schools/CEO.

Outcome:

THAT: The Policy Committee recommends to the Board of Education:

THAT: The Board of Education approve the amendments to Policy 632 - School Reconfigurations and Regulations 632R - School Reconfigurations (Regulations) as

attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the March 1, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting.

Amendments to Policy 387 - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

The recommended amendments are required to bring Board Policy into alignment with the changes to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. This includes the addition of a paragraph on Responsibility.

Outcome:

THAT: The Policy Committee recommends to the Board of Education:

THAT: The Board of Education approve the amendments to Policy 387 - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the March 1, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting.

The COPAC Vice-President suggested that parents annually review and sign the FOIPOP consent form, rather than just signing at student registration, as family situations can change throughout the years. The Superintendent of Schools/CEO advised District staff would look into this.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

DRAFT Policy 388 - Public Interest Disclosure Act

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO advised that the *Public Interest Disclosure Act* came into effect December 1, 2019. The purpose of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act* is to provide a mechanism that allows current and former employees within the BC public service to raise serious or systemic issues of wrongdoing for investigation, without exposing those employees to any risk of retaliation. The draft Policy attached to the Agenda was received from the BC Public School Employers' Association.

Trustee Geistlinger queried some of the terms under Definitions:

- Possible duplication of "Discloser"
- "Employee"—"past ~~and~~ or present employee of the School District"

Trustee Johnson queried the acronyms FIPPA and FOIPOP. The Superintendent of Schools/CEO advised that these acronyms were interchangeable.

RECOMMENDATIONS/REFERRALS TO THE BOARD/COORDINATING COMMITTEE/OTHER COMMITTEES

Board of Education – Action Items:

1. Annual Review of Committee's Mandate, Purpose and Function: Policy 168 – Policy Committee

2. Amendments to Policy 115 – Inaugural and Annual Board Meetings
3. Amendments to Policy 631 – School Closures/Consolidation and Regulations 631R – School Closures/Consolidations (Regulations)
4. Amendments to Policy 632 – School Reconfigurations and Regulations 632R – School Reconfigurations (Regulations)
5. Amendments to Policy 387 – Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

ITEMS FOR FUTURE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Amendments to Policy 220 - Principals and Vice-Principals: Selection, Appointment and Transfer and Regulations 220R - Principals and Vice-Principals: Selection, Appointment and Transfer
- Amendments to Policy 425R - Student Fees
- Review of Policy, Regulation and Appendix 505 - Learning Assistance
- Review of Policy 510 - Counselling
- Review of Policy 367 - Employee Wellness
- Review of Policy 423 - Health Promoting Schools
- Draft Policy 388 - Public Interest Disclosure Act

FUTURE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Wednesday June 7, 2023, 4:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Questions - Please Contact:

Trustee Fraser, Chair, at 250-681-0269 or Julia.Fraser@sd23.bc.ca

Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO at 250-470-3256 or Kevin.Kaardal@sd23.bc.ca

Julia Fraser, Chair