



CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

Education and Student Services Committee Public Meeting

Wednesday, June 19, 2024, 6:00 pm

**School Board Office
1040 Hollywood Road S.
Kelowna, BC**

Board of Education: Trustee L. Guderyan, Chair
Trustee A. Geistlinger, Committee Member
Trustee V. Johnson, Committee Member (*absent*)
Trustee C. Desrosiers, Acting Committee Member
Trustee L. Tiede

Staff: Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO
Terry-Lee Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Yvonne Hildebrandt, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Partner Groups: Lori Dawson Bedard, COTA 1st Vice-President
Nicola Baker, COPAC President
Wynter Oakes, COPVPA Executive Member
George York, CUPE Vice-President (*arrived at 6:02 pm*)
There were no representatives from the District Student Council.

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

Trustee Desrosiers was appointed Acting Committee Member in the absence of Trustee Johnson.

AGENDA

June 19, 2024 Committee Agenda – approved as presented.

REPORTS/MATTERS ARISING

Education and Student Services Committee Report – May 15, 2024

May 15, 2024 Committee Report – received as distributed.

RECOGNITION/PRESENTATION/DELEGATIONS

Emerging Trends in Artificial Intelligence

Troy White, District Principal of Learning Technology Services, and Learning Technology Consultants Tobias Blaskovits and Nicole Leboe provided a presentation on the Emerging Trends in Artificial Intelligence. The rapidly changing technological world with Artificial Intelligence (AI) has influenced how work is done, types of jobs available, required skills, and education. During the 2023-2024 school year, the District facilitated conversations with educators to discuss AI topics of interest, including ethical considerations, challenges, efficiencies, potential, strengths, and guidance for the use of AI. AI is a tool that has the potential to be used to support the complex needs of learners, and to create relevant and engaging learning tasks. The District's work of providing Digital Wellness guidance to students, schools, families, and educators in recent years, translates directly to the important skills required when using AI: Practice Mindfulness, Explore Learning, Think Critically, Connect Positively, and Be Safe.

The Ministry of Education and Child Care has provided resources and information to school districts, parents and caregivers about Artificial Intelligence and considerations for using AI tools in K-12 schools. During the 2024-2025 school year, Central Okanagan Public Schools will be creating a District guide for the use of AI in schools, based upon the overarching documents provided by the Ministry and the District's values. The District's Learning Technology team will continue to liaise with AI learning groups at a regional, provincial and national level. It was noted that the Superintendent of Schools/CEO has been guiding this work.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

No public present.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS QUERIES/COMMENTS

The COPAC President queried if schools are informing their parents and families about what the change from Social-Emotional Learning teacher to Inclusion teacher means for their students. The Superintendent of Schools/CEO advised that the Inclusive Education Department had a meeting today and the discussions are ongoing.

The COPAC President valued the information presented at School Community Student Learning Plan (SCSLP) Conversations and queried whether there would be an opportunity to share this information more widely with parents, noting Family of Schools events in previous years. It was suggested by Trustees that the presentations could be shared at Parent Advisory Council meetings. The Deputy Superintendent of Schools advised that the COPAC President's comments would be considered for next year.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

UBC-O/Central Okanagan Public Schools Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Co-Curricular Project Update

Terry-Lee Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, provided an update on the five-year UBC-O/Central Okanagan Public Schools Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Co-Curricular research project which involves a partnership between UBC-O, the District, multiple community partners, and Indigenous communities. The SSHRC project is now in its fourth year of engaging educators in decolonizing and Indigenizing education. The second 'Working the Ideas' Forum, held on May 1, 2024, enabled participants to engage in roundtable conversations with Elders, educators, community partners and university researchers from across Canada. The Forum was participant-led with Elders, teachers, and scholars sharing their learning and students demonstrating deep learning through their involvement in local *syilx* teachings, culture, language, and land-based learning.

The District has had the privilege of co-writing position papers on the SSHRC research project and presenting as a team at international conferences for the past three years. The papers written will be published in educational journals in Canada and the United States.

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

None.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

September 18, 2024

- Equity in Action Agreement Year 4 Progress Report
Director of Instruction - Indigenous Education and Equity (J. Bruce)

October 16, 2024

November 20, 2024 *(tbc)*

- Proposals for Board/Authority Authorized Courses
- Proposals for Substantive Change

January 15, 2025 *(tbc)*

- Feeding Futures Program Report
Director of Instruction - Feeding Futures (R. Ovelson)

February 19, 2025 *(tbc)*

April 16, 2025 (tbc)

- Proposals for Board/Authority Authorized Courses

May 21, 2025 (tbc)

- Draft Program Review Cycle & Draft Meeting Schedule 2025-2026
- New Equity in Action Agreement 2025-2030
Director of Instruction - Indigenous Education and Equity (J. Bruce)

June 18, 2025 (tbc)

REVIEW LEGEND

Level One Review

- District-wide surveys involving all stakeholders
- Focus Groups
- Interviews with key staff and clients

Level Two Review

- Surveys to a representative sample group of stakeholders
- Optional Focus Groups and personnel interviews as appropriate

Level Three Review

Limited or no surveying and/or interviews to gather informal feedback

FUTURE EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All meetings start at 6:00 pm.

September 18, 2024 and October 16, 2024.

MEDIA QUESTIONS

No media present.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Questions - Please Contact:

Trustee Lisa Guderyan, Chair at Lisa.Guderyan@sd23.bc.ca

Terry-Lee Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent of Schools at 250-470-3225 or Terry.Beaudry@sd23.bc.ca

Lisa Guderyan, Chair