



CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

Education and Student Services Committee Public Meeting

**Wednesday, February 16, 2022, 6:00 pm
Via Zoom**

Board of Education: Trustee W. Broughton, Chair
Trustee N. Bowman, Committee Member
Trustee A. Geistlinger, Committee Member
Trustee M. Baxter
Trustee C. Desrosiers

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

Partner Groups: Lori Dawson Bedard, COTA 1st Vice-President
Meran Couzens, CUPE Executive Member
Derek Lea, COPVPA Executive Member
Nicola Baker, COPAC Vice-President
Danielle Nelson, District Student Council, Grade 12 at GESS

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

AGENDA

February 16, 2022 Committee Agenda - approved as presented.

REPORTS/MATTERS ARISING

Education and Student Services Committee Report – January 5, 2022

*Correction: Add Trustee C. Desrosiers to the January 5, 2022 Education and Student Services
Committee Meeting attendee list.*

January 5, 2022 Committee Report - received as amended.

RECOGNITION/PRESENTATION/DELEGATIONS

Sustainability Education

Jordan Kleckner, Acting Director of Instruction – Learning and Innovation, Tobias Blaskovits, District STEM Learning Consultant, and Dayna Margetts, Environmental Science Teacher at École Kelowna Secondary School, provided a presentation on Sustainability Education in Central Okanagan Public Schools. The vision of sustainability in the District is rooted in the teachings that we only take from this land what we need, we use as much as we can from what we have taken, and that we reciprocate and give back to the land. Indigenous knowledge and perspectives, which are foundational to sustainability education, and Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies (ADST) are interwoven throughout the entire K-12 curriculum.

Sustainability begins with an appreciation for the world in which we live, and students learn this through classroom inquiry, nature-based learning opportunities, outdoor classrooms, and school community gardens. Students in Central Okanagan Public Schools are keen to use design thinking to explore the UN Sustainable Development Goals, develop solutions, and embed the goals within their school projects. Opportunities where students can learn more about sustainability and showcase their learning include TedX Youth, The Expo of Awesome, IGen Challenge, the Sustainable Development Challenge, and Design Thinking Networks. Sustainability Education in the District is the work of a collaborative systems-wide leadership approach involving a community of educators supported by District staff, consultants, and teams. The Education for Sustainability Learning Network was recently launched to support educators interested in exploring their teaching practice through the lens of sustainability and provides connection, collaboration, ideas, resources, and inspiration.

K-12 Draft Ministry Reporting Order Update/District Assessment and Reporting Engagement Process

Jordan Kleckner, Acting Director of Instruction – Learning and Innovation, provided a presentation on the K-12 Draft Ministry Reporting Order Update and the District Assessment and Reporting Engagement Process. The BC Ministry of Education has delayed releasing the new K-12 Student Reporting Order until Spring 2022. This delay has enabled the District to schedule and engage in numerous empathy conversations during January and February with educators and all school communities regarding the District Assessment and Reporting process. Working groups are being established to support the development of an aligned K-9 District report card, the adoption of the BC K-9 Proficiency Scale, and a K-12 District Assessment and Reporting website. The information developed through the working groups will be tested during a district-wide draft implementation process during the 2022-2023 school year with full implementation of common, aligned student reporting in 2023-2024.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

Tracey Davis: Ms. Davis expressed concern that not all students are receiving sustainability education steadily throughout the school year and commented that a dedicated person for sustainability education would be an asset. Ms. Davis queried how to ensure that new resources from the Okanagan Basin Water Board are distributed to teachers.

Trustee Baxter stated that all requests to distribute resource materials to schools are referred for approval to the Superintendent of Schools as per Board Policy 740R – Distribution of Information From Outside Sources (Regulations).

Gavin Deming: Mr. Deming, a Grade 12 student in the District, stated that the only education he has received regarding climate change and sustainability education, since he started elementary school, has been during his Grade 12 school year. He believes that sustainability education should be taught within the curriculum, from an Indigenous perspective, to help everyone get back on the right track and learn how to give back to the planet.

Trustee Baxter stated that unless sustainability education is part of the curriculum, teachers have autonomy over choosing to teach it; however, there are many people, including students and teachers, who feel strongly about sustainability, are finding ways to get involved, and are becoming more informed.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS QUERIES/COMMENTS

Danielle Nelson commented that many students have anxiety around climate change and that teachers who talk about this topic in their classes should also discuss the good things that are happening, not gloss over the truth, and ensure that the students are not too anxious.

Trustee Geistlinger queried how the Parent Advisory Council at H.S. Grenda Middle School could start a composting program or a green initiative.

Trustee Bowman commented that the goal of sustainability is to slow down climate change and that Central Okanagan Public Schools is known for operationally reducing its climate footprint. Trustee Bowman also voiced concern that sustainability education in the District is connected to other programs and does not have dedicated funding.

The Deputy Superintendent of Schools commented that Harold Schock, District Energy and Sustainability Manager, works with groups of students on sustainable projects.

Trustee Desrosiers commented that Harold Schock, Energy and Sustainability Manager, annually provides an update on sustainability initiatives at the June Public Planning and Facilities Committee Meeting.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

Cultural Performances Program (Level 2 Review) - Update

Raquel Steen, Assistant Superintendent, shared that there have been few cultural performances since the beginning of the pandemic and many students, parents, teachers, and staff have not participated in a cultural performance assembly for the past two years. As a result, the Level 2 Program Review of the Cultural Performances Program, scheduled for review in 2021-2022, has been delayed to the 2022-2023 school year.

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

Golf Academy at Okanagan Mission Secondary School

Derek Lea, Principal – Okanagan Mission Secondary School (OKM), shared that the Golf Academy Program at OKM has been suspended for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years. Due to the pandemic, the golf club is not able to provide golf course access to students since tee times are fully booked by golf club members. OKM is hoping to reinstate the Golf Academy as a course offering in the future.

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

There were no recommendations/referrals to the Board/Coordinating Committee/other committees.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

April 20, 2022

- Proposals for Board/Authority Authorized Courses
- Proposals for Substantive Change
- Health Promoting Schools (Level 1 Review)
Assistant Superintendent (A. Lalonde)

May 18, 2022

- Draft Program Review Cycle & Meeting Schedule 2022-2023

June 15, 2022

- Enhancing Student Learning Framework Report
Superintendent of Schools/CEO (K. Kaardal)
- Equity in Action Agreement Year Two Progress Report
District Principal of Indigenous Education

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

April 20, 2022, May 18, 2022, June 15, 2022

MEDIA QUESTIONS

There were no questions from the media.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Questions - Please Contact:

Trustee Wayne Broughton, Chair at Wayne.Broughton@sd23.bc.ca

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

Wayne Broughton, Chair