

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 – BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Education and Student Services DATE: October 3, 2012
CHAIRPERSON: Trustee Julia Fraser STAFF CONTACT: Terry-Lee Beaudry, Assistant Superintendent

Board Attendees:

Trustee J. Fraser – Chairperson
Trustee D. Butler - Committee Member
Trustee J. Brinkerhoff – Committee Member (Absent)
Trustee M. Baxter – Acting Committee Member

Staff:

H. Gloster, Superintendent of Schools
T. Beaudry, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
N. Bradley, Director of Instruction (K-12)
C. Sulz, Director of Instruction (K-12)
B. Browns, Executive Assistant (*recorder*)

Partner Group Representation:

COPVA Kevin Auclair, Members' Liaison - Middle/Secondary
COTA Alice Rees, President
COPAC Shaun Bos, President

Absent: CUPE and District Student Council Representation

Agenda - Additions/Amendments/Deletions

Add: New Action Item 6.3 "Community Literacy Plan"
Add: New Information Item 7.1 "Social Media Sub-Committee"

REPORTS/MATTERS ARISING

June 6, 2012 Committee Report – Received

ACTION ITEMS

1. 2012 Early Learning Initiatives Report

Clara Sulz, Director of Instruction K-12, provided a brief background on the development of the 2012 Early Learning Initiatives Report. The successes of the Early Learning Initiatives within the Central Okanagan School District are outlined in the document "An Early Learning (birth to age 8) Program Review - Vulnerable Children Becoming Thriving Primary Readers". This document was written by Dr. Janet Mort after six months of researching the Early Learning Initiatives in the Central Okanagan, reviewing the District data, and meeting with members of the District's Early Learning Team. This report will be used as the District's Early Learning Initiative Report for 2012. A PowerPoint presentation provided information on the Early Learning Initiatives of the Early Language and Literacy Partnership Team (1999-2012), Literacy Year at a Glance (2011/2012), and the District Early Learning Profile Data. The Four Year Trend including 2011/2012 data indicates that the vulnerability rate is lower than in previous years for grade 3 students. Following the trend, the Kindergarten cohort of 2008/2009 at 22% was reduced to 11% exiting Grade 3 in 2011/2012 (an 11% decline in vulnerability). It is anticipated that the Kindergarten cohort of 2011/2012 (at 17% vulnerability) may be reduced to 6% when exiting grade 3 in 2015, which equals a 94% success rate of students meeting expectations.

The Committee members discussed the information provided. The Committee Chairperson commended the Early Learning Team for their multi-year commitment to reducing vulnerability in the District's early learners. The Chairperson read the following quote from Dr. Janet Mort's report: "*It has been an honour to spend six months working with such a determined, passionate, and proactive group of educators. As a researcher, I have been enriched by the time I have spent working with them.*"

Outcome

The Committee recommended that the 2012 Early Learning Initiatives Report be sent to the Board of Education for placement as an Information Item on a future Public Board Meeting Agenda.

2. 2011/2012 Family Life Program Annual Report

Norm Bradley, Director of Instruction K - 12, provided a brief background on the Family Life Program and the Family Life Team. In September 2012, a 0.5 FTE position was added to the Family Life Team, which will allow the teachers more instructional time with students.

Leanne Shephard and Jenny Rabinovitch, Family Life Team teachers, provided a ten point overview of the program goals. These goals included providing students in grades 4 - 10 with the opportunity to receive accurate, relevant and updated information on puberty, adolescent sexuality, decision-making, and life-affecting issues common to young people. A comfortable, safe and respectful co-educational classroom climate is created for students. Feedback received from students, staff and parents is used to make lessons as meaningful as possible. The elementary, middle, and secondary school schedule, elementary lesson follow-up sheets, grades 4 – 10 learning outcomes, and resources are located on the Family Life website.

The COPVPA representative commented that students seemed to develop a connection with the Family Life Team teachers over a short period of time.

The Committee discussed amendments to the opt out letter and the information provided on the Family Life Program website.

Outcome

Director Norm Bradley will follow-up with the amendment to the opt out letter and changes to the website.

The Education and Student Services Committee will review the program review cycle with regard to the Family Life Program reporting out procedure.

The Committee recommended that the 2011/2012 Family Life Program Annual Report be sent to the Board of Education for placement as an Information Item on a future Public Board Meeting Agenda.

3. Community Literacy Plan

The Ministry of Education has been contacted regarding the Community Literacy Plan and the Board of Education's responsibility to either receive the Community Literacy Plan as information only, or approve it. The Manager of Library and Literacy with the Ministry of Education indicated that the Board is required to approve the District Literacy Plan. As the Community Literacy Plan differs from the District Literacy Plan, a recommendation was made that the Board of Education write a letter to the Library and Literacy Department to seek clarification.

Outcome

The Committee recommended that the Board of Education write a letter seeking clarity regarding approval of the Community Literacy Plan.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Social Media Sub-Committee

The Social Media sub-committee's role ended once Policy 386 "Employee Use of Electronic and Social Media Communication" and Policy 486 "Student Use of Electronic and Social Media Communication" were developed. A new sub-committee has been established by the Director of Instruction (K-12), Jon Rever, to review and revise the Code of Conduct, update Network Agreements, and develop curriculum.

FUTURE EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

November 7, 2012

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

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

Future Public Board Meeting Information Items:

2012 Early Learning Initiatives Report

2011/2012 Family Life Program Annual Report

Future Coordinating Committee Meeting Information Item:

Community Literacy Plan

Questions – Please Contact:

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