



CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

Education and Student Services Committee Public Meeting

**Wednesday, January 15, 2025, 6:00 pm
School Board Office
1040 Hollywood Road S.
Kelowna, BC**

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

Staff: Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO
Jon Rever, Acting Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Yvonne Hildebrandt, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Partner Groups: Lori Dawson Bedard, COTA 1st Vice-President
Jeannette Watson, COPAC Vice-President
Jared Birkeland, COPVPA Vice-President
Jessica Teasdale, CUPE Executive Member
Julian Cucinschi, District Student Council Member

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

AGENDA

January 15, 2025 Committee Agenda – approved as presented.

REPORTS/MATTERS ARISING

Education and Student Services Committee Report – November 6, 2024

November 6, 2024 Committee Report – received as distributed.

RECOGNITION/PRESENTATION/DELEGATIONS

Authentic Parent Engagement to Enhance Student Learning

Jon Rever, Acting Deputy Superintendent of Schools, and Sue Steveson, Principal – North Glenmore Elementary School, presented the topic, Authentic Parent Engagement to Enhance Student Learning, which is connected to one of the four strategic directions within the District's Strategic Plan – Family and Community Engagement. The District Strategic Plan's four priorities and directions that guide the learning in Central Okanagan Public Schools are Equity and Excellence in Learning, System Wellbeing, Transformative Leadership, and Family and Community Engagement. The strategic direction, Family and Community Engagement, focuses on student learning and school improvement through relational trust, engaging families more often as partners in supporting their child's education, and providing families with opportunities for mutual input.

The District was invited to participate in a Brookings Institute research study about 'Collaborating to Transform and Improve Education Systems' in 2021. The research brought forward that schools with family engagement are ten times more likely to improve student learning outcomes, deep dialogue with families and schools is needed to unlock systemwide transformational processes, and communicating with families can be one of the most highly cost-effective approaches. During the last two years, North Glenmore Elementary School (NGE) has worked towards forming an effective family-school partnership with NGE parents and families around the numeracy learning of students in kindergarten to grade six. A sampling of NGE students from all classrooms were queried to hear student voice about numeracy learning, staff came together to dive deeper into numeracy resources and participate in a ThoughtExchange, families were engaged in a whole-school math challenge and a parent feedback ThoughtExchange to improve numeracy at NGE, and Numeracy learning priorities were developed for the 2024-2025 school year. The family-school engagement strategy at NGE has been effective and the school continues to work towards transforming numeracy learning for students at North Glenmore Elementary School.

6:50 pm – Trustee Broughton left the meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

None.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS QUERIES/COMMENTS

None.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Constable Neil Bruce Middle School – Outdoor Education Academy Fee Increase

Brad Kuhn, Principal – Constable Neil Bruce Middle School, and Mike Burdeniuk, Teacher – Constable Neil Bruce Middle School, presented the proposed fee increase for the Outdoor Education Academy at Constable Neil Bruce Middle School (CNB). The Outdoor Education Program was established at CNB in 2008 with approximately 60 students enrolled in the academy. The popularity of this program has increased since 2008 and there are approximately 152 students enrolled in the Outdoor Education Academy each year. The expenses for the program have also increased greatly since 2008 due to rising inflationary costs, the upkeep and increased costs of equipment, as well as increased expenditures for Teachers Teaching on Call and transportation. The proposed fee increase will ensure the Outdoor Education Academy at CNB is financially sustainable moving forward.

Outcome:

The Committee recommended that the Board of Education approve the proposed fee increase of \$100 (from \$125 to \$225/student) for the Outdoor Education Academy (Constable Neil Bruce Middle School), as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the January 15, 2025 Education and Student Services Committee Meeting.

Central Okanagan Public Schools Hockey Skills Academy Fee Increase (Canyon Falls Middle School, École KLO Middle School, Mount Boucherie Secondary School, École OKM Secondary School, Rutland Senior Secondary School)

Graham Johnson, Vice-Principal at École Okanagan Mission Secondary School, and Blain Wright, Teacher Coordinator of the Hockey Skills Academy, presented the proposed fee increase for the Central Okanagan Public Schools Hockey Skills Academy at Canyon Falls Middle School, École KLO Middle School, Mount Boucherie Secondary School, École OKM Secondary School, and Rutland Senior Secondary School. The academy fee increases will compensate for the increase in expenses due to the rising cost of ice rental, bus transportation, and instructor wages, as well as growing inflationary costs for many aspects of the program. The proposed fee increases will make the programs financially sustainable moving forward.

Outcome:

The Committee recommended that the Board of Education approve the proposed fee increase of \$100 (from \$1300 to \$1400/student) for the Central Okanagan Public Schools Hockey Skills Academy (Canyon Falls Middle School, École KLO Middle School, and École OKM Secondary School), as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the January 15, 2025 Education and Student Services Committee Meeting.

The Committee recommended that the Board of Education approve the proposed fee increase of \$75 (from \$1170 to \$1245/student) for the Central Okanagan Public Schools Hockey Skills Academy (Rutland Senior Secondary School), as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the January 15, 2025 Education and Student Services Committee Meeting.

The Committee recommended that the Board of Education approve the proposed fee increase of \$35 (from \$965 to \$1000/student) for the Central Okanagan Public Schools Hockey Skills Academy (Mount Boucherie Secondary School), as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the January 15, 2025 Education and Student Services Committee Meeting.

The Committee requested that the information regarding Parent Advisory Council Consultation be updated in the Hockey Skills Academy Fee Increase Action Memo prior to the recommendation coming forward to the Board of Education.

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

1. Family Literacy Week in Central Okanagan Public Schools is January 20-24, 2025.

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

Public Board Meeting Action Items

- *Constable Neil Bruce Middle School – Outdoor Education Academy Fee Increase*
- *Central Okanagan Public Schools Hockey Skills Academy Fee Increase (Canyon Falls Middle School, École KLO Middle School, Mount Boucherie Secondary School, École OKM Secondary School, Rutland Senior Secondary School)*

ITEMS FOR FUTURE EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

February 12, 2025 – rescheduled to February 26, 2025

- Presentation: Equity and Excellence in Learning – How Are We Doing? Literacy and Numeracy
Assistant Superintendent (J. Robinson)

April 9, 2025

- Proposals for Board/Authority Authorized Courses
- Presentation: Artificial Intelligence to Enhance Student Learning
District Principal – Learning Technology Services (T. White)

May 7, 2025

- Draft Program Review Cycle & Draft Meeting Schedule 2025-2026
- Refreshed Equity in Action Agreement 2025-2030
Director of Instruction - Indigenous Education and Equity (J. Bruce)
- Feeding Futures Program Report
Director of Instruction - Feeding Futures (R. Ovelson)

June 4, 2025

- Presentation: School Community Learning Plans

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

February 26, 2025 at 4:00 pm.

All remaining meetings start at 6:00 pm: April 9, 2025; May 7, 2025; and June 4, 2025.

MEDIA QUESTIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Questions - Please Contact:

Trustee Amy Geistlinger, Chair at Amy.Geistlinger@sd23.bc.ca

Jon Rever, Acting Deputy Superintendent of Schools at 250-470-3225 or Jon.Rever@sd23.bc.ca

Amy Geistlinger, Chair