



Minutes

Wednesday, May 13, 2020

Hollywood Road Education Services

9:00 am – 10:00 am

9:00 am Zoom Video Conference Meeting
Welcome/Introductions
Confirmation of Agenda

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

BrainTrust Canada	Carly Suddard
Board of Education	Lee-Ann Tiede (Vice-Chairperson/School Trustee Representative)
City of Kelowna	Ryan Donn (Councillor)
City of West Kelowna	Mark Koch (City of West Kelowna Councillor)
COTA	Lori Dawson Bedard (COTA, 1st Vice-President)
COPAC	Cherylee Morrison (COPAC)
CrimeStoppers	Gerry Guilteneane (Coordinator Crimestoppers)
District Administration	Al Lalonde, Chair, Assistant Superintendent Dave Cavezza (District Health & Safety Manager) Kevin Kaardal (Superintendent of Schools/CEO) Peter Molloy (Director of Student Support Services) Wendalena Langevin (Health & Safety Clerk)
RCMP	Fred Arnold (RCMP School Liaison Officer)
School Resource Officers	Dave Johnson (Vice-Principal, Mar Jok Elementary)

REGRETS:

Board of Education	Moyra Baxter (Board Chairperson/School Trustee) Rolli Cacchioni (School Trustee)
CUPE	David Tether (CUPE President)
District of Lake Country	Penny Gambell (District of Lake Country Council)
Interior Health	Cheryl Sidenberg (Interior Health) Silvina Mema (Medical Health Officer Interior Health)
Kelowna Fire Department	Rick Euper (Fire & Life Safety Educator Kelowna Fire Dept)
Traffic Safety	Dan Glassock (Traffic Safety)

WELCOME

Al Lalonde welcomed everyone to the Central Okanagan Committee for Safe Schools and everyone introduced themselves.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

Discussion Around District Plans During Current COVID-19 Situation

Alan Lalonde (Assistant Superintendent)

Ministry of Education Priorities Updates

Al provided an update on the Ministry's four priorities; safe environment, services to support children of essential services, supporting vulnerable students and educational opportunities for all students. Discussed information relating to the five stages for students attending school with distancing and hygiene protocols.

Kevin Kaardal – (Superintendent of Schools/CEO)

Ministry of Education BC's Restart Plan

Kevin discussed rationale for the Ministry of Education's May 11th in camera draft presentation on BC's Restart Plan, K-12 Education Sector.

- Key points for rationale include:
 - K-12 partial return this school year looks like June 1st then full restart at Phase 1 in September.
 - Why restart schools now? Because it is safe to do so and our most vulnerable students are impacted and need that contact both socially and emotionally.
 - Guiding principles remain the same; healthy safe environment, support for essential services workers, support students who need special assistance and provide continuity of educational opportunities for all students.
 - Five stages for K-12 education are based on research of school age children and adults, informed by practices in other jurisdictions, in alignment with government pandemic management measures/orders, can be applied provincially, regionally and/or by community and allow parents the option to keep students at home.
 - Prevention framework includes public health, environmental, administrative, personal and PPE with control measures such as: restricting mass gatherings or socializing, access to testing, effective contact tracing, using outdoor spaces, visual cues, erecting physical barriers, parents not allowed into schools without invitation, health and wellness policies, personal hygiene measures like washing your hand frequently, stay at home if sick, PPE is not required in our sector (staff can wear mask to work) and we are doing effective cleaning in our environment (staff can bring their own product to work).
 - Collaboration moving forward by working with Ministry of Education, School Districts, Public Health and WorkSafe BC in which we review our safety plans.
 - Next steps for five stages of Integrated Planning Framework are still in planning stage, minimum of Stage 3 required by June 1st and return to in-class instruction plan will be submitted to government this month.
 - Calendar reflecting key dates with some wrapping up by June 25th the end of school.
 - We need to be calm, confident, plan, collaborate, communicate, pace ourselves and considerate of people's personal circumstances and flexible in our delivery.

Opened the presentation for questions from the group.

Ryan Donn

- Has received a few questions from parents regarding students will be returning back to school with quite a different experience so any thoughts on how we will help kids for all the changes and different school environment?

Kevin

- Recess will be encouraged, and games with less contact. First few days will be for setting routines in place without increasing stress for elementary or secondary students. We will be recommending a gentle approach verses a restrictive approach, and return will also be the parent's choice.

Al

- We are brainstorming around recess and lunch to stagger times for less kids being out on field at the same time.

Kevin

- We are also looking at a shorter school day which is still in the learning stage of planning, and communication will come well in advance of our start up to make sure parents are informed what we are doing.
- Looking forward to working with all of you and feel free to reach out to Al or myself. If you have any worries or concerns call the trustee and we will try to alleviate them. This is just short term and looks like about four weeks right now unless we receive changes from government.
- Our safety committee continues to look at safety plan with Dave doing a tremendous job on our safety plan. Commended everyone involved for their hard work during COVID-19.

Kevin departed meeting at 9:30.

Partner Group Updates:

Alan Lalonde

- District transportation is complex and at this time we are not sure if busses will be available.
- Ministry plan middle-secondary will be one day per week will be optional and elementary will be two days per week. Minor rule around student 12 years old can be home while parents go to work and Grade 5 and under is below that is a factor for Ministry to determine risk and a complex answer. Our direction is from Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health.

Lee-Ann Tiede (Central Okanagan Public Schools, Board of Education Trustee)

- Attend Board meetings twice a week with Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer to be kept informed and for expediting of business.
- Advised bus drivers have been re-purposed to assist with the cleaning of schools set out in the district safety plan.

Cherylee Morrison-Leonard (COPAC, Co-President)

- Advised questions being raised about transportation and what will that look like for students that need it and/or will we provide student bus tickets.
- Advised graduation is a hot topic on what it will look like in planning a virtual ceremony and will parents be invited.
- Appreciates all the information and updates provided by the district to share with families.

Ryan Donn (City of Kelowna, Councillor)

- Council is focused on reducing the budget due to the significant impact which meant losing some RCMP resources.
- Received questions on difference in high school students versus elementary students going back to school, and how students from all grades will return to classrooms.

Mark Koch (City of West Kelowna)

- Advised the City's perspective and efforts are for re-opening to continue providing services to the community.
- Advised City is working on support for a number of projects by working with all partner organizations, and continuing support for the vulnerable population by connecting with BC housing for hotel accommodations.

Fred Arnold (School Resource Officer)

- Provided information that there are two sides for RCMP one in West Kelowna, and the other in Kelowna in which all three RCMP officers have been assigned to on road general duties so no school resource officers while closures remain in place.
- Constable Lund in West Kelowna has a different mandate and can provide some school duties.
- Kelowna RCMP officers still have access to work cell phones and assist on some level, but remind Principals, Vice-principals and other partners if they require police presence to call 911 or emergency.
- Congratulated SD23 for adapting and overcoming many challenges with a reminder to keep checking on students for social and emotional risk while at home.

Gerry Guilteneane (Crime Stoppers, Coordinator)

- Advised receiving tips from the public and more graffiti in communities, but no vandalism on school properties.
- Advised receiving a lot of complaints for bush parties and COVID-19 related complaints so basically business as usual.

Lori Dawson Bedard (COTA, 1st Vice-President)

- Since return to in class instruction announcement the phone lines and e-mails have absolutely erupted with questions and concerns from teachers.
- Teachers are certainly impacted in many ways by this whole experience and we are starting to see an uptake in the psychosocial impact for teachers who have gone to a challenging remote learning system, and now having to contemplate going back into schools.
- Receiving lots of questions right now about safety plans and look forward to receiving provincial documents and meeting with Health and Safety team to provide information which will alleviate a lot of concerns.
- Receiving a lot of concerns from teachers with a compromised immune system and how this is going to have an impact on them.

Dave Cavezza (District Health & Safety Manager)

Safety Plan

Dave provided a brief overview of what has been done from the safety aspect on the five stage presentation slide.

- We are at Stage 4 since March break, and moving in a direction from Stage 5 to Stage 1 which is opposite language from province and can be confusing.

- Stage 4 has several levels and we built our safety plan for the school district over March break, returned with that plan after March break then week of April 6 started our essential workers students to test our safety plan.
- We brought in our vulnerable kids and essential services workers with students into the building then last week we brought in a quarter of our workers for testing our plan and we are in a good position from the safety perspective going into Stage 3.
- We are waiting for specific information from the Ministry of Education and the BC Centre for Disease Control by the end of this week and will pull our team together at the end of this week to have a look at updating the safety plan in anticipation of the Stage 3 startup.
- Provided update on Traffic Safety Officer position being filled with internal staff member Dan Glassock who will attend next meeting. Direct all traffic safety issues to Dave by phone or e-mail, or to Al who can connect with Dave or Dan.

David Johnson (School Trustee and Board Vice-Chair)

- Our role has been supporting the transition to remote learning and supporting the ESW students who have been coming into the building.
- We are starting to support the transition back to in class learning and any time there is an announcement or article in the media we field a lot of calls from parents.
- We are just doing a lot of supporting of our staff, our parents, our students through the remote learning. Teaching staff and our CEA support staff have done a phenomenal job of supporting the learning of our students at home.

Peter Molloy (Director of Instruction, Student Support Services)

- Congratulated Fred on the move to Ottawa and thanked him for all his work on behalf of the district and always being there to provide assistance even when it was outside the schools assigned to.

Carley Suddard (BrainTrust Canada)

- We are working on serving clients especially the vulnerable elders, immune compromised or homeless individuals.
- Ensuring that services are being provided keeping the safety of our staff and clients in mind.

Meeting adjourned: 9:50 a.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 7, 2020 @ HRES

An integrated team of professionals, parents and community members who maintain a high community profile by providing strong leadership in the area of school and community safety.

Our Mission is to positively impact school and community safety within School District No. 23 by:

1. providing an effective venue through which safety concerns of parents, students, staff and community members can be voiced,
2. increasing public awareness of safety related issues, initiatives and resources,
3. formulating safety related recommendations for school and community members, and
4. reviewing models and research data related to school and community safety.