

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

Education and Student Services Committee Public Meeting

Wednesday, October 19, 2022, 6:00 pm

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

Board of Education: Trustee W. Broughton, Chair
Trustee N. Bowman, Committee Member
Trustee A. Geistlinger, Committee Member (*absent*)
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
Nicola Baker, COPAC Vice-President
Derek Lea, COPVPA Executive Member
Meran Couzens, CUPE Executive Member
Mehak Parihar, District Student Council, Grade 12 at RSS
Chloe Leyao, District Student Council, Grade 12 at RSS

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

AGENDA

Trustee Desrosiers was appointed Acting Voting Committee Member for the October 19, 2022 Education and Student Services Committee meeting in the absence of Trustee Geistlinger.

October 19, 2022 Committee Agenda - approved as presented.

REPORTS/MATTERS ARISING

Education and Student Services Committee Report – June 15, 2022

June 15, 2022 Committee Report - received as distributed.

RECOGNITION/PRESENTATION/DELEGATIONS

2022 Literacy Summer Camps (Grades 1-5)

Jamie Robinson, Assistant Superintendent; Brenda Kirsch, Acting District Principal of Early Learning and Child Care; and, Lisa Wilson, Vice-Principal at Mar Jok Elementary School, reported on the 2022 Literacy Summer Camps for Grades 1 to 5 students. Summer can be a challenging time for some early learners due to months away from school and missing out on frequent social interactions, the important sense of belonging that they feel at school, food security, and the dedicated time to read, write, and work with numbers each day. This summer, Central Okanagan Public Schools built on the success of last year's literacy-based summer camps and again offered Literacy Summer Camps from July 4 to 15, Monday to Friday, at four regional hubs serving neighbouring schools with two to three classes per site. Over 170 children in grades 1 to 5, from 16 elementary schools, participated in the program during July. At the end of the Literacy Summer Camp, each child received a take-home package including library books and books to keep, and, in addition, teachers checked in twice with each child during the remainder of the summer to ensure continuity and coherence in the learning.

The Literacy Summer Camp was intentionally designed to meet the diverse needs of the children who attended, providing an environment rich with opportunities to practice reading and writing. Multi-age and cross-school classes encouraged strong communities and friendships. Joyful play-based learning experiences were the focus and each learning space was supported by several caring adults to nurture the educational and social-emotional well-being of each child. Feedback regarding the Literacy Summer Camp provided by staff and parents will be examined and will inform future District summer literacy programs. Staff recommendations for Literacy Summer Camps 2023 will be brought forward to a committee meeting in early spring.

Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirement - Update

Jasmine Lemon, Acting District Vice-Principal of Indigenous Education, shared that Central Okanagan Public Schools is preparing for the implementation of the Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirement during the 2022/2023 school year. On October 19, 2022, District educators met together for an in-person learning session, facilitated by the Instructional Leadership Team and the Indigenous Education Department, to continue networking, learning, and preparing to teach Indigenous-focused course offerings. The District will host a Regional Workshop, facilitated by the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC), to support educators who are teaching English First Peoples courses for Grades 10-12, which is one of the eligible options for students to earn credits toward the new Indigenous-focused graduation requirement.

The Ministry of Education and Child Care's guidebook regarding the Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirement provides the requirements to have Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses eligible for Indigenous-focused course credits. Central Okanagan Public Schools is preparing to submit the District's Indigenous-focused BAA courses to the Ministry for approval to satisfy the new graduation requirement.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) Course – Parks and Recreation 12 – Update; Proposal for Substantive Change – Academy for Parks and Recreation (Okanagan Mission Secondary School) - Update

Derek Lea, Principal – École Okanagan Mission Secondary, provided an update on the Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) Parks and Recreation 12 Course and the Academy for Parks and Recreation at Okanagan Mission Secondary School. Reference to students spending time in summer continuing with practice hikes to prepare for the fall week-long back-country experience has been removed from the BAA and the Academy. The practice hikes remain optional and are not an expectation during summer.

Expansion of the External Credentials Program

Terry-Lee Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, and Jasmine Lemon, Acting District Vice-Principal of Indigenous Education, spoke of the expansion of the External Credentials Program. The Ministry of Education and Child Care issues the guidelines and standards for external credits and has expanded the External Credentials Program (ECP) as of July 1, 2022. Indigenous communities can now identify the teaching of language and cultural skills that takes place outside of the regular school program and can be used for external credits towards graduation. Indigenous communities will also oversee the delivery of these external learning opportunities and ensure students attain appropriate performance level and proficiency to earn the credits. The expanded External Credentials Program recognizes the valuable learning opportunities provided by First Nations to youth in Indigenous communities.

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

Terry-Lee Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, spoke of a meeting between students from Mount Boucherie Secondary School and the Honourable Justice Murray Sinclair. Early on in the school year, the entire MBSS student body nominated Justice Sinclair for the school's Wall of Heroes. Justice Sinclair accepted the request for his photo to be added to the Wall of Heroes and granted the opportunity for MBSS students to discuss some very difficult questions with him via Zoom on Wednesday, October 19th. Witnessing the Zoom interaction between students and Justice Sinclair were MBSS Principal Scott Sieben, the Superintendent of Schools/CEO, and the Deputy Superintendent of Schools.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

November 16, 2022

- Proposals for Board/Authority Authorized Courses
- Central Okanagan Public Schools Reporting Pilot
Director of Instruction – Learning and Innovation (J. Kleckner)
- Evidence of Learning Continuum (K-12)
Director of Instruction – Learning and Innovation (J. Kleckner)

January 18, 2023 (*tbc*)

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

February 15, 2023 *(tbc)*

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

April 19, 2023 *(tbc)*

- Proposals for Board/Authority Authorized Courses
- Sexual Health Education (Level 1 Review)
Assistant Superintendent (A. Lalonde)

May 17, 2023 *(tbc)*

- Draft Program Review Cycle & Meeting Schedule 2023-2024
- Cultural Performances Program (Level 2 Review)
Assistant Superintendent (R. Steen)

June 21, 2023 *(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.

November 16, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 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