

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Reporting to Public Session, Tuesday, November 12, 2013

The Education Committee met on Monday, November, 4th at 4:55 pm. In attendance were Trustees Ron Burton (Chair) and Harman Pandher, Assistant Superintendents Heather Hart and Roberto Bombelli, BTA representative Patrick Parkes and DPAC representative Jennifer Mezei (for item 1 and 2 only)

1. Digital Literacy and Citizenship

Program Consultant, Learning Technologies, Lucky Saini, and Vice-Principal John Tyler, Cariboo Hill Secondary and Burnaby Online, outlined the committee work in developing implementation plans to build Digital Literacy among students, staff and parents in the Burnaby School District. This plan is to follow the adoption of the upcoming Network Acceptable Use Policy that will outline responsibilities of all users on the Burnaby School District network. Additionally, a common Digital Citizenship curriculum framework K-12 will be introduced, addressing topics such as Internet Safety and Cyber bullying. The goals of these initiatives include engaging students and parents in understanding Digital Literacy and Citizenship through meaningful activities at home and at school.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. Humanities Project

District Principal, Careers Programs, Donna Scott, Brentwood Park School teacher-librarian, Jennifer Delvecchio and Byrne Creek Social Studies and English teacher, Lisa Moxon presented a Humanities Project as a means to providing a more effective way of engaging struggling learners in the learning process. This project began four years ago with the initial year of the Transition to Trades Program. This model uses a unique structure to deliver the coursework in English and Social Studies 10. The Humanities course was designed to cover both curricula using a thematic approach by focussing on Social Studies content and incorporating English learning outcomes, skill development and exam preparation. In this curriculum framework teachers maintain the integrity of the curriculum while personalizing the program for individual students. Students develop individual learning portfolios and make choices on the assignments that will be submitted for assessment in order to demonstrate their learning.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3. Mesa Sister City Art Exchange Update

Director of Instruction, Kevin Brandt, presented an update regarding the Mesa Sister City Art Exchange. Currently the school district has been in contact with the City of Burnaby and is awaiting more details regarding the project.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

4. Memorandum of Understanding between SFU and SD 41

Director of Instruction, Kevin Brandt, presented a draft of a Memorandum of Understanding between Simon Fraser University and the Burnaby School District. The MOU will provide a framework under which our many joint programs can reside through various Letters of Agreement. This MOU will allow Letters of Agreement to be enacted without going through the (SFU) senate approval process for each program.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

5. Next Meeting

The next committee meeting will take place on Monday, December 2, 2013 at 4:15 pm.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Reporting to Public Session November 12, 2013

The Youth and Community Services Committee (YCSC) met on Tuesday, November 5, 2013 at 5:09 p.m. In attendance were Trustee committee members Larry Hayes (chair), Meiling Chia, Harman Pandher, Gina Niccoli-Moen, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, Jocelyn Schonekess, DPAC, Manager Youth Services, Sue Dorey for items 2 and 3, and Coordinator of Community Services, Doreen George for item 4.

1.0 Reports from Community Committees

Trustees who represent the Board on community committees updated the YCSC on items that would be of interest to the Board.

1.1 District Community Schools

The committee received an update from the District Community School Advisory and Coordinating Committee. Trustee Narang reported that the proposed community schools review and establishment of a steering committee to oversee the process was well received. Designation of community school status, allocation of resources, and the gathering of comprehensive data regarding the successes of community schools would all be considered in the review.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

1.2 Parks and Recreation

Trustee Pandher reported that at the City of Burnaby Parks and Recreation Committee meeting of October 16, the City of Burnaby recognized the volunteer work of Burnaby students over the summer months and thanked them for their efforts.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2.0 Burnaby Youth Summit

Sue Dorey, Manager of Youth Services, reported on the 3rd Annual Youth Summit hosted by the Burnaby School District on October 24, 2013. The conference was held at the Executive Inn and attended by over 100 students from 8 secondary schools and 3 district alternate programs. The full day conference offered students a wide array of sessions focussed on developing social emotional skills and life skills. All sessions were facilitated by teachers, district staff and Youth Service Workers. The Youth Summit was very well attended and well-received and participants have already made suggestions for topics of interest for next year's conference.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3.0 Expect Respect And a Safe Education (ERASE) Bullying Update

Sue Dorey, Manager Youth Services, provided an update on the Ministry of Education's ERASE Bullying strategy. At a provincial meeting on October 23, 2013 modifications were made to the comprehensive, multi-pronged strategy to address bullying and enhance safety protocols in districts to ensure a safe school culture and learning environment. A

new and improved online reporting tool for students to anonymously report bullying and threatening behavior was unveiled. It was developed with feedback from youth to improve accessibility and effectiveness. In addition, the need for increased mental health services in schools and communities was noted and plans for a greater coordination of supports and services are underway.

The second phase of the ERASE training sessions, *Preventing Bullying and Ensuring Safe and Caring School Communities* and *Basic Threat and Risk Assessment Training* will take place in March 2014. Burnaby is hosting the regional training which includes New Westminster School District as well as community partners including law enforcement, child and youth mental health, youth organizations and Independent schools.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

4.0 Early Learning

Doreen George, Coordinator Community Services, provided information to the committee from the Burnaby Early Childhood Development Table community presentation which took place on October 30, 2013. The focus of the day was “How Can the Research Guide Our Work with Children?” The research shared was based on the latest (2012-13) Early Development Instrument (EDI) and Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI). The EDI is a checklist that kindergarten teachers complete for each child in their class after they have known their students for several months and the MDI is a self-reporting grade 4 survey of Burnaby children conducted by the University of British Columbia’s Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP). Of note was an increase in childhood vulnerability and the prevalence of worry in children. Childhood vulnerability is a complex issue that is found across the entire socioeconomic spectrum and therefore critical that continued access to support and services is provided.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

5.0 Updates

5.1 Canada SCORES – Vancouver

The committee received an update regarding the implementation of Canada SCORES – Vancouver in Burnaby, commencing January 2014. The after school program, aimed at inspiring and engaging youth will be hosted at Taylor Park Elementary School and will include students from Edmonds and Stride Avenue Community Schools. The program, geared towards supporting vulnerable youth, has been adjusted to an inclusive model to complement Burnaby’s existing opportunities for a variety of after school student needs.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

5.2 Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver

The committee received an informative year-end report from Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver. The report highlighted the *In-School Mentoring Program*, *Teen Program* and *Game On! Program* including participating schools and

numbers of participants. The report also included survey results measuring the programs' successes and identifying any areas of improvement.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

6.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

7.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Youth and Community Services Committee is Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.