



**COMMITTEE REPORT OF THE
EDUCATION-POLICY COMMITTEE
School Board Office
February 7, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.**

Present: Cendra Beaton, Trustee (Committee Member, Acting Chair)
Russ Chipps, Trustee (Committee Member)
Trudy Spiller, Trustee
Amanda Culver, STA
Lou Leslie, CUPE 459
Georgette Walker, SPVPA
Sandra Arnold, SPEAC
Paul Block, Acting Superintendent
Monica Braniff, Associate Superintendent
Harold Cull, Secretary Treasurer

Guests: Denise Wehner, District Principal – Curriculum Transformation

Regrets: Scott Stinson, Dave Strange, Allison Watson (Committee Chair)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FIRST NATIONS TERRITORIES

We are honoured to be meeting on the traditional territories of the Coast Salish: T'Sou-ke Nation and Sc'ianew Nation and Nuu-chah-nulth: Pacheedaht Nation. We also recognize some of our schools reside on the traditional territory of the Esquimalt Nation and Songhees Nation.

2. Opening Remarks from Chair, Allison Watson

Committee Chair, Allison Watson, sent her regrets.

3. COMMITTEE REPORT of January 3, 2023 Education-Policy Committee meeting

The committee report for the January 3, 2023 Education-Policy Committee meeting was reviewed by the committee. No errors or omissions were noted.

4. BAA COURSE PROPOSALS

There are no BAA course proposals for this meeting.

5. REVIEW OF POLICIES/REGULATIONS

a. Policy Updates – Paul Block

- Policy A-110 “Board-Staff Communication”
- Regulations A-500 “Policies and Regulations”
- Policy D-200 “School-Community Relations”
- Policy and Regulations B-425 “Community Schools”

Mr. Block reviewed the pertinent changes in this month's policy updates. Updates were identified to clarify past practice and make the necessary language shifts. Appreciation was brought to the gender-neutral changes throughout the policies and regulations.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. BC K-12 Reporting Policy Presentation – Denise Wehner

Ms. Wehner, District Principal for Curriculum Transformation, presented on the new Ministry Reporting Policy. Highlights of this policy include a focus on the proficiency scale, the use of the most recent evidence of learning (rather than an averaging of marks), and the inclusivity of all students. Ms. Wehner connected the Reporting Policy to assessment practices that provide students with choice and multiple pathways. This new approach will provide parents and guardians with five learning updates in the year - 2 written, 2 informal, and 1 summary. Ms. Wehner spoke to the differences between K-9 and 10-12 formats and emphasized the focus on descriptive feedback and student self-reflection. There was a rich conversation about implementation plans for student and staff support.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education for School District 62 (Sooke) continue to support the implementation of the BC K-12 Reporting Policy for educators and support an increased awareness and understanding of these changes for families.

b. Strategic Plan Q2 Report – Paul Block

Mr. Block introduced the Strategic Plan Q2 Report, highlighting examples of the 38 projects that are either completed, underway, or at their beginning stages. Mr. Block gave details within each example to provide an overview of the steps underway at this time. In support of the Q2 Report, he shared Ministry data that focussed on Completion Rates for 2021-22. The data reflects some of the best results SD62 has had over the past 3-5 years. Mr. Block spoke to these results as being a positive reflection on the entire system. There was a robust conversation about provincial trends, students with unique needs, and student metrics. There were also questions posed regarding other areas of the Strat Plan including Attendance Support, Middle School Timetables, Cyber Security, and training for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the Quarter 2 Report as presented at the February 7, 2023 Education-Policy Committee meeting.

c. Outdoor Learning Update – Paul Block

Mr. Block spoke to the work done in relation to Outdoor Learning. The Information Note on this topic outlined the process undertaken through a lens of equity to review outdoor learning spaces in all schools.

Recommendations:

1. That the Board of Education for School District 62 (Sooke) direct staff to work with the Curriculum Transformation Department to provide enhancements to practice and pedagogy utilizing outdoor spaces for learning for grades K - 12 within the existing staffing contingent.
2. That the Board of Education for School District 62 (Sooke) direct staff to look at creating a plan to prioritize and develop outdoor play spaces at those elementary schools that do not have a natural playground zone.

- d. Student & Family Affordability Fund – Paul Block (on behalf of Dave Strange)
The focus for this update was on the established partnerships and their work in relation to the Student & Family Affordability Fund. Mr. Block drew attention to the link in the package to “Setting the Table” and the district pilot currently underway with this organization. The ongoing collaboration and connection to school gardens was emphasized as creating an opportunity for students to experience the cycle of growing food to having it at the table. In addition to this example, Mr. Block acknowledged 6 other community agencies that are partnering with Sooke School District and shared thoughts and reflections from partner groups who helped to directly support SD62 students and families. SPEAC would like to see an avenue for sharing of ideas between schools in support of students and families—this information will be shared as soon as it is gathered. Appreciation was expressed to staff for their ongoing work in this endeavor.

7. **FOR INFORMATION**

- a. Research Project Approval – Sadownik, Stephanie – “Exploring Technology-Facilitated Intervention Modalities for the Provision of Cognitive Behaviour Therapy in Canadian Schools”

8. **FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

9. **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE:** March 7, 2023
Adjourned, 7:44 pm