

**COMMITTEE REPORT OF THE
EDUCATION-POLICY COMMITTEE via MS Teams
Sept. 8, 2020 – 6:00 p.m. via MS Teams**

Present: Bob Phillips, Trustee (Committee Chair)
Dianna Seaton, Trustee (Committee Member)
Margot Swinburnson, Trustee (Committee Member)
Ravi Parmar, Trustee
Allison Watson, Trustee
Missy Haynes, STA
Lisa Haug, CUPE
Cendra Beaton, SPEAC
Georgette Walker, SPVPA
Scott Stinson, Superintendent/CEO
Stephanie Hedley-Smith, Associate Superintendent
Paul Block, Associate Superintendent
Dave Strange, Associate Superintendent
Farzaan Nusserwanji, Exec. Director of IT

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 Scia'new 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, Bob Phillips

3. COMMITTEE REPORT of August 25, 2020 Education Standing Committee meeting

The committee report for the August 25, 2020 Education Standing Committee meeting was reviewed by the committee members.

4. BAA COURSE PROPOSALS

No courses were brought forward for consideration at this meeting.

5. REVIEW OF POLICIES/REGULATIONS

a. Policy Work Plan – Scott Stinson

Superintendent Stinson gave an update on work done this past year to review current policies and develop a plan for reviewing, updating and/or developing new policies as required. A policy work plan including timelines has been developed with a timeline for presentation to the committee of updated policies and/or new policies. Discussion and questions followed.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Education Re-Start Update – Scott Stinson

Superintendent Stinson gave a status update on the Education Re-Start plan. Discussion and questions followed.

b. Expansion of Outdoor Learning Opportunities – Trustee Allison Watson

Trustee Watson presented a motion with regards to exploring expansion of outdoor learning, especially in the context of return to school during the global pandemic. Discussion and questions followed. The committee and stakeholders indicated strong support for this work.

Recommendations: The following recommendations were made by the committee.

1. The following motion be presented to the Board of Education for consideration:
That the Board of Education of School District No. 62 (Sooke) direct staff to explore the expansion of outdoor learning/education for all SD62 students with the intent to understand the resources required to support, develop and implement increased outdoor learning opportunities. The exploration of these opportunities would include: researching outdoor learning/education in other jurisdictions, conducting consultations/surveys with stakeholder groups including our First Nations partners, and student engagement at all grade levels. Furthermore, staff will provide their findings for discussion at future Education and Policy Committee meetings.
2. That the Board of Education work with staff to establish timelines for reporting on this work.

7. **FOR INFORMATION**

- a. Research Project Approval – Lisa Spalding – “The British Columbian Alternative Education Administrator Perspective” – Scott Stinson
- b. Research Project Approval – Coral Bowman – “Stakeholders Perceptions Regarding Yoga Practice for Children Ages 3 to 8 Years” – Scott Stinson

8. **FOR FUTURE MEETINGS – REVIEW OF POLICIES/REGULATIONS**

As per Policy Work Plan

9. **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE:** Oct. 6, 2020