

EDUCATION COMMITTEE AGENDA



May 10, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.

WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This meeting is being held on the traditional and unceded territory of the Secwépemc People.

1. April 12, 2023, Committee Report
2. Changing Results for Young Learners – Presentation
3. Heavy Metal Rocks – Presentation
4. Early Learning
5. Accessible BC
6. Strategic Plan Reflections
7. Future Meeting Dates:

MEETING	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Education Committee	June 14, 2023	4:00 p.m.	Board Office

“Learning, Growing, and Belonging Together”

Education Committee Meeting Report



April 12, 2023 (4:02 p.m. – 6:27 p.m.)

Trustees in Attendance: Anne Kohut, (Chaired Mtg.) Mary Forbes, Mike Franklin.

TEAMS: Willow Macdonald.

Regrets: Ciel Patenaude.

Staff: Superintendent / Acting ST Chris van der Mark, Deputy Superintendent Cheryl Lenardon, Directors of Instructions Sean Cameron, Anita Richardson, Executive Assistant Jodi Symmes.

Agenda Item	Notes	Action
Acknowledgment of Traditional Territory		
1. March 8, 2023, Committee Report	The committee reviewed the report and recommended no changes.	None.
2. School Plans	<p>Forest Grove Elementary Principal, Ty Lytton, provided a presentation on how the school has implemented its plan with a focus on instructional capacity and place-based learning. Proximity to the local curling rink, and many lakes allows the students and teachers to take advantage of lots of outdoor activities. This allows the students to have some unique opportunities. The school is approximately a 10min drive from Eliza Archie Memorial School. This allows the students and teachers to learn from local Indigenous communities on a firsthand basis. Significant engagement of staff with numeracy initiatives and use of manipulatives.</p> <p>Ecole Nesika Elementary Principal, Holly Zurak, Vice-Principal Dwayne Benvin provided a presentation on their schools focus on Indigenous Learning, and Place Based Learning. Ensuring that the students' feel safe and included is a top priority. Learning the First Peoples Principles is important for students and teaching staff at Nesika. Students are doing hands on learning, including beading and drumming. Meeting with local Indigenous leaders within the community to learn stories, and songs has been something that the students have fully embraced. The staff have a book club going on, reading Wayi Wah! as well as many other pieces of learning.</p>	None. Information only.

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Agenda Item	Notes	Action
3. Recruitment	<p>Superintendent van der Mark provided an update on the strategies that the district has been taking to recruit teachers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruitment fairs - Collaboration with CCTA - Incentives <p>CCTA President Jessica Jill, and Amy Kolinsky presented the results of a member's survey that has been developed in the district with the assistance of the BCFT research centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The survey took place in February 2023. This survey is something that the CCTA would like to complete yearly to see where the changes are. - Survey shows significant challenges teachers face in their roles - Survey shows concerns with potential burnout - Survey shows good relationships developing between staff and admin - CCTA acknowledged that a number of things are outside of the control of the SD and are part of wider, systemic issues. 	<p>None. Information only.</p>
4. Catchment / Bussing	<p>Superintendent van der Mark provided an update on the current state of the district catchments and bussing. With the implementation of Transfinder, we have been able to determine that our processes or failure to follow the, is part of the problem. At the time of this report, over half of the South end students are being bussed to schools that are outside of their catchment.</p> <p>A letter will be sent to School of Choice families to remind them they are required to arrange for the pick-up/drop off their children.</p>	<p>None. Information only.</p>
5. GROW	<p>Superintendent van der Mark reviewed proposed changes that are being looked at for the Distant Learning we have in the district.</p>	<p>None. Information only.</p>
6. Board Authorized Course	<p>Director of Instruction, Richardson brought a BAA forward for the committee to review. Although this course is created for Anahim Lake, it could be implemented at rural school.</p>	<p>THAT the Board of Education approve the Board/Authority Authorized Course, Equine Studies 10 as an elective offering in School District 27 at Anahim</p>

Agenda Item	Notes	Action	
		Lake Elm / Sec School.	
7. Proposed Future Meeting Dates			
MEETING	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Education Committee	May 10, 2023	4:00 p.m.	Board Office
Education Committee	June 14, 2023	4:00 p.m.	Board Office

DRAFT

TO: Education Committee

FROM: Cathy van der Mark

DATE: May 10, 2023

RE: Early Learning

BACKGROUND

As part of our Transfer Under Agreement with Ministry of Education and Child Care, we continue to be actively involved in Early Learning Programs across the district:

Strong Start Early Learning Centres and Outreach programs – Providing high quality school or community based early learning parent/family participation programs for children who are not yet eligible for kindergarten. We continue to have seven programs operating at ten school sites: four centers offer programming five days per week and three outreach programs offering one, two or three days of programming.

Ready, Set, Learn (RSL) – Fostering positive connections between families, schools and local community agencies, RSL funding supports programming, professional development, and District participation at community based early years events and outreach programs.

- RSL Playgroups are encouraged in schools where families do not have access to StrongStart Centers or programs. We have play groups at five of our rural schools.
- Professional development for support staff and primary teachers is offered at least twice per school year focusing on the BC Early Learning Framework.
- Our Early Learning Coordinator organizes and/or participates in District/Community events in both 100 Mile and Williams Lake: Three-Year-Old Round Up, Family Festival, Children's Festival, Winter Festival, Health Fairs, and Shipwrecked.

Changing Possibilities for Young Children – Implementing on-going collaborative professional learning among early learning educators across schools and communities to support social-emotional learning outcomes for children in the early learning years (birth through age eight). We are currently in our third year of participation in this project.

During the 2022-2023 school year, school districts in BC engaged in an Environmental Scan to assist the Ministry of Education and Child Care with understanding the landscape of early learning and child care programs on school district property as well as provide

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baseline data to support a planned, integrated approach to strengthen capacity in schools and districts to grow early learning and child care on school grounds, while planning for increased access to affordable, quality child care. A final report, as a result of the Environmental Scan, is due to the Ministry of Education and Child Care on July 15, 2023. The report will provide information on the Early Learning and Child Care programs indicated above, an inventory of licensed programs on school district property, an overview of workforce challenges, a summary of the work of the Early Learning Planning Tables (100 Mile and Williams Lake) and a review of current District policies that support early learning and child care programs.

- SD 27 has eight child care sites operated by third party providers: four private providers and four Not for Profit providers
 - Two sites provide before school care
 - All sites provide after school care
 - Two sites provide all day care
 - Four sites are open during school closures during the school year
 - Three sites are open during the summer months

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

TO: Education Committee

FROM: Cathy van der Mark

DATE: May 10, 2023

RE: Accessible BC

BACKGROUND

On September 1, 2022, The *Accessible BC Act* came into force. As of September 1, 2023, prescribed organization, including school districts, must be in compliance.

The Act aims to increase all persons' ability to meaningfully participate in their communities by attempting to remove barriers through the development of accessibility standards. To do so, the Act requires certain organizations, including school districts and independent schools, to make their organization more accessible. Key objectives are:

- Increase meaningful participation in communities
- Develop standards for improved services delivery in areas such as education, transportation, employment opportunities.
- Harmonization with other jurisdictions, including federal requirements

The Act mandates that provincial school districts and independent schools must develop:

- An accessibility committee;
- An accessibility plan; and,
- A tool to receive feedback on accessibility

Organizations have been provided permission to partner with other similar organizations when developing a committee, a plan, and a feedback mechanism. As such, school districts in the northern region of BC have been working together to form an advisory committee that will develop an accessibility plan aimed at removing barriers in school districts and increase meaningful participation for all who interact with our organizations. Each of the school districts represented in the Northern BC School District Accessibility Plan will have their own mechanism for feedback from their communities. Partnering with other districts in this work ensure we are able meaningfully fulfill our obligation to have the Accessibility Advisory Committee represent the diversity of the population in BC as well as support smaller districts in this work.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.

Reference:

- *Accessible BC Act: Guidance for the K-12 Sector; Harris and Company LLP, March 1, 2023.*
- [Accessible British Columbia Act \(gov.bc.ca\)](http://gov.bc.ca)

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TO: Education Committee

FROM: Chris van der Mark/Cheryl Lenardon

DATE: May 10, 2023

RE: Strategic Plan Reflections

BACKGROUND

As we enter the final year of our 3-year plan, it is important to reflect on some of the work that has been done to date.

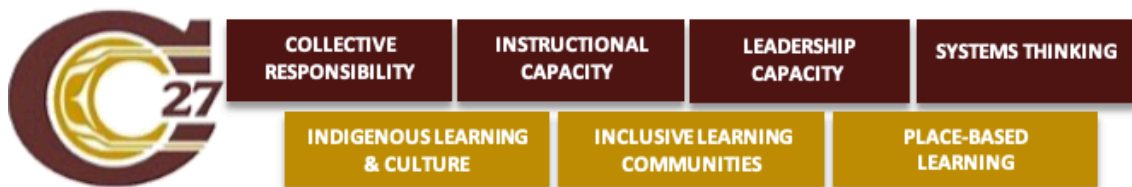
SD27 created a robust and ambitious plan as part of a general overhaul of organizational and educational function. By all accounts, the efforts to modernize, align and build capacity across the organization were timely.

We also often seem to overlook that this work was done throughout the pandemic.

DISCUSSION

We were able to identify 7 core focus areas.

FOCUS AREAS FOR GROWTH



We looked at what the student achievement and school experience data showed, reflected on the findings and recommendations of the Equity Scan, considered the community input, examined our internal processes and practices and tried to capture what was essential in some key focus areas for growth: collective responsibility, instructional capacity, leadership capacity, systems thinking, indigenous learning and culture, inclusive learning communities, and place-based learning. We sought input from staff, parents, and students to see if there were important ideas or themes that were missed before confirming our focus areas for planning.

We have remarkable evidence of growth across all domains, and many of these examples have been shared with the Board through school plan, learning initiatives and other

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presentations. Most significantly, we continue to see improvement with regards to student success and completion.

See presentation.

RECOMMENDATION

None. Information only.