



**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 46 (SUNSHINE COAST)**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE NOTES**  
**Held on February 23, 2016 from 9:30-11:30 p.m.**  
At the School Board Office, Gibsons, B.C.

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PRESENT: TRUSTEES: Betty Baxter, Chair; Lori Dixon; Dave Mewhort; Lori Pratt;  
Greg Russell; Pammila Ruth; Christine Younghusband

STAFF/OTHERS: Patrick Bocking, Superintendent; Nicholas Weswick,  
Secretary-Treasurer; Paul Bishop, Director of Instruction; Vanessa White,  
Director of Instruction; Erica Reimer, Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

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The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m.

1. Strategic Plan: Goal 3.c. International Students

*Our district will actively recruit students from around the world to live and learn with us in a welcoming international student program that showcases the beautiful, natural environment of the Sunshine Coast.*

Director Bishop provided a report on the status of the district's international education program. Since 2010, the district has enrolled 100 international fee paying students from 10 different countries. The district recently engaged a consultant to review the international student program and provide recommendations for improvement. Recommendations include developing an attractive and search engine friendly website, increasing the program's social media presence, providing direct intake for international students, improving program orientations and planning for monthly activities for international students. The district has employed a local staff person to over see monthly student activities, act as a school liaison and plan for orientation activities.

The committee discussed the program, the availability of homestays, and projections for the future. Director Bishop indicated that the district hopes to increase international enrolment by 10 students in each year but that key recommendations need to be in place before those goals can be achieved. Director Bishop's report can be found in the agenda package posted online at:

[http://www.sd46.bc.ca/files/15-16\\_BoardMeetings/cmtes/CoW\\_022316\\_Agenda.pdf](http://www.sd46.bc.ca/files/15-16_BoardMeetings/cmtes/CoW_022316_Agenda.pdf)

2. Inspirational Achievement Award / Community Recognition

Trustee Baxter spoke to the history of the board initiated Inspirational Achievement Award and recapped conversations that took place at recent committee meetings regarding the future of the award. It was noted that a recent discussion on partnerships lead to a suggestion to initiate a larger community recognition event that could either substitute or tie into the Inspirational Achievement Award framework. The committee shared thoughts on how to celebrate the community's involvement in supporting student learning.

Superintendent Bocking shared the ways in which the district recognizes achievement for employees, including long service recognition events and retirement celebrations.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

“That the board initiate an annual community recognition event and/or award to celebrate inspiration.”

The committee suggested that an ad hoc committee be struck to develop the event and/or award, considerations would include creating terms of reference, developing criteria for the award, describing the nomination process and suggestions for communication and marketing. The committee suggested that the ad hoc committee work towards establishing an event for the 2016/17 school year.

3. Communication (*standing item*)

The committee quickly reviewed the communication plan and made no suggestions for updates. Two suggestions were made for consideration of the agenda setting committee:

- discussion regarding the district website, and
- “big picture” review of the strategic plan.

The meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

**Next Meeting:** April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the School Board Office.