



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

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE NOTES
Held on September 16, 2015 at 1:00 pm
At the School Board Office, Gibsons, B.C.**

PRESENT: TRUSTEES: Christine Younghusband, Chair; Betty Baxter; Lori Pratt
STAFF/OTHERS: Patrick Bocking, Superintendent; Greg Kitchen, Assistant Superintendent; Carolyn Spence, Principal; Lenora Joe, Director of Education, Sechelt Nation; David Barnum, District Co-ordinator; Erica Reimer, Recording Secretary; Louise Herle

REGRETS: Trustee Lori Dixon, Trustee Pammila Ruth

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m.

1) Strategic Plan 2015-2019

Superintendent Bocking distributed copies of the printed version of the new Strategic Plan. The unique printed format of the strategic plan is meant to reflect the innovations presented within. The Implementation Plan, which creates a framework to achieve the goals of the Strategic Plan, will be discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting in September.

2) Student Sustainable Practices and Outdoor Education

Strategic Plan Goal: “Our students will: g) experience, respect and enhance the natural world by actively participating in sustainable practices and outdoor education.”

Superintendent Bocking provided an update on the NEST program at Davis Bay Elementary, reporting that the program runs to grade 4 and consists of three divisions. He further emphasized that natural learning opportunities are being highlighted at all district schools through the use of outdoor classrooms, school gardens and experiential learning opportunities. Halfmoon Bay Elementary and West Sechelt Elementary are in the planning stages of developing outdoor classrooms similar to that at Madeira Park Elementary.

3) Accountability Framework

Superintendent Bocking shared information provided by the Ministry of Education to the BCSSA Conference in August regarding planned changes to the accountability framework for enhancing student learning. The framework is being developed in consultation with school districts and several organizations including, BCSSA, CUPE, BCTF, BCSTA, BCCPAC and others. It was announced at that time that the framework would be available by September however there has been no further announcement regarding its development at the time of this report. The timeline put forth by the Ministry indicates that districts will be developing their reporting processes and timelines to support the framework by early spring 2016.

4) Curriculum (standing item)

District Curriculum Co-ordinator, David Barnum, provided an update on the implementation of and support for the new curriculum. The new K-9 curriculum is ready for use with full implementation expected by September 2016. All documents are available

online, including learning outcomes by subject and grade levels. The new curriculum for grades 10-12 will be ready for implementation the following year by September 2017. District teachers will be supported in the transition to the new curriculum with 4 half-day in-service workshops.

An update was provided on the new provincial student assessment tool, being referred to as the new FSA, which is to be developed in October 2015 with an implementation date of September 2017. An Advisory Group for Provincial Assessment is tasked with redesigning the assessment tool in a way that will minimize the negative use of the data collected.

New reporting guidelines are being developed with an implementation date of September 2016 for K-9 and September 2017 for 10-12 students. Discussions are taking place with post-secondary institutions to determine their reporting requirements.

5) Inspirational Achievement Award

Trustee Pratt provided a history of the board initiated Inspirational Achievement Award, known as Frances Fleming Award for the past five years. The committee discussed a variety of ways in which the achievement award process could be revamped, including:

- emphasizing reconciliation, innovation, momentum and culture to celebrate successes,
- celebrating excellence and innovations, as highlighted in the strategic plan,
- using the board values as criteria for the award,
- creating a series of inspirational spotlights,
- celebrating teamwork rather than individual achievements,
- hosting regular group functions with food, ceremony and inspiring conversation, and
- using the current “Celebrate Education” presentation and EduCoaster to celebrate ideas and achievements.

The committee also discussed the drawbacks of an “employee of the month” type of achievement award.

6) Parent Engagement (standing item)

The first DPAC meeting of the school year is scheduled for Thursday, September 24 at Chatelech Secondary. DPAC meetings will be scheduled at each of the secondary schools over the course of the year so as to invite participation from parents across the coast.

The committee discussed parent engagement, the parent voice in school planning, and how best to support parents so that they can be engaged with their children.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 28th from 1:00 to 2:30 pm at the School Board Office.

Upcoming agenda item:

- Inspirational Achievement