

**School District #75 (Mission)  
Public Meeting of the Committee of the Whole Minutes**

**December 1, 2020, 3:30 pm  
Virtual meeting via Zoom Videoconference**

- Members Present:** Board Chair, Tracy Loffler  
Vice Chair, Shelley Carter  
School Trustee, Randy Cairns  
Trustee, Rick McKamey  
Trustee, Julia Renkema
- Staff Present:** Secretary-Treasurer, Corien Becker  
Superintendent of Schools, Angus Wilson  
Director of Student Services Carolynn Schmor  
Assistant Superintendent, Karen Alvarez  
District Principal of International Education, Collen Hannah  
Executive Assistant, Aleksandra Crescenzo (Recorder)
- Others Present:** MTU President - Ryan McCarty, Teacher - Janise Nikolic,  
District Inclusion Mentor Teacher - Shannon Bowsfield,  
Mentor Teacher - Rebekaah Stenner, CUPE President - Faye  
Howell, Transportation Manager - Jodi Marshall, DPAC  
Representative - Cheryl Blondin and Member of the Public -  
Jaquelyn Wickham.

**3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

3.1 Transportation Department Update

The Manager of Transportation provided an update on the activities of the transportation Department.

3.2 Secret Pocket

The President of the Mission Teachers' Union (MTU) requested to repeat the Secret Pocket initiative that was provided during last year's graduation ceremony. The Board thanked MTU for funding the initiative and offering it for another year.

**4. CURRICULUM**

#### 4.1 Monthly Curriculum Update

Mentor Teacher Rebekaah Stenner provided an overview of some of the numeracy initiatives she is leading in the district. Highlights included the understanding of the continuum of learning as students' progress through stages of numeracy development and developing an understanding for earlier learner's foundational number sense.

### 5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### 5.1 Assessing and Communicating Student Learning Policy

MOVED and Seconded that the Assessing and Communicating Student Learning Policy be reviewed, and amended if required, and forwarded to the December Board meeting for consideration.

#### **CARRIED**

The draft policy was shared with the Joint Educational Advisory Committee. The Board has approved the policy in principle; however, it is being shared with partner groups for additional consideration.

A question was asked about where in the policy is the section about letter grades? Clarification was provided that the procedure will include this information. The assessment pilot is in the early development stage and that including information about the letter grade might be confusing at this time.

#### 5.2 Anti-Racism Policy

MOVED and Seconded that the Draft Anti-Racism Policy, be reviewed, amended as required, forwarded to the partner organizations for comment, and returned to the January Committee of the Whole for further consideration.

#### **CARRIED**

The policy is an amalgamation of two policies. The blended draft policy is presented for review and feedback by the Committee of the Whole. No comments were provided by partner groups. Trustee Cairns requested his name be referenced in the minutes for bringing forward this policy.

#### 5.3 Whistleblower Protection Policy

The draft policy is presented for review by the Committee and will be forwarded to the December Board meeting for consideration. Staff are working on the related administrative procedures. The goal is to have the

procedures completed by the end of the year to ensure the SD is in compliance with the Ministry's order.

## **6. STAFF REPORTS**

### **6.1 Annual Report - DRAFT**

MOVED and Seconded that the 2020 Annual Report be reviewed and referred to the Public Board meeting on December 15, 2020 for consideration by the Board.

#### **CARRIED**

The draft annual report provides a summary of the school district's operations for the 2019/2020 school year. The Superintendent advised that the COVID pandemic has affected our data and it will continue to affect the data in future years.

A recommendation was provided to remove the word "the" when acknowledging the traditional territories on page seven (7) of the document.

In future years it would be great if the report could include information on intangibles items and initiatives. For example, what kind of initiatives we are working on? This might be of interest to the public.

The formatting is different throughout the document. Some areas are justified, and some are not.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Education Assistants - Standards of Practice**

This item is presented to hear from our partner groups to establish the approach that the School District may want to take. Every district has its own unique certification and requirements. Recommendations were provided to advocate the BCSTA and the Ministry by issuing letters for provincial standards of practice.

Clarification was provided that the EA Working Group is not a CUPE endorsed group. There once was an Education Assistant Committee that was included in the previous provincial agreement.

DPAC provided feedback noting that there is a lack of consistency. Parents would like to see a student lead approach ensuring that student's needs are at the forefront of the standards.

Other items brought forward for consideration:

1. how would the standards apply to those who are already employed by the SD?
2. collaboration with Riverside on the course content
3. two different items that need to be considered: skills that people bring to the table and the services that we deliver
4. the need for continuity of care and handling shortages

The committee requested to revisit this item at a future Committee meeting.

## 7.2 Letter to MLA's

The Board Chair offered to draft the letters and welcomed individuals to email their comments directly to the Chair.

## 7.3 Motion re: Masks

The motion should actually read that the motion be forwarded to the December Public meeting.

MOVED and Seconded that the Board of Education School District 75 require and expect masks to be worn in all school buildings and workplaces in the district until further notice. Exceptions would be for medical reasons.

### **AMENDMENT**

That the following motion be forwarded to the December Public Board meeting.

### **AMENDED MOTION**

MOVED and Seconded that the following motion be forwarded to the December Public Board meeting:

THAT the Board of Education School District 75 require and expect masks to be worn in all school buildings and workplaces in the district until further notice. Exceptions would be for medical reasons.

### **FAILED**

This item is brought forward from a safety perspective and to enhance the safety measures that are in place. Comments were shared about mask supply, encouraging a culture of mask-wearing, and implications around enforcement.

One consideration is that Staff would need to revise the health and safety procedures if this motion is approved.

7.4 Spread the Word Pledge

MOVED and Seconded that the following motion be forwarded to the December Public Board meeting:

THAT the Board of Education pledge to take action for a more inclusive world.

**CARRIED**

The Spread the Word organization is focused on eliminating exclusion and discrimination that continues to divide people with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Board shared their support of the initiative and supported taking the pledge.

The motion will be forwarded to the December Public meeting.

**8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

8.1 Committee of the Whole meeting minutes, November 3, 2020

MOVED and Seconded that the Committee of the Whole minutes dated November 3, 2020 be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

Trustee Cairns would like to be referenced in the minutes for bringing forward the Anti-Racism policy.

Original signed by T. Loffler

Original signed by C. Becker

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of Education

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary-Treasurer

The minutes were approved on  
January 12, 2021 at the Committee  
of the Whole meeting.