

**School District #75 (Mission)****Public Meeting of the Committee of the Whole Minutes****June 7, 2022, 3:30 pm****Zoom Meeting****Visit [www.mpsd.ca](http://www.mpsd.ca) > Governance > Meeting Information & Schedule >> Agendas & Minutes for more information**

**Members Present:** Board Chair, Tracy Loffler  
Vice-Chair, Randy Cairns  
Trustee, Shelley Carter  
Trustee, Julia Renkema

**Members Absent:** Trustee, Rick McKamey

**Staff Present:** Superintendent of Schools, Angus Wilson  
Secretary-Treasurer, Corien Becker  
Assistant Superintendent, Karen Alvarez  
District Principal of Indigenous Education, Vivian Searwar  
Executive Assistant, Ilona Schmidt (Recorder)

**Others Present:** MTU Vice-President, Shannon Bowsfield, CUPE President, Nansy Gibson; DPAC Chair, Cheryl Blondin; DPAC Treasurer, Jacquelyn Wickham; MSS Teacher, Kevin Matheny, Principal Rob Clark

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by the Chairperson. The Chair acknowledged that Mission Public Schools is on the traditional, ancestral, unceded and shared lands of the Stó:lo people, which include Sq'éwlets, Leq'á:mel, Sema:th, Matheqwi, and Qwó:tl'el First Nations.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

3.1 DPAC - Middle Schools Survey

DPAC presented the results of the survey with 304 responses received. A large portion of respondents were parents/guardians of students. Some highlights are:

- 60% are unsure or uncomfortable going to high school.
- 41% were not prepared academically
- 52% disagree or strongly disagree that middle schools give a sense of community
- Social-emotional support is working well, exchange students are very happy
- Overwhelming concern about communication, bullying,
- People are not connecting with the teachers, with schools
- Appreciation was expressed for SD75 hiring 2 youth liaisons.
- Schools need to build on a sense of community.
- People would like to see accepted language in contracts etc.
- Need a trusted adult relationship.
- DPAC has a book about communication with schools.

A suggestion was made that if students would be in contact with fewer teachers on a continuing, regular basis, their relationships may improve. The Superintendent commented that BCPSEA has not supported changes to our collective agreement to recognize middle schools. Middle school defaults to the secondary school. Our middle schools operate more like a junior high than a middle school.

## 4. CURRICULUM

### 4.1 Monthly Curriculum Update

September 2022 - after feedback from parents and teachers, the change has been moved by a year. The K-12 reporting policy framework is to be implemented in September 2023. Ministry will provide some resources.

- Grades K-9 will be using a proficiency scale, no letter grades. 4 learning updates, and 1 summary of learning. Some teachers use digital portfolios,
- Grades 10-12 will have letter grades, %... Graduation status updates.
- "1" will change to IE (not submitted enough work for assessment)
- All grades need to be getting descriptive feedback. All students need self-assessment and core competencies.
- All students are fully participating members of the community of learners.
- Reporting on behaviour will be communicated to families through competencies. The learning needs to be in relation to the learning standards. It should not be mixed in with the behaviour.
- Student voice - helps students engage with their learning.
- Connection to first peoples' principles of learning.

Technical changes are to affect the K-6 reporting template. Now, there is no room for student voice. Need for strength-based feedback. Showing growth. Need to include areas for growth.

Grading practices - no longer taking marks off if the student does not have a gym strip.

Assessment pilot with portfolios - added lots of pictures, without understanding what is showing learning. Need to make time for student reflection, self-assessment and understanding criteria, so we can show learning.

The Assistant Superintendent is completing the Compassionate Systems Master Practitioner Program and realized how much learning came back from creating the portfolio. Clear criteria were given with regular check-ins. Students were coached through the process.

Students need to recognize their growth. We are preparing problem-solvers for big problems and big questions. We will need support for staff and families.

Reporting Structure Framework can be found online. No changes to policy; however, the procedure will need to be updated.

## **5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Trustee Code of Ethical Conduct Policy**

**THAT the following resolution be forwarded to the June Public Board meeting for consideration:**

**That the amended Trustee Code of Ethical Conduct be approved.**

#### **CARRIED**

Procedures were added to the policy, so there is a process to follow if there is a complaint. Presented for final review.

P. 16 - needs clarification, conflict of interest, 2nd bullet: benefit tangible or intangible (acceptance into a group, thinking process) should be specified.

P. 16 - confidential information (from a closed meeting) - to be clarified, as other meetings are public

Conflict of Interest - should be aware that whether the perceived or real conflict of interest arises, it should be declared.

P. 15 - behaviour, 4th bullet down: unwarranted/warranted criticism - is there a better way to put it? suggested personal criticism?

Ministry will be coming out with guidelines.

### **5.2 Halq'eméylem Language, Story, and Culture Policy**

**MOVED and Seconded THAT the following resolution be forwarded to the June Board Meeting for consideration:**

**That the Stó:lo History and the Halq'eméylem Language, Story, and Culture Policy be approved in principle, circulated through the school district's public engagement website [Engage.mpsd.ca](http://Engage.mpsd.ca) for public comments, and return to the September COTW Meeting prior to consideration for final approval at a public Board meeting.**

## **CARRIED**

Changed motion to return to a COTW before the board meeting

Policy was referred to Siwal Si'wes. We have put in extra effort. Would like to engage partner communities. Created policy working group with Siwal Si'wes - Kwantlen, Leq:amel.

If there is a lot of feedback, we can refer it back to Siwal Si'wes.

## **6. STAFF REPORTS**

### **6.1 Equity PATH**

The Principal of Indigenous Education shared the idea of Equity in SD75 to help those with diverse abilities in a presentation about creating an Equity PATH. One has been booked for the Board of Education in September. A new PATH for SD75 should be created in the Fall.

Unions expressed interest to participate. At this point, the PATH is a fluid plan. The MTU Vice-President is also a PATH facilitator and can help the unions collaborate.

### **6.2 Policy Review Update - June 2022**

The Secretary-Treasurer is Intending to tackle the listed policies over the Summer.

A question was asked about Smoking/Vaping - are we putting this into one policy? The initial intention was to combine them, but it is difficult, as some of the substances are legal where others are illegal.

5.7, 5.1 - Hiring Practices - should these be under one policy? Women in trades, Indigenous teachers? Yes. Will combine.

Purchasing/procurement - local and environmentally friendly should be noted.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is a very complex policy. SD75 needs to take the proper time to create a good policy.

The highest on the list is Diversity, Equity, SOGI... we need a lot of engagement. We have been getting great suggestions from Siwal Si'wes.

New policies will be presented to the Board in September 2022.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Students International Travel - Global Education Trip to Vietnam**

Global Education: Humanitarian work in another country, for students to gain experience. Past trips Mr. Matheny organized: Fiji, Cambodia, and Chile.

Vaccination is required for everyone to attend. No quarantine, if vaccinated. Mr. Matheny has already established relationships with locals.

Bottle drive is coming up. People are getting involved. Working on details, flights, and collecting deposits. Full insurance will be in place. Flights are released 270 days prior to travel.

The Board would like to invite the students to present/reflect on the trip.

Mr. Matheny would like to do a project of a similar kind locally in Mission – discussing with the Principal of Indigenous Education.

7.2 Childcare Spaces Funding Opportunity

**THAT the following resolution be forwarded to the June Board meeting for consideration:**

**That MPSD initiate an application for new childcare spaces for up to 4 portables to be placed on school district properties.**

**DEFEATED**

Suggestion that we have a plan before we initiate the application. The intent is understandable. The Board is not prepared for this yet. A question was asked about ownership of the portables and where they would be placed. Will Metis association make the childcare spaces all-inclusive? More time and discussions of funding guidelines and details are needed. The Board will wait until the Ministry puts Childcare in the mandate. The Ministry is aware that support is required.

**8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

8.1 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes, May 3, 2022

**MOVED and Seconded that the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes dated May 3, 2022, be amended.**

**CARRIED**

**Amendment:**

**THAT the Amended Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes dated May 3, 2022, be forwarded to the September COTW for approval.**

**CARRIED**

p.40 of agenda, 1/2 down the page remove "Ministry has a new funding opportunity next year"

7.5, p. 44 of agenda - Fall school trustee elections – remove "the reference to Vancouver and good people".

p. 41 of agenda - Superintendent comment - it can go either direction... poison work environment >> Management controls the SD...add "as that is where the responsibility lies."

The Board Chair would like to follow up with the Superintendent on the trades math conversation. Student voice/trustee is to happen post-election.

**9. INFORMATION ITEMS**

9.1 MSS Replacement deferral

DPAC Meeting - parents expressed support, and letters will be sent.  
June 9 - protest at MLA Pam Alexis' office

9.2 Employee Service Recognition

Bracelet: ensure we give options, as not everyone could identify as Man/Woman. Check appropriate options for Sto:lo. (Recipients can contact Gold Bin with any concerns to exchange).

9.3 Summary of June activities

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 pm.

Original signed by T. Loffler

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Chair, Board of Education

Original signed by C. Becker

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Secretary-Treasurer

The minutes were approved on  
September 13, 2022 at the  
Committee of the Whole meeting.