

School District #75 (Mission)**Public Meeting of the Committee of the Whole Minutes****May 3, 2022, 3:30 pm****Zoom Meeting****Visit 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
Director of Operations, Dana MacLean
Executive Assistant, Ilona Schmidt (Recorder)**

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 held on Stó:lō Territory. There are four First Nation Bands within the boundaries of the Mission School District: Leq:a'mel, Sq'èwlets, Kwantlen, and Matsqui First Nations.

Trustee McKamey sent his regrets for not being able to attend.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**4. CURRICULUM****4.1 Monthly Curriculum Update - plans for next year**

The Assistant Superintendent presented the plans for learning in 2022-2023. Some of the items mentioned were:

- Building capacity for the Indigenous grad requirement.
- Future orientation - expansion of digital portfolios - Ministry policy postponed for 1 year, ensuring more technology is available. We have Fresh Grade, Scholantis and Spaces. Fresh Grade is phasing out. Most of our classes are

using Spaces.

- Student-Centred Learning - expanding quality resources for numeracy (piloting new methodology at CME in English and French. MathUp - another new resource introduced.
- Literacy: LST classroom teachers - working on reading practices
- HMS requested a new novel approach.
- Effective Learning Environments: Compassionate systems leadership looks at self-awareness, self-mastery, inter-personal relationships, how we operate within systems. Work with other people to create collaborative spaces. 11 principals attended intro training. .
- Students' voice is important, they need to help us address student safety (middle and MSS)
- Transitions: Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten
- New Safe, Caring and Respectful Schools Policy and Admin procedure.
- Quality Teaching and Leadership: Compassionate systems training, Literacy inquiry, Indigenous course grad requirement - building capacity.
- Data - how are we doing and where do we need to go next. Mentor teachers are going into classrooms and teaching alongside.

A question was asked about the availability of the Literacy Mentor teacher and the Science of Reading materials to all teachers. Yes, awareness is being brought to teachers, that teaching reading needs to be systemic.

A clarification was made that the past term Feedback of learning = formative assessment now. We are working with it, just under a new name.

Elementary students need to build foundations. Is there Numeracy support for Middle/Secondary? Teachers need to participate and collaborate. There seems to be a disconnect between elementary/middle/and high school. Transitions need to be thought of as a continuum of learning. There may be a need for mentor teachers for elementary/middle/secondary.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. STAFF REPORTS

6.1 Safe, Caring and Respectful Schools Policy

The Secretary-Treasurer introduced the Safe, Caring and Respectful schools policy, creating policy that separates the workplace and school environments.

The Assistant Superintendent has been working with the principals/teachers to

clearly outline the behavioural expectations, removing the punitive approach. It was emphasized that recognition of safety and care are everyone's responsibility, as is modelling appropriate behaviour, and being aware of triggers and emotions. Suspensions are likely to still happen but will have to consider a whole range of responses, restorative practices, etc first. We need to make sure we bring a student back in a good way - repair harm that was done.

Comments/Suggestions:

- Include elected officials/trustees where “and others” are listed under Purpose
- Under Conduct expectations, add "and on school property."
- This policy is aimed mostly at the students. In the old policy, we had mentioned the members of the public.
- 4 review district code of conduct - should be district-wide.
- Poisoned school environment - last line – add "where administration or management takes no action."
- Management controls the SD...add "as that is where the responsibility lies.
- "online" (previous policy mentioned social and electronic media specifically instead)
- General guidelines - old policy - d - add administration and elected officials/trustees (should not be harassed either)
- 2 behaviour is misspelled

A poisoned environment can be directed in multiple directions, the Superintendent would suggest not to include it.

Respectful Workplaces policy has more direction and affects trustees/workers more.

This policy will cover specifically students. We need the 2 policies somewhat consistent. This is to be educating students while maintaining student safety.

A question was asked if we should be including staff/families/trustees if this is geared mainly towards students? We expect parents/adults to conduct themselves in a reasonable manner.

We need to make sure the language between the 2 policies is consistent. Staff will return all the Respectful Schools policies back as a group. The staff is still working on procedures, to remove the punitive approach, and will be working with Siwal Si'wes too.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Metis Nation of BC - Childcare Partnership

Metis nation wants to provide a childcare facility on SD75 properties. The nation conducted a survey to determine who needs childcare within the Indigenous and other families.

The Metis Nation would like to purchase portables, as a part of a long-term partnership. Urban schools are being looked at for location.

The other childcare providers are also considering adding portables to our sites. The Ministry may provide funding in the future.

A comment was made that childcare on property supports our student population.

Possible locations – Christine Morrison Elementary, West Heights Elementary, Mission Central Elementary

Grant funding would be used to purchase and install the portables.

Metis Association would own the portables, with a long-term rental agreement. If SD75 gets the grant, then we would own them. Grant funding would be coming through the Ministry (\$250,000 cost per portable that includes a washroom, and kitchen facilities). We can charge rent if we use capital funds to purchase the portables.

CUPE staff will be used only if we get grants and operate the childcare. Metis would be external, as are the other existing child care providers now.

Metis families will have first access, but would likely not be exclusive.

We need to start the conversation now, to figure out what direction the board would like to go with grant applications, business case building etc, as it all takes time.

A question was asked about maintenance/removal of the portable if the Metis Association owns it. Are these non-profit/for-profit child care spaces? A comment was made that a central location being exclusive may be problematic.

A comment was made about Dewdney/Stave Falls child care feeding enrolment into our schools. How would child care feeding into already full schools work?

A comment was made that child care has not been a part of SD75's strategic plan till now, as the Ministry was not providing funding. New staff will need to apply for the grants if we add child care into our planning. The Ministry tends to add portables to solve short-term capacity issues, but we need to make sure we do not lose out on getting additions/upgrades to our schools. With portables, we will be losing field space.

The community realizes there are grants, and there will be pressure for more childcare. SD75 did not have childcare on the Strategic plan, as we could not deal with childcare at the time. We can have discussions, but the funding needs to come in to sustain this.

This year, we may have space at a couple of schools. The Metis Association plan is not ready for September 2022. We may need to have an exploratory conversation for the Strategic Plan.

Stave Falls was expecting enrolment to rise, but we are not going up a division yet, and as such, are not expecting to reclaim a classroom from the child care operations. The Stave Falls childcare operator runs childcare operations in portables in Maple Ridge and are willing to pay the cost for a portable on SD75 property if they had a 10yr agreement. They would fully cover the portable if needed through monthly rent. An additional 10-15 new students at Stave Falls in September 2022 would mean an additional classroom would be needed, which would impact the childcare operations at Stave Falls Elementary.

7.2 BAA Courses

7D - typo - Basketball 12.

Course info needs to be in a consistent, professional, ministry format, so we can present it on the website for the general public.

Some of the courses list more content vs others having a more general pedagogical piece. The courses should have the name of the current teacher and who it was updated by (Peggy Janicki)

A question was asked about the process of creating a BAA course. There may be a need specifically for a Trades math. Who initiates this? If a teacher recognizes a need/passion for a new course - Ministry requests that the principal/Board review/approve it.

A question was asked about the necessity for this course and if we are solving the appropriate problem? We do not have a problem with teaching math, but some course names may not "qualify" the courses appropriately.

A question was asked if this issue could be addressed within an existing course?

A comment was made that the Trades Committee has identified a need. Students are taking a Math course when starting a trade. Can this be called Trades Prerequisite Math (or something specific) so students understand they need this course if they opt to go into Trades?

The Riverside teacher knows what students are struggling with. MSS has a big lineup to get into applied courses. Riverside is limited with space, so their students are trying to go to MSS for math. There is a need.

A comment was made, that students should be better informed about the future requirements, so they can take sufficient courses.

A comment was made that ALL Math teachers should come together and come up with a course as a collective. Trades Math should not have a stigma or should not be considered lesser math.

Staff will speak to principals and a few of the math teachers and will report back.

A comment was made that workplace math is good for some limited trades. It does not qualify you for trades or post-secondary. DPAC communication to parents would help, so students understand better.

Middle school is getting a letter explaining what courses are for.

7.3 Non-voting Elder in residence

BCSTA has an elder in residence. We have Siwal Si'wes. Each district could have an elder in residence. The Principal of Indigenous education and the Superintendent will discuss this with Siwal Si'wes.

7.4 Student Trustee

A comment was made that Trades Training Advisory Committee (TTAC) has 2 students on the committee. Their input has been very valuable.

The Board can invite a Leadership student into a COTW to hear if there is interest. Students need to feel comfortable contributing. We want to have a student voice.

The Kootenay Lake example shared may be more comparable to SD75.

The Secretary-Treasurer has experience with youth councillors. There are some shy youth and other very civic-minded youth. The students would be a part of the conversation. They go back to their peers and bring relevant information back to the discussion table. It is often surprising to hear the comments and ideas they have.

A comment was made that including Students should be looked at by the new board.

Meet & Greet - Grade 12/Transition middle to high/... students incorporate meeting Trustees and senior staff. We need to have conversations with our students.

Staff should ask the principals, VPs, counsellors and students about how they would want to get involved. The Superintendent will communicate this to schools.

7.5 Fall School Trustee Elections 2022

We are asked to share resources with the community.

The Superintendent has an Orientation PowerPoint. He can have a presentation in the near future, which will also be placed on the MPSD website as well.

8. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

8.1 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes, April 5, 2022

MOVED and Seconded that the Committee of the Whole minutes dated April 5, 2022, be approved as amended.

CARRIED

AMENDMENTS:

p. 84 of agenda: 7.1 FESL peer review - delete the last sentence of the first paragraph.

p. 85: Code of ethical conduct 7.6: should a trustee run off course - trustee suspensions - as occurred in Victoria - should not happen.

CARRIED

*A question was asked of the Superintendent re p.86 regarding the bus route changes. Have parents been notified? Not yet.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:34 pm.

Original signed by T. Loffler

Chair, Board of Education

Original signed by C. Becker

Secretary-Treasurer

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