

## **SIWAL SI'WES – ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **November 13, 2018**

Present:

Sheryl McKamey	Wendy Matthews	Jacqelyn Turner	Sara Carpenter
Priscilla Wells	William Wells	Marilyn Collins	Tracy Loffler
Randy Cairns	Cheryl Gabriel	Peggy Janicki	Sharon Syrette
Joe Heslip	Vivian Searwar	Marcy Buell	

1. Call to order and Welcome – Priscilla
2. Apologies/Regrets – Priscilla
  - Laura Buker until December
  - Agnes Giesbrecht
  - Norma George
3. Review Minutes from October 16, 2018 – Jacqelyn
  - Accept – Marilyn Collins
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wendy Matthews
  - Motion Carried
4. Budget Update - Joe
  - Joe acknowledged that we are on Unceded Stó:lo Territory
  - Joe acknowledged that the School District is also within Kwantlen, Leq'á:mel, Matsqui and Sq'ewlets Territories
  - Grateful to be on their land today
  - Grateful to see you
  - We already approved expenditures for this school year
  - Sharon has asked for more funds for Field Trips
  - Now that the Ministry has approved incorporating Worldviews and Perspectives, we should take a step back on Field Trips
  - Want to focus on direct involvement with the child
  - “The Canoe” costs \$7,500.00 for 3 editions
  - Want to make sure that teachers, schools and Principals do this work
  - Could we not have this expenditure next year?
  - Would like to hire more staff to support students
  - Typically, we have a surplus
  - We are down 36 students this year
  - Don't want to take away service from students
  - Want to take dollars and add to salaries
  - It's time for the School District to step up
  - With the Enhancement Grant, we are in partnership with the School District
  - Want students to know that all their needs are encapsulated
  - Looking at it as a Trustee, I agree with the Aboriginal Curriculum
  - If this Council sees fit, my belief is that Field Trips do come out of the operating budget
  - Far better use to use these funds to help students and honour the Enhancement Agreement
  - In general, the more academic support that students get, the better
  - How should discretionary dollars be spent?

- With regards to Field Trips, take that money and assign it to those students who can't afford it
  - Push back on driving assignments but for some, it's the only way that they will get to go to school and graduate
  - Being responsible for the whole budget, making the decision to more the Field Trip dollars isn't haphazard
  - Want to get away with a surplus and having to spend it last minute
  - For our kids, have students who are now grandparents
  - Driving students is very important
  - The person makes sure the students are safe physically and culturally
  - Why do certain kids not fit the regular school schedule?
  - Thank you, Joe, for bringing this up and thank you all for talking about it
  - I understand the need but don't want to have dependency
  - Anywhere where you can build a meaningful relationship with a child is important
  - If you build a relationship, it's beyond money
  - It takes just one person
5. Winter Heat Fundraiser – Joe/Priscilla
- Mission Friendship Centre at lunch time
  - Will be having Indian Tacos
  - Staff are working with students for giveaways and food donations
  - Meaningful Contributions
  - Please attend if you can
  - Joe's favourite day of the year
  - Students serve the food
  - The food donations are for food hampers for the Elders for January
  - It's for Elders in need, with mobility issues and no other resources
  - If there are questions regarding the Elders, please direct them to Priscilla
  - Don't answer them yourself
  - Will make 25 hampers in January
  - Have been doing this since 2014
  - People usually receive enough in December
  - Huge need in January around the 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>
  - We deliver but people could pick them up
  - Last year we had the ice storm, so we included 3 young families because we had room
  - We will include a family again this time if there is a dire need
  - It's a lot of work but fun
6. Aboriginal Mentor Meeting/Curriculum Updates – Viv/Peggy
- Viv
    - Had an Aboriginal Mentor Teacher Meeting
    - Included 12 teachers, Liaison Rep., Administrators and Peggy
    - For K – 12
    - For Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal
    - Quite a few changes this year
    - Increased capacity with all staff
    - Ask students to reflect all the time
    - Our focus is to do this too

- Become more self-aware with Aboriginal Worldviews and Perspectives
  - Want to share our work with your later
  - Peggy
    - Helping with Early Learning
    - Kindergarten support
    - Sent Aboriginal Season's Posters to teachers for K-3
    - Supporting new staff
    - Public speaking for Orange Shirt Day
    - Teaching Governance at HPMS
    - With connections through BCTF, go to borrow a Giant Map
    - It's currently at Silverdale Elem. but being returned to BCTF
    - Teaching at MSS on Hailey's Comet
    - Helping Viv with afterschool Pro-D
    - Blanket lesson at MSS for their staff
    - Thank you, Jody Shaw,
    - Facilitated for BCTF
    - Taught about the "60's Scoop"
    - Writing curriculum
    - Went on Bad Rock Tours
    - Helping Brittany with her room at MSS
    - Taught at other Districts
    - Will be facilitating at FNEESC
    - Working with Camielle and Lori at MSS on their Canoe project
    - Ran into Larry Colby, a woodwork teacher who will be donating a strong back which will save around \$900.00
    - Attended numerous meetings
    - Weaving and Math at Cherry Hill
    - Leadership
  - Mission has hired the right people
  - People are always asking, "how did you get her?"
  - Thinking of the Budget, I would like Peggy here
  - Will be advocating for Peggy's salary to be entirely paid from the School Board Office
  - Hold my hands up to Peggy as high as they can go
  - New App called "Notebook"
  - Working with librarians to work on a lesson plan
7. Leadership Conference – Joe/Vivian
- Youth Leadership Conference @ Newlands Golf Club in Langley
  - November 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>/18
  - Will be driving students the first day, school bus the second day and a charter bus for day 3
  - The cost will be much lower this year
  - Peggy and Johnny will have the Siyam Facilitators on Day 1
  - There will be workshops
  - Peter Gong
  - Ronnie-Dean Harris
  - Sara Davidson

- Things are in full swing
  - Will be a good 3 days
  - Will be having an Honouring Ceremony for:
    - Sandra Victor – retiring from Chilliwack
    - Michael Morgan from Langley
    - Judy Cathers from our staff
8. The Canoe – Viv and Joe
- For this edition, it took a bit of encouragement
  - By the end, we had many submissions
  - Jingle Dancer by Sheanan Littlechild
  - Bear project from HPMS
  - About \$7,500.00
  - Do not feel that this is a waste of money but for the amount of work/time for our staff, we need to take a look
  - Served a great purpose for a number of years
  - Don't want anything that looks really good but doesn't serve our students
  - While I'm proud, maybe it might be better not to have this for next year
  - We can add "The Canoe" to our website
  - Have a print copy and an electronic one
  - Think that it's unfortunate that it doesn't reach more people
  - Get the knowledge out there
  - Should have "The Canoe" go out from higher up to be sent to everyone not just the 3 Districts
  - Do this at a Provincial level
  - Joe to connect with his friends at the Ministry to show them "The Canoe" links
  - Let the Province make the decision
  - Why is the Aboriginal Department paying?
  - It shows successes in our District
9. Enhancement Agreement Working Group (Next Steps) – Joe/Viv
- Stepping into this with some anxiety
  - Been here about 2 hours
  - Apologizes for having to leave early at the last meeting
  - We should continue to meet as an Advisory Council and continue this work during the 2 hours
  - Need some clarification
  - We need to update you on what we do and by the time we get to the Enhancement Agreement, my head is foggy
  - We should have a separate working group
  - We can't do both
  - After today, we should schedule alternating Mondays and Thursdays
  - Get way more done in a working group
  - So much detail, if you try to do all this in a single meeting
  - Bill Fletcher (former District Principal – Aboriginal Education) came out to different Nations to listen
  - When you go out you incorporate the kindred spirit

- Not written in stone
- We make it happen when it should happen
- Had janitors and bus drivers come to the table as well
- Being a signatory on the Enhancement Agreement, want to make sure signators have ownership of it
- As a School District, we will give it the time it needs
- Make the contacts you need to make
- The EA is meaningful to the School District
- The Ministry was trying to walk away from the EA but Trustees said that this wasn't a good idea
- It doesn't do Justice to work on it at the Advisory meetings
- At the end of the day, people who sign it, want to sign it, not because it's mandated
- The important part is how we got to the final agreement
- It's the process, relationships made, etc.
- Involve, bus drivers, custodians, noon hour supervisors
- Do the best we can and take the time we can
- Next time we meet, maybe we can set some dates from December – June
- Review questions from our last meeting
- Highlight your top 3 answers to each
- Your right, it does take patience and time
- Working through LEA's (Local Education Agreement) with 4 bands at the same time
- Could we have the same reporting process for EA's as we do for LEA's?
- Can we integrate the process for both?
- Need to have something that is trackable
- Would like quantitative data not qualitative data
- Is there a consensus that we do have separate meetings?
- It's agreed

#### 10. Information Items

- Terms of Reference Working Group
- Have had 5 meetings so far
- Thursdays from 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. @ Mission Library
- First draft
- Didn't just want to rewrite it
- People are welcome
- Will get a draft to the Advisory Council in January
- It's coming along
- Language classes
- Held at Ta'O Housing every Monday from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Will be doing it at the Mission Friendship Centre soon
- No date yet but Priscilla will let us know
- Same person to do both classes
- "Feast on Knowledge"
  - Wednesday, November 14/18 @ Clarke Theatre
  - 3:30 p.m. – meal in Cafetorium

- 4:30 p.m. – move to the theatre
- Speaker will be Sonny McHalsie
- Want to mention and invite everyone
- Will be 90 plus teachers
- Salmon feast
- Fraser Valley Bald Eagle Festival
  - November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>/18
  - Look online for a good map
  - Free events at Kilby General Store/Museum
- Camp Cherish
  - See the vision, hear the voice
  - Youth Mentorship Group for ages 13 – 18
  - Voice is on how to change Xyolhemeylh
  - Would like to see aboriginal youth in Mission getting involved

**Advisory Council/Staff Lunch  
December 11, 2018  
11:30 a.m.  
Fraserview Learning Centre**