

SIWAL SI'WES (SWSW) – ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
March 8, 2022

Present in-person at Siwal Si'wes:

Vivian Searwar	Agnes Giesbrecht	Jeanette Phillips	Ronald Peters
Priscilla Wells	William Wells	Corien Becker	Marcy Buell

Present on Zoom:

Tracy Loffler	Rick McKamey	Jennifer Clayton	Jessica Seeman
Julia Renkema	Kerry Lumsden	Randy Cairns	Shelley Carter
Todd Nelson	Dawn Styran	Sonya Williams	Cheryl Gabriel

1) Call to order & Welcome

- a) Welcome everyone

2) Acknowledgement

- a) Mission Public School District 75 is located on the traditional, ancestral, Unceded and shared territories of the Stó:lō people, Kwantlen, Leq'á:mel, Matsqui and Sq'ewlets Territories

3) Apologies/Regrets

- a) Camielle Laslo

4) Review of Previous minutes of February 8, 2022

- a) Accept – Dawn Styran
- b) 2nd – Agnes Giesbrecht
- c) Motion Carried
- d) Welcome new members
 - i) Jennifer Clayton
 - ii) Kerry Lumsden

5) Financial Statement Review

- a) Why have some schools not spent anything, and some have only spent less than \$100.00?
- b) What are these funds for?
 - i) There are two pots
 - (1) One for their vision
 - (2) One for helping students with expenses
 - ii) A lot of these funds are spent during the later part of the school year
 - iii) The ILW's are given a printout each month with their balances
 - iv) If these funds aren't spent by the end of May, they come back to SWSW
 - v) Office expenses have gone over
 - vi) Spent around \$7,000.00 and the budget is \$5,000.00
 - vii) There are rising costs for everything
 - viii) Budget to be increased for the next school year

6) Special Presentation – Indigenous Tutoring and Mentorship Program

- a) Welcome Todd Nelson and Jessica Seeman
- b) This PowerPoint presentation has already been presented to our staff
- c) The Indigenous Tutoring and Mentoring Program was created in January

- d) Sonya and Dawn, we have posters for you too
- e) Happy that you came to share this with us
- f) Is there a time limit?
- g) No, this is ongoing
- h) Up to the Tutor and student whether they take a break or not
- i) If you have any questions, contact Vivian
- j) Have any of our Sqewlets students taking part in this program?
- k) Enter Todd & Jessica's email and website

7) **Updates:**

- a) Equity PATH
 - i) Met with Senior Management and Rick McKamey on February 25/22
 - ii) Vision Planning in a specific way
 - iii) Dreaming Section to Positive/Possible
 - iv) Idea is to come together as groups in SD75
 - v) Vivian is hoping to come to Council meetings at Leq'á:mel, Sqewlets, Kwantlen, Matsqui & Metis
 - vi) Share with the School Board
 - vii) Invite Aaron and Ali to create a PATH
 - viii) Want to bring them in to the Administrators Retreat in August
 - ix) All PATRHS will be collated into one PATH
 - x) Ours will be similar to SD 58's PATH
- b) Scholarship and Bursary Selection Meeting – April 14, 2022, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Room 104 SWSW
 - i) Please let Marcy know if you would like to attend
- c) MMIWG Update
 - i) Planned a Middle/High School event
 - ii) Decided to keep it within their own schools
 - iii) Angus has approved to hang red dresses
- d) Recognition Dinner Update
 - i) There will be recognitions for students at their own schools for Elementary, Middle and High Schools
 - ii) Special recognitions for Grades 6 & 9
 - iii) Will be doing something District wide in June for the graduates outside at MSS
- e) Curriculum Update
 - i) Tabled until next time

8) **Dialogue & Discussion**

- a) UFV – Centre for Excellence
 - i) The entire Teacher Education Program is moving from Abbotsford to Mission's UFV
 - ii) For Kwantlen, Leq'á:mel, Sqewlets, Matsqui, Sumas & Metis
 - iii) Hoping to send out an invitation letter
 - iv) Keith Carlson has connections with Sumas and Matsqui
- b) Policies – Corien Becker
 - i) Since the last meeting, has continued working on both policies
 - (1) Halq'emeylem Language Policy
 - (2) Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy
 - ii) How to do this and do it respectfully
 - iii) It's more than language, it's also with culture and land
 - iv) Removed where language is from in the first paragraph
 - v) Add story and culture
 - vi) Halq'emeylem language continues for K - 12

- vii) Problem is that we don't have enough teachers
- viii) We have Malila – 4 days per/week
- ix) We have another on Leave whose position is posted but no one is qualified
- x) Goal for the next 5 years is to have it across the board
- xi) Elders or young people don't have teacher credentials
- xii) Education needs to change colonial thoughts
- xiii) Let those who know, teach
- xiv) Allow the language to come the way it wants to
- xv) Want all speakers to be honoured no matter what level they are at
- xvi) Is there something that Trustees can incorporate into the Policy for the Language?
- xvii) We need more funding for people to learn
- xviii) Treat them with respect
- xix) Find some way to make it happen
- xx) Trustees can advocate for the way the language can be taught
- xxi) Just because they don't have a PHD, doesn't mean that they aren't an expert
- xxii) Some of us understand it quite well
- xxiii) Even learning a few words here and there helps
- xxiv) We need to think creatively
- xxv) Policy Working Group
 - (1) April 11th @ 10:00 a.m. 1 ½ - 2 hours
 - (2) May 9th @ 10:00 a.m.
 - (3) June 13th @ 10:00 a.m.
- xxvi) Vivian to send dates and links for ZOOM

- 9) Closing
 - a) Thank you everyone for coming

**Next Meeting:
April 12, 2022
11:30 a.m. in person or 12:00 p.m. on ZOOM
Room 104**

(If you would like to attend in person, please advise Vivian, as there is a maximum capacity of 15 in Room 104 at SWSW)