

SIWAL SI'WES – ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
November 12, 2019

Present:

Agnes Giesbrecht	Tracy Loffler	Randy Cairns	Sharon Syrette
Laura Buker	Priscilla Wells	William Wells	Vivian Searwar

1. Call to Order and Welcome – Agnes

- Story from Lolehawk
 - Her mother was the first Indigenous woman to work at Boeing in Vancouver building war planes
 - Thanksgiving address: “Words before all else”
 - Bring everyone together at the beginning of meetings & gatherings
 - Young man from Six Nations gave the Thanksgiving Address at the request of Lolehawk
 - Now our minds are one

2. Territory Acknowledgment - Viv

- 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 –Agnes

- Peggy Janicki
- Marcy Buell
- Rick McKamey
- Jacquelyn Turner

4. Review of Previous Minutes from September 10/19 – Agnes

- Accept – Sharon Syrette
- 2nd – Lolehawk
- Motion Carried
- Considerations/Action Items:
 - New format is appreciated (Sharon)
 - Include full title/names, not only acronyms (Sharon)

5. Financial Statement Review - Vivian

- Largest budget item is salaries
- Considerations/Action Items:
 - The term Financial Statement is appreciated (Sharon)
 - Instructional Supplies – Why a negative number? Viv will investigate
 - Library resources (Randy)
 - Only purchasing authentic resources; is a decision-making process/guidelines shared with all admin and teacher-librarians
 - Is there a possibility to hire a Library Technician? - program at UFV (Sharon)

6. 2019 – 2020 Grant Evaluation Funding Allocation - Viv

- Considerations/Action Items:
 - How the grants are allocated per/student and per school? (Sharon)
 - Two funding pots – one for Enhancement Agreement Grant (“projects” provided by the vision of the ALW (Aboriginal Liaison Worker), other for School-Based Grant (based on a specific amount per student, for smaller initiatives

- Try to balance schools' allocated amount over the years

7. Terms of Reference – Lolehawk & Sharon

- “Forefathers’ Teachings” is gender-biased - Siyamiateliyot has verified the translation of Siwal Si’wes
- Clarification the original TOR (Terms of Reference) which are mostly procedures: To be two parts to the new TOR, Part One is the mission, vision and values; Part Two will be procedures carried over from previous TOR (Lolehawk)
- Considerations/Action Items:
 - Is there any way to consult with the group who came up with the name and translation? (Randy) - Gwen Point (Sharon)
 - Vivian to check with Heather Hansson who knows the Hanuse family
 - Tracy & Randy to present Part One of the TOR to the Board
 - Vivian to provide a list of SD75 responses to TRC

8. Websites – Viv

- Peggy:
 - “Indigenous Mentor Teacher Group” website
 1. Links and resources for staff
 2. Shared documents & teacher resources
 - Recipient for an Indspire Award
- Viv:
 - Administrator group website
 1. News, Pro-D, links and information about events
 - Siwal Si’wes staff website
- Considerations/Action Items:
 - Viv to add Advisory Members wishing to be included

9. Enhancement Agreement Update - Viv

- Meetings with Bands, Future 4 Nations, Fraser Valley Metis Association, Mission Friendship Centre & Healing Lodge
- Receiving feedback and input from students @ Hatzic Middle School, Ecole Christine Morrison, Heritage Park Middle School and Ecole Mission Secondary
- Leq’á:mel teacher meet and greet – received feedback from the Leq’á:mel community
- Questionnaire to Mission Teacher’s Union and CUPE
- CUPE will send to all CUPE members
- In Jan 2020, will look at data and extrapolate four themes
- Considerations/Action Items:
 - Ensure parents’ voices are heard (Sharon)
 - Survey was shared with the parent community at Student Recognition Dinners

10. Equity Scan - Viv

- Working as a team to create equity for Indigenous students with four focus groups for four pillars
- Looking at current practice
- Scan>reflect>repeat
- Considerations/Action Items:
 - 3/5 trustees attended
 - What about LGBTQ and kids? (Lolehawk)

11. Leadership Conference - Viv

- November 19-21, 2019
- Select Grade 9 – 12 students
- Joe Heslip will be honoured on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.
- Let Viv know if you would like to attend

12. Winter Heat – December 5 - Priscilla

- Lunch not confirmed yet
- Students and schools will be collecting food
- To be discussed on the agenda for the November 19th meeting at Mission Friendship Centre (Agnes)

13. Items to Review

- ME to WE Sacred Circle Leadership Workshop – **Viv/Priscilla/Bill/Agnes**
 - Cost was \$4,400.00; 20 – 25 students per/day from HMS/HPMS/MSS; Bands catered
 - Students' behavior was stellar, and they were engaged, connected well with one another
 - Possibility for a follow up in March
 - Strengthening the Circle costs \$7,500 – may need to make choices for future years
- Monique Gray Smith
 - October 8, 2019
 - 90 – 100 staff attended
 - “Thank you for contributing to the wellness of the world”
- Letter of Gratitude from Scholarship & Bursary Recipients
 - Received a thank you letter from one of our Scholarship recipients

14. Other

- Jointly Convened Annual Meeting – October 16, 2019 - **Priscilla**
 - Priscilla joined Angus at the meeting
 - Proud knowing that we are doing good work in Mission SD75

**Next Meeting
December 10, 2019
11:30 a.m.**

Christmas Luncheon @ Fraserview Learning Centre