

SIWAL SI'WES (SWSW) – ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
May 11, 2021

Present in-person at Siwal Si'wes:

Bill Wells Priscilla Wells Vivian Searwar Marcy Buell

Present on Zoom:

Peggy Janicki Tracy Loffler Julia Renkema Sonya Williams
Dawn Styran Randy Cairns

1) Call to order & Welcome – Priscilla & Viv

- a) Welcome

2) Acknowledgement - Vivian

- 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 –Marcy

- a) Sharon Syrette
- b) Agnes Giesbrecht
- c) Jeanette Phillips

4) Review of Previous Minutes – Agnes & Priscilla

- a) April 13, 2021
 - (1) Accept – Dawn Styran
 - (2) Second – Priscilla Wells
 - (3) Motion Carried

5) Financial Statement Review – Vivian

- a) Telephone costs continue to increase
 - i) Due to COVID
 - ii) Most SWSW Staff requested a work cell to do their work, as much of their work is through messaging
 - iii) There are increased demands with families and students
- b) Office Supplies and Library are over-budget
 - i) We are culling resources, ensuring that they are all authentic and removing the ones that aren't
 - ii) We are replacing the ones that we remove, hence the increase in costs
 - iii) Necessary to keep the library authentic and current
 - iv) Planning to use removed books as a teaching tool regarding authentic and non-authentic books
- c) Silverdale is over-budget by \$7,000.00
 - i) Was a coding error and will be fixed
- d) At the end of the year, we will be over on some lines and under on others
- e) Will be carrying a surplus

6) Equity Scan Update - Vivian

- a) Significant TTOC shortage
- b) Next meeting is tomorrow from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- c) For the last meeting in June, we would like an Equity Celebration, where participants can share their Equity Success Stories

7) Staffing Updates & 2021 – 2022 Plans - Vivian

- a) CUPE Positions:
 - i) Staffing challenges this year due to a variety of reasons
 - ii) Finding it challenging to fill the vacancies
 - iii) Jennifer Sherif resigned
 - iv) ILW's last day is June 30th and then they start back after Labour Day
 - v) All ILW's will have 35 hours per/week next year
- b) MTU Positions:
 - i) No one has applied for the Halq'emeylem Teaching position
 - ii) Can we get someone that is not a teacher for the Halq'emeylem Teaching position with a "Letter of Permission"?
 - iii) We will not be pursuing the "Letter of Permission" at this time
 - iv) We are creating a hybrid course called Stó:lō History, Halq'emeylem Language, Story & Culture
 - v) Includes Halq'emeylem Indigenous Liaison Worker
 - vi) This will be the only way to sustain this at this time, as finding a certified teacher who is fluent in Halq'emeylem is extremely challenging
- c) Board hopes to have the Language of the Territory promoted
- d) For the next school year, we will have:
 - i) Our Teacher/Librarian, Jennifer Lanes position increased to .4
 - ii) We will have 21 ILW's
 - iii) K-6 Student Success Advocate will be a Temporary full year position

8) Special Programs – BC Office of the Commissioner of Human Rights - Vivian

- a) HR and Vivian have been working on an application to the BC Office of Special Programs
- b) Thank you Dawn and Sonya for your Letters of Support
- c) Waiting on Kwantlen and Matsqui for the same
- d) Need support from Unions as well
- e) Jane Boutilier is working on the application

9) Scholarships & Bursaries – Priscilla

- a) For the Virginia Joe Scholarship, we have **two** recipients; both are Stl'atl'imx
- b) Priscilla spoke to Virginia's oldest son, Paul to let him know; he said that this was the right decision to make and that his Mom would be happy; but we do not want to set a precedent
- c) One of the Bursary applications was changed to a Scholarship application as the applicant was in Grade 12
- d) These winners are to be kept confidential until after they have been notified
- e) All Scholarship/Bursary applicants received something
- f) Priscilla and Bill have been doing this a long time
- g) Trying to streamline the process
- h) Having the Success Coaches at the schools help to increase the number of applicants

10) Band Outreach - Vivian

- a) Coming to year end
- b) Last week is the week of June 21st
- c) The following week will be clean up week
- d) Highly unlikely that the Band Outreach will run again next year because of the vaccination program

11) Addition Updates - Vivian

- a) Partnership with Steps Together Foundation/Youth Leadership Society of BC
 - i) Ravi has written a number of Grants; he and his colleagues received funding
 - ii) We now have 75 – 95 backpacks with school supplies ready for September
 - iii) 20 desktop computers are on their way for families to keep and 16 more have been ordered
 - iv) 70 Food Hampers were delivered to Marcy's office yesterday
 - v) ILW's picked them up to deliver to families
- b) Graduation 2021
 - i) FVLC – June 17th - 5:30 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. in the parking lot at Northview Community Church
 - ii) MSS – June 19th – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. near the racetrack
 - iii) Riverside – TBA
- c) Drum Across Kanata
 - i) Have sent emails with instructions
 - ii) Will have the Hatzic Drum Group performing
 - iii) All pre-recorded
 - iv) Booked Room 104 in blocks of an hour for 8 people at a time
 - v) Stay tuned for emails as it will be a sign up

12) Curriculum Update – Kilaksten (Peggy)

- a) Rick Joe and the Chilliwack S.D. just did a filming for June 21st
 - i) Rick Joe did a Grant for \$17,000.00 and his grand scheme is to have the Salish Weavings by Freida George for Chilliwack
 - ii) They are leased on a mini contract for Mission Public School District
 - iii) Really cool opportunity and it's around the "Secret Pocket" story
 - iv) Looking forward to having the Weaving
- b) Project of Heart canoe
 - i) 16 feet long
 - ii) It's in our Siwal Si'wes Library while the Stó:lō Nation is doing renovations
 - iii) Chief Johnny Williams drummed it in
- c) Ordered Secret Pocket Stickers
- d) Cultural Presentations Review
 - i) Meeting with ILW's to create lessons
 - ii) Meeting with Jennifer Lane to have books to go with them
 - iii) Good to have the lessons for ILW's

13) 2021 – 2022 Sacred Teaching – Priscilla

- a) This time of year, is when we discuss which Teaching will be used for the following school year
 - i) 2021 – 2022 Sacred Teaching: Beaver – Wisdom

Next Meetings:

June 8, 2021

**11:30 a.m. at Siwal Si'wes (Room 104)
and 12:00 p.m. on Zoom (calendar invitation to follow)**

(If you would like to attend in person, please advise Vivian, as there is a maximum capacity of 8 in Room 104 at SWSW)