

SIWAL SI'WES (SWSW) – ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

May 9, 2023

Present in-person at Siwal Si'wes:

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Randy Cairns | Pixie Wells | Tracy Loffler | Agnes Giesbrecht |
| Nicholas Louie | Sonya Williams | Vivian Searwar | Marcy Buell |

Present on Microsoft Teams:

1) Call to Order, Welcome & Opening Words

2) Territory Acknowledgement - Vivian

- a) Mission Public School District 75 is located on the traditional, ancestral, Unceded and shared territories of the Stó:lō people, which includes Sq'éwlets, Leq'á:mel, Sema:th, Matheqwí and Qwó:ltl'el First Nations.

3) Apologies/Regrets

- a) Priscilla Wells
- b) William Wells
- c) Jeanette Phillips
- d) Ronald Peters

4) Ey kwese e'mi: Welcome Everyone & Introductions

5) Review of Previous Minutes from March 7, 2023

- a) Accept – Nicholas Louie
- b) Second – Agnes Giesbrecht
- c) Motion Carried

6) Financial Statement Review

- a) SWSW Financial Statement
- b) Student Affordability Fund
 - i) Marcy included details of payments (i.e., rent, clothing etc)
 - ii) Currently at \$12, 256.43
 - iii) Didn't buy bus passes this time
 - (1) Want to make sure there was going to be enough left for incidentals
 - iv) Keep the last \$10,000.00 for another Gift Card Blitz
 - (1) If any funds are left in June, we will buy more gift cards
 - v) We want to share expenses with the schools as well, they also have SAFA
 - (1) Trying to make it more equitable
 - vi) Goal is to have it all spent by the end of June
 - vii) If you come up with an idea that is doable, let Vivian know
 - viii) Do any families of graduates need assistance?

7) Updates

- a) Equity in Action Update
 - i) Most Equity Flags have been dispersed to schools
 - (1) Equity Flag are to be flown during specific times – Vivian sent an email to school administrators
 - (2) The BC Flag will come down for this if there are two poles
 - (3) We would like all schools to have three poles
 - ii) Plan for the rest of the year and next year
 - (1) Wanted a Parent PATH on May 11th but we had low numbers
 - (2) Postponed to the Fall
 - (3) We will be having a BBQ on September 21st @ 4:30 p.m. @ Fraserview Learning Centre
 - (4) Will have the BBQ first and then invite the parents into the gym to focus on “What Are Your Dreams for Your Child in SD75?”
 - (5) It’s a time to eat, mingle and brainstorm
 - iii) Had student forums for grades, 10, 11 & 12’s
 - iv) Goal for 2023 2024: Equity Teacher Lead at each school
 - v) Would like a PATH at Leq’á:mel and Kwantlen like we did at Sq’ewlets
 - vi) Plans to send a survey to Matsqui, Sumas & Metis Nation BC
 - vii) Vivian is working on a PowerPoint document to send to non-teaching SD75 Staff (Operations, Facilities, Finance, HR etc)
 - viii) Vivian created a four question, questionnaire for CUPE & MTU
 - ix) Final is to compile all this information by May/June 2024
 - x) Next one in the fall is for Middle schools and will take the grade 10’s who would have missed it this year
 - xi) We need more Indigenous teachers
 - xii) Need to make people understand in a gentle way that we still are on Sto:lo Land
 - xiii) Should get posters of Indigenous Role Models in our schools
 - xiv) We have done a lot, but there is lots more to do
- b) Policy Updates
 - i) Bring your attention to this website
 - (1) <https://engagempsd.ca/policy-review-2023>
- c) Metis Childcare (see attached)
 - i) SD75 Engage Portal
 - (1) Gives a breakdown on what’s to come
 - (a) <https://engagempsd.ca/new-distinctions-based-child-care-spaces-at-west-heights?preview=true>
 - ii) MNBC/FVMA info
 - (1) Fill out the survey
 - (2) <https://www.mnbc.ca/news/mnbc-sd75-fvma-partner-new-child-care-spaces>

8) Discussion

- a) Land Acknowledgement Plaques – **UPDATE CURRENTLY ON HOLD** (new information to come)
 - i) Rain Pierre will prepare the plaques (waiting on confirmation of the inscription)
 - ii) Any suggestions, let Vivian know
 - (1) Change “Chosen Home to Lodging Home”
 - (2) Vivian will send this out to the Nations for approval and then will bring this back for one last look in June
 - iii) Rain can work on this over the summer
- b) SBO House Posts
- c) Sacred Teaching 2023 - 2024
 - i) Teachers ask early on what the next years’ teaching will be to prep for the following year
 - ii) Have students do artwork
 - iii) Should we choose now or in June?
 - (1) It was between Truth & Honesty
 - (2) Everyone decided that Vivian flip a coin, and the choice was **Honesty – Sabe** for next year

9) New Information Items

- a) Staffing 2023 – 2024
 - i) We will have a bit of a surplus
 - ii) Will keep most staff we currently have; assignments will shift and change depending on demographics and need
- b) School Replacement MSS
 - i) Pam Alexis and Bob D’eith approved funding for a new MSS
 - ii) Want Indigenous input
 - iii) <https://bcndpcaucus.ca/news/ndp-mlas-alexis-and-deith-announce-funding-to-replace-mission-secondary-school/>
- c) BAA Course Presentation (JCAM)
 - i) Requirement for Graduation
 - ii) Johnny Williams, Camielle Laslo, Vivian, Peggy, and others met and created a course called: “Téméxw te í: The Land of this Place.”
 - iii) Received approval from the Ministry for this course and it’s also the First BAA course that has been approved across BC
 - (1) The Ministry wants Vivian to present to all Superintendents in BC on May 25th
 - iv) The Board supported this
 - (1) Very grateful for the Indigenous support in our District
 - (2) Going down the road, it will only get better
- d) Raise hands to those involved

**Next Meeting:
June 13, 2023
11:30 a.m. in person**

Room 104