

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.46 (SUNSHINE COAST)

STRATEGIC PLAN REPORT: STUDENT VOICE

Submitted by Superintendent Bocking
September 9th, 2020

1a Our **students' voices** will be respectfully heard and acted upon.

“Meaningful student involvement is the process of engaging students as partners in every facet of school change for the purpose strengthening their commitment to education, community & democracy.”

— Adam Fletcher

Background:

School District 46 is a leader in student voice. The Board is proud to be welcoming its eighth student trustee, Abby Grunenburg, to the table tonight! The District Student Leadership Team (DSLST) meets monthly with the Superintendent, Principals and Vice Principals to review matters of importance to students. Much of the DSLST work has been about connections amongst schools and learning from each other. Our principals ensure that there are a variety of different student voice structures in their schools. While the district is proud of its role in supporting student voice in our communities and in the province, there is always room for continued growth.

Discussion:

Student Voice means that those most directly impacted by the work of our district have a say in what happens in their education. For most of us, our personal experience in schools is some time ago. Technology, social structures, educational research and much more are changing the way we interact, learn and problem solve. The expectations on students are different and their future is still being created. It is our obligation to know where students are in their understandings and beliefs in the system and to capture their new ideas for an educational system that they fully embrace as their own.

During the last few months of the last school year, the pandemic reduced the opportunities for connection and for installing the news group of DLST members. Therefore, the schools and DSLST will be selecting the grade 11 members for this year by the beginning of October.

Next steps include:

- Communication in a time of Pandemic
- What does student voice mean to students? How can it be enhanced?
- The current and new DSLST members are certain to come up with additional important ideas for supporting their learning.