



**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 46 (SUNSHINE COAST)
EDUCATION COMMITTEE NOTES**

Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 2:00 p.m.
School Board Office - Gibsons, BC
494 South Fletcher Road
Gibsons, BC

TRUSTEES: A. Amaral (Committee Chair), P. Ruth, T. Ste. Marie

STAFF: P. Bocking, Superintendent; K. Kerr, Director of Instruction;
K. Mahlman, District Principal; C. Spence, Principal; Jane
Kowalczyk, Education Director, *shíshálh* Nation; L. Leskie,
CUPE Local 801; J. Budgell, CUPE Local 801; K. Daub, CUPE
BC; J. Shelemey, SCTA; E. Reimer, Executive Assistant
(Recording Secretary)

REGRETS: S. Girard, Trustee; P. Bishop, Director of Instruction

1. Call to Order

Trustee Amaral called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

2. Indigenous Cultures and Diversity

District Principal Mahlman spoke to a presentation that summarized the BC focus for indigenous learning and introduced a number of community elders, indigenous artists, district staff and volunteers, all of whom provide support to indigenous learning program at our schools. Students have the opportunity to learn first hand about indigenous languages, fishing, weaving, traditional stories and music, among other topics.

District Principal Mahlman demonstrated the “culture baskets” that are available to teachers to support indigenous learning. The baskets provide students with an opportunity to explore materials with cultural significance.

3. Regulations for Review:

1. Reg. 1290 – Student Leadership

Superintendent Bocking reviewed the revised regulation, which outlines the formation of the District Student Leadership Team (DSLTT) and the selection process for the student trustee. He noted that the updates to the regulation, which include changing the date that the Student Trustee takes office, were specifically requested by the DSLTT.

2. Reg. 1360 – Waivers and Informed Consent

Superintendent Bocking reviewed changes to the regulation. The committee discussed cultural activities taking place in schools, in relation to recent events in other districts, noting that indigenous connection is a clearly stated priority in the strategic plan and in the BC curriculum in general. Superintendent Bocking further clarified that the regulation in question was specific to activities taking place outside of the students' school.

A trustee asked about an informal camping policy from the NEST program, which only allows adults and students of the same gender to camp together in tents. Superintendent Bocking indicated that he would follow up with the principal regarding the practice.

3. Reg. 3200 - Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI)

Director Kerr discussed revisions to the regulations, which include:

- the appointment of a district SOGI lead,
- the appointment of school based SOGI leads,
- the provision of learning opportunities for school communities,
- providing students with the right to self-identification.

Director Kerr reported that the regulation was reviewed with the district SOGI committee, and that other school district's policies and SOGI123 materials were considered.

4. Reg. 3240 - Student Substance Abuse

Director Kerr reported a small revision to the regulation, to specify that "counselling or other supports necessary" be made available to students facing challenges with substance use.

4. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:04 p.m.