



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

Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 2:00 p.m.
School Board Office - Gibsons, BC
494 South Fletcher Road
Gibsons, BC

TRUSTEES: S. Girard (Committee Chair), A. Amaral, S. Leech, P. Ruth

STAFF: P. Bocking, Superintendent; P. Bishop, Director of Instruction; M. Bell, SCTA Professional Development Chair; G. Smith, Principal; J. Kowalczyk, Education Director, *shishalh* Nation; J. Budgell, CUPE Local 801; S. Mackenzie, CUPE Local 801; L. Leske, CUPE Local 801; C. Spence, Principal; E. Reimer, Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

REGRETS: T. Ste. Marie, Trustee, K. Kerr, Director of Instruction

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Trustee Girard.

2. Numeracy (1.e.)

Glen Smith, Principal at Madeira Park Elementary and chair of the district Numeracy Committee, provided a report on ongoing efforts to support students and teachers in mathematics.

The committee's goals are to:

- support teachers in their professional development to foster a positive mathematics culture, and
- improve students' ability to understand and communicate mathematical skills and concepts.

The Numeracy Committee is working towards those goals by:

- promoting a growth mindset that celebrates learning, including mistakes,
- creating opportunities for students to explore their own mathematical interests (i.e.: coding and robotics),
- enhancing experiential learning and infusing indigenous culture into mathematics,
- promoting the core competencies,
- communicating the role of the committee with staff,
- providing in-service training opportunities with math experts,
- promoting Math CAMPS sessions, and
- promoting professional development opportunities.

A copy of Principal Smith's presentation is available at <https://sd46.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020-02-Ed-Presentations.pdf>.

3. Professional Development (2.b.)

CUPE Local 801 President, Janice Budgell, provided a summary of CUPE professional development procedures, noting that:

- Professional development funds are available on a first come, first served basis, through an application process.
- Professional development funds are managed by a joint Professional Development Committee, which includes representation from both the union and management.
- Professional development funds must be used for opportunities that are related to the applicant's work in the school district.
- Unused professional development funds carry over to the following school year.
- The professional development committee is considering ways to make the funds more accessible to all classifications

SCTA Professional Development Committee Chair, Melissa Bell, provided a report on the use of teacher professional development and shared that:

- Schools have a school based professional development committee that provides an opportunity for school specific collaboration with colleagues,
- There are currently 5 bargained professional development days in the school calendar and teachers may choose their professional learning on those designated dates,
- A province wide professional development day is designated in October and provincial specialist associations hold workshops on that date, allowing for greater participation provincially.
- \$50 per 1.0 FTE is designated for school professional development initiatives (including food, group resources, speakers, etc.)
- \$467 per 1.0 FTE is available for individual professional learning opportunities.
- The 15 district Learning Specialist Associations (LSAs) may access 10% of the total professional development budget.
- The Mentorship Program is funded by matched contributions from the district and the union. The program continues to be highly popular and is generally fully utilized.
- The theme for next year's district professional development day is staff and student wellness

Superintendent Bocking shared a handout that listed all of the district run in-service events and staff committees that further support the professional development of both teachers and support staff. A copy of presentation materials can be found at <https://sd46.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020-02-Ed-Presentations.pdf>.

4. Family Engagement (2.e.)

Family Engagement Committee Chair, Stephanie Murawsky, reported that the committee has shifted their efforts from reviewing reporting requirements from teachers to parents, to family engagement projects that include supporting PACs and enabling them to communicate with their school families. The Family Engagement Committee will do so by:

- Offering two Family Engagement Learning Series sessions per year: the first focused on running an effective meeting and the second, in April, will support creating a culture of connection,

- Providing a dedicated page on the district website with links to tools and websites that are pertinent to families - <https://sd46.bc.ca/families-and-students/communication-engagement/>
- Supporting families with transitions from grade 7 to secondary school by helping PACs to host school tours and information sessions for parents,
- Developing videos on relevant subject matter, and
- Updating brochures, including a guide specific to family communication at the school level.

5. Regulations for Review

1. Reg. 1050 - Career Programs

Director Bishop noted that the regulation was previously repealed and is being reinstated under ministry direction. The regulation has since been updated to reflect current curricular requirements.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:19 p.m.