



**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 46 (SUNSHINE COAST)
AD HOC ANTI-POVERTY POLICY COMMITTEE NOTES**

Monday, March 1, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
Online via Zoom

PRESENT: T. Ste. Marie (Committee Chair); A. Amaral; M. Hamvent,
A. Grunenberg (Student Trustee)

STAFF: P. Bocking, Superintendent; K. Kerr, Director of Instruction;
E. Reimer, Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Scope of Committee

The committee considered the original motion from the February Board Meeting: "TO form an equity ad hoc committee that will develop a policy around anti-poverty."

The committee suggested:

- Defining the form of poverty (financial, time, space, etc) being addressed.
- Creating a guiding principle to empower the district in its decision making.
- Developing a board policy that supports initiatives that create equity and/or remove barriers to equity in education.
- Recognizing poverty and making a change for the better.

3. Terms of Reference

The committee will work to develop a policy that creates a lens to support decision making and prioritization of district initiatives to ensure that staff and students are not disproportionately impacted by poverty.

4. Consulting with Stakeholders

The committee suggested including the following groups in the consultation process:

- Healthy Schools Committee
- Indigenous Education Advisory Circle
- District Parents Advisory Council

- Principals and Vice-Principals
- SCTA
- CUPE
- DSLT
- Sunshine Coast Community Services
- Ministry of Children and Family Development

5. Food in Schools

The committee considered potential talking points for the necessity of food in schools through a poverty lens:

- Referencing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child which includes food and nutrition references in articles 24 & 27
- Modeling universal access decisions, similar to the provision of school supplies and band instruments
- Advocating for the district's needs, understanding what's currently being offered and advocating to fill that gap.
- Including a reference to systems thinking in the policy itself.
- Reporting on Food in Schools at the Operations Committee at the end of March.

The committee watched a short video on child poverty in British Columbia, available at https://youtu.be/3vTxmi_i-vE

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.