



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

EDUCATION COMMITTEE NOTES
Held on Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.
At the School Board Office – Gibsons, BC

PRESENT: TRUSTEES: Christine Younghusband, Chair; Greg Russell, Betty Baxter
STAFF/OTHERS: Patrick Bocking, Superintendent; Greg Kitchen, Assistant Superintendent; Phil Luporini, District Principal; Carolyn Spence, Principal; David Barnum, Program Coordinator; Erica Reimer, Recording Secretary; Carolyn Smith; Ruth Emerson; Anne Titcombe; Pat Hunt; Louise Herle; Pammila Ruth

REGRETS: Vanessa White, Lenora Joe

Called to order at 1:01 pm

1. Community Resource Centre's Progress Plan... In Progress

Anne Titcombe and Pat Hunt presented the findings of the Community Resource Centre's "Progress Plan... In Progress" to the committee. The resource centre has received funding through Status of Women Canada to develop an economic plan to address women's needs on the Sunshine Coast. The plan's development is in its final stages, with a wrap up date for March 31, 2015. The resource centre is pleased with the significant community interest in the development of the plan. Four key issues have been identified throughout the process, these being sense of belonging, income, transportation and child and elder care. Ms. Titcombe and Ms. Hunt shared information relating to upcoming action groups that will promote awareness and work towards solutions to the identified issues. The school district was thanked for their support for expanded childcare in both Gibsons and Sechelt. The committee discussed the action plan and indicated their support for the valuable work being done.

2. Careers – P. Luporini

District Principal, Phil Luporini, provided a verbal reported. He provided examples of the many career programming opportunities provided through the school district, highlighting the ACE-IT Trades programs, Planning 10, and Work Experience programs. Career Facilitator, Rick Gibb, works directly with students involving them in a variety of firsthand work experiences.

The ACE-IT programs, including Automotive, Carpentry and Culinary, have a combined registration of approximately 40 students. Skills are gained through work experience and a course grade of 70% is required to pass. Students are presented the option to re-write exams, as required. Several students have gone on to complete their Red Seal certification for carpentry and culinary.

The school district continues to explore options to promote an interest in the trades at the elementary level. The school district also continues to build on the success of last year's trades program in partnership with the Sechelt Indian Band. The committee engaged in a discussion on the benefits of trades education. A suggestion was made to promote and make aware of the smaller or lesser-publicized trades for future programming expansion. It was noted that work experience and early careers training may also provide skills for employment while pursuing a post-secondary education.

3. Grad Survey (report)

Superintendent Bocking reported on the results of the recent Grad Survey, which invited feedback from students graduating in 2004 to 2013. The committee discussed the survey results noting that while 111 people completed the survey, the majority of respondents skipped many questions. Comments provided by past graduates were valuable to the committee's discussion. It was agreed that the survey, in its current state, is not providing a depth of insight of significant value. Suggestions were made for improvements, including involving the District Student Leadership team in an "exit interview" for current graduates, then following up with those students in timed intervals to assess the long term needs of past students.

Recommendation: "That the Board support a proposal from the Superintendent to develop a process to acquire feedback from graduating students and to bring back recommendations to the Education Committee by March, 2015."

4. Program Coordinator Role – D. Barnum

Program Coordinator, David Barnum, provided a snapshot of the various activities and programs that will fall under his newly formed role. These include:

- Coordinator of Transitions (supporting students as they transition from elementary to secondary schools)
- Coordinator of Parent Engagement (supporting and promoting parent engagement)
- Supporting the new curriculum and personalized learning
- Ongoing Learning Together initiatives

The committee engaged in a brief discussion and a suggestion was heard to include CUPE staff in conversations regarding transitions.

The meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Next meeting: November 26, 2014 at the School Board Office