



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

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE NOTES
Held on February 24^h, 2016 from 1:00-2:30 pm
At the School Board Office, Gibsons, B.C.**

PRESENT: TRUSTEES: Christine Younghusband (Chair), Betty Baxter, Lori Dixon, Pammila Ruth, Greg Russell

STAFF/OTHERS: Paul Bishop, Director of Instruction; Vanessa White, Director of Instruction; Erica Reimer, Recording Secretary

REGRETS: Patrick Bocking, Superintendent; Carolyn Spence, Principal, David Barnum, Curriculum and Transitions Coordinator;

The meeting was called to order at 1:08 p.m.

1. Strategic Plan: Goal 1.c. Math

Our students will achieve the mathematical skills required for academic and life success.

Director Bishop passed on regrets from Superintendent Bocking who had become ill earlier in the day. Director Bishop provided information on the mathematics planning committee and reported that a call for members had been sent to the Sunshine Coast Teachers' Association (SCTA). The committee will consist of four SCTA representatives and four management team members, including David Barnum as an SCTA representative. The committee's mandate is to create a district plan to support student learning in mathematics and to provide resources, strategies and directions for assessment.

The committee reviewed provincial examination marks in mathematics courses from 2010/11 to 2014/15. The committee discussed exams, differences in learning styles and the impact on changes to the reporting order on assessment for mathematics.

A request was made to compare the mandates and goals of the reading and math committees at a future meeting.

2. Strategic Plan: Goal 2.f. Leaders

Our staff will be leaders in their work.

Director Bishop reported that the principal process is underway. A number of qualified applicants have put their names forward and a hiring committee has been appointed to evaluate the applicants and create a short-list for interviews. The principal pool hiring committee consists of one secondary administrator, one elementary administrator, two senior administrators and two trustees. Interviews are scheduled to take place on April 6th, 2016.

A committee of administrators is developing professional development opportunities for those applicants in the principal pool, teachers in charge and other staff looking to strengthen their leadership skills.

Director White remarked on the leadership skills demonstrated by those teachers who stepped up to lead sessions in support of the new curriculum at four district sites on the recent non-

instructional day. David Barnum will be meeting with teachers in preparation of the March 29th non-instructional day meeting on Friday, February 26th.

Trustee Baxter reported that several school districts, including Surrey, Burnaby, Langley and Delta, have expressed an interest in the school district's early learning programs, the NEST nature program and changes to student learning at Pender Harbour Secondary. The success of these programs is credited to teachers and principals having taken on a leadership role in developing a new program. The Roberts Creek Community School is being profiled at an upcoming Civic Governance forum on April 1-2, 2016 for their work in developing mindfulness programming throughout the district.

Principals take on community leadership roles, especially in the event of a local emergency, as was demonstrated over the summer with wildfires. Clear roles and lines of communication are in place for emergency situations.

Director White shared that SET BC awards have been granted to 3 schools, who will be each be receiving 10 iPads, thanks to teacher applications. A committee member commented that teachers are inspired and senior staff is supporting them.

3. Aboriginal Performance Data – “How Are We Doing?” (HAWD)

Director Bishop suggested that in Superintendent Bocking's absence, that the performance document be tabled to a future meeting.

The committee discussed preferences when evaluating aboriginal performance data. Comments were made in support of both graphical summaries and in-depth data as contained in the “How Are We Doing” report. The committee suggested hosting a dedicated meeting to review the report. It was felt that a thorough review of the document would help to ensure transparency and allow for sufficient time to evaluate the data. It was further suggested that key stakeholders, including representatives from the Sechelt Indian Band and Council, be invited to take part in the meeting.

4. Curriculum (standing item)

The standing item was missed due to time limitations.

5. Parent Engagement (standing item)

This standing item was missed due to time limitations.

The meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 30th, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the School Board Office.

For agenda setting:

- Math and Reading Committee Goals
- Aboriginal Education Data (HAWD)