



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

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Held on May 24, 2017 from 2:30-4:00 p.m.

At the School Board Office, Gibsons, B.C.

PRESENT: TRUSTEES: Pammila Ruth (Committee Chair), Christine Youngusband,
Betty Baxter

STAFF/OTHERS: Patrick Bocking, Superintendent; Paul Bishop, Director of
Instruction; David Barnum, Transitions Coordinator; Carolyn Spence,
Principal; Erica Reimer, Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

REGRETS: Vanessa White, Director of Instruction

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

1. Strategic Plan 3.f. Sechelt Indian Band and Squamish Nation

*Goal 3.f. Our district will enhance relationships with the shíshálh Indian Band, the
Sḵwxwú7mesh Nation and other cultural groups.*

District Principal Mahlman described events taking place during the course of the
2016/17 school year that enhanced relationships with the Sechelt and Squamish
Nations. The full report is available at [http://www.sd46.bc.ca/files/16-
17_BoardMeetings/cmtes/20170524_Ed-Agenda.pdf](http://www.sd46.bc.ca/files/16-17_BoardMeetings/cmtes/20170524_Ed-Agenda.pdf).

2. Strategic Plan

*Goal 1.j. Our students will explore indigenous cultures in our community and the
diversity of cultures in the world through experience, instruction and language
learning.*

District Principal Mahlman reported that students are provided an opportunity to
experience local first nations culture through experiential canoe trips, meetings with
elders, instructions on gathering and food preparation, cedar weaving and in making
traditional items, such as drums. Other opportunities for learning include the local Tem
Swiya Museum and visits to the longhouse. Students learn about indigenous cultures in
other parts of Canada, including Sioux traditions. Teaching staff work to be culturally
responsive as well as responsive to student needs.

District Principal Mahlman shared a locally developed document for indigenous
language programs, entitled "Sixteen House Posts of Indigenous Language Learning".
The document forms part of submission to the Ministry of Education and may be used
as a framework for the development of indigenous language programs.

3. Strategic Plan 1.h. Experiential Learning and Inquiry

Goal 1.h.: Our students will encounter, challenge, explore and pursue interests, and develop core competencies through experiential learning and personalized inquiry.”

Superintendent Bocking spoke to ways in which the district’s early learning programs focus on experiential learning.

Director Bishop described a BAA course being developed at Chatelech Secondary that allows students to conduct formal inquiries with teacher supports. The BAA course description will come to the board for consideration at a future date.

Transitions Coordinator David Barnum shared information on the museum school program and reported that two additional sites, one in North Vancouver and one in Chilliwack, will develop programs based on recommendations from the Gibsons Museum.

Principal Spence reported ways in which alternative school programs offer students an opportunity to build programs around a particular passion or interest.

4. District Report to the Ministry

Superintendent Bocking shared a newly developed website that will form the district’s Report to the Ministry, under the ministry’s *Framework for Enhancing Student Learning*, at www.sd46studentexcellence.ca.

The website highlights both qualitative and quantitative data on early learning, reading, mathematics, graduation, student belonging and aboriginal education. Superintendent Bocking reported that information would be updated on a regular basis to the website, with a yearly presentation made to the Education Committee in May and a request for approval by the board at their regular June board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

“That the Board approve the 2016/17 District Report to the Ministry.”

5. Curriculum (standing item)

Transitions Coordinator Barnum shared the timeline for curriculum and assessment for grades 10 to 12. A recent session on core competencies at Roberts Creek Elementary was well attended by elementary teachers and an additional session may be scheduled in the fall for secondary teachers.

The committee discussed curriculum supports for grade 8 and 9 teachers.

Superintendent Bocking reported that additional release time will be available to secondary teachers in the next school year and that a ministry non-instructional day has been scheduled to support changes to the curriculum.

6. Parent Engagement (standing item)

The next DPAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 24.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.