



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

Wednesday, May 22, 2019, 2:30 p.m.
School Board Office - Gibsons, BC

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

STAFF: V. White, Director of Instruction, P. Bishop, Director of Instruction, K. Mahlman, District Principal of Aboriginal Programs and Services, K. Deasey, District Principal of Learning and Innovation, M. Smart, Teacher, E. Reimer, Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

REGRETS: A. Amaral, Trustee, T. Ste. Marie, Trustee, P. Bocking, Superintendent

1. Call to Order

Chair Ruth called the meeting to order at 2:33 am.

2. Early Learning – K. Deasey & M. Smart

District Principal Deasey and West Sechelt Elementary Teacher Michelle Smart reported back on a recent Reggio Emilia Study tour in Italy. They reported that the Reggio method involves:

- Student environments that are thoughtfully designed, with a variety of spaces and items to provide opportunities for discovery.
- Collaborative model with two educators or more in a classroom. Collaboration teams includes all staff.
- Students come together in a mini-community with values on shared governance and democratic participation. Discord provides an opportunity for learning.
- Students are encouraged to discover different perspectives and ways of seeing.
- Documentation that communicates student learning through photographs, descriptions provided in the students' own voices

A copy of their presentation is included in the agenda package.

3. Experiential Learning (1.h.)

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

Director Bishop reported on the ways in which teachers engage students in different learning environments, for instance French lessons taking place outdoors on Keats Island, math being taught in the woodshop as building takes place, and outdoor education that combines math and science content.

4. Indigenous Learning (1.j.)

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 on indigenous programs in the district and noted the following items:

- The exploration of indigenous cultures allows all students an opportunity to feel that they belong and improves academic success,
- Increased Elder visits to schools have been successful,
- Hands on learning takes place in small groups,
- Teaching students about the medicinal properties of native plants and drum making,
- Graduation rates continue to improve on a steady trajectory.
- Student interest in learning *she shashishalhem* continues to rise. Chatelech is considering opening a second section.

A copy of District Principal Mahlman's presentation is included in the agenda package.

5. shíshálh Nation / Squamish Nation (3.f.)

Goal 3.f. Our district will enhance relationships with the shíshálh Indian Band, the Skwxwú7mesh Nation and other cultural groups.

District Principal Mahlman reported on:

- Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee, co-chaired by Terry Aleck, meets 5 times a year to review district initiatives and provide feedback,
- Paddling trips allow students and staff to connect in a different environment and fosters a sense of belonging,
- Welcome poles at Gibsons Elementary and Pender Harbour Secondary are a point of pride,
- An entrance pole project is in the works at Kinnikinnick Elementary School,
- Artist Bill Jamieson has agreed to work with Elphinstone students to create a glass fusion piece that highlights the Squamish coast line,
- District involvement in the *syiyaya* reconciliation movement,
- Blanket exercises provide a deeper understanding of history.

A copy of District Principal Mahlman's presentation is included in the agenda package.

6. District Report to Ministry

Director White shared the district's report to the ministry, in the form of the website www.sd46studentexcellence.ca, with the committee. The website provides accessible information on several of the district's goals, including early learning, reading,

mathematics, graduation, student belonging and aboriginal education. The website is updated throughout the year with new videos describing various programs and initiatives and updated yearly with relevant data.

7. Regulations for Review:

a. Reg. 1340 – Supervision of Students

Director White indicated that the regulation is still being considered and will be discussed at an upcoming principals' meeting.

b. Reg. 3020 - Anaphylaxis

Director White reported that the regulation had been updated to reflect the BC *Anaphylactic and Child Safety Framework*. Director White noted that:

- Parents must inform schools if a student is in danger of an anaphylactic reaction and a care plan is put in place. Plans are developed in consultation with the student and family.
- In-service training is provided in September for staff working with students with anaphylaxis.
- Prevention is key and emergency plans must be in place for field trips, etc.
- Staff are taught hand over hand delivery for epi-pens,
- Students are able to carry epi-pens at schools and parents must keep medication up to date

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.