



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Office of the Superintendent of Schools / Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Donna M. Michaels, Superintendent of Schools / Chief Executive Officer
Mr. G. E. (Greg) Malazdrewicz, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Assistant Superintendent

PARENT/GUARDIAN/DIVISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Location: Division Office Board Room

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Agenda Review

Trustee P. Bowslaugh
Trustee K. Sumner
Trustee S. Bambridge

2. Policy Review Committee
RE: Scent Free Facilities – Consultation

Trustees S. Bambridge, P. Bowslaugh and K. Sumner presented information on behalf of the Policy Review Committee regarding Policy 1023 – Scent/Fragrance Free Facilities.

SEE APPENDIX A

3. School Reports/Notes

Waverly Park School

- An inquiry was made about reimbursement for some safety vests that they purchased for staff to wear while on playground duty.
- They felt this was necessary during the construction to be able to identify BSD staff from construction staff.
- She also mentioned that they would like to see rain ponchos for their patrols for days where the weather was bad but not bad enough to have indoor recess.

Earl Oxford School

- A concern was brought forward with regards to getting the agenda and minutes only a day or two in advance of the meeting, as this was not enough time to be able to prepare for the meeting. She mentioned that they used to receive the package about a week in advance.

“Accepting the Challenge”

PARENT/GUARDIAN/DIVISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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MINUTES

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- She also inquired to the possibility of the Parent Council Reps adding items to the agenda.
 - Their parent council had received comments that the parents were not happy with only having the parent/teacher interviews on Friday. They liked the option of Thursday that they have had in the past.
 - Parents had indicated that they liked the open house that used to be held on the first day of school. This year this was not possible because we started right into classes on the first day.
 - With regards to the consultation meeting regarding catchment boundaries, they felt that the meeting lacked structure. They weren't sure what was expected of them.
 - Media Policy - A parent had signed the media form indicating that their child could not be interviewed; however, when student pictures were being displayed in the building on a physical bulletin board the teacher did not allow the child's picture to be displayed because of the media policy.

Other school representatives in attendance relayed their school reports on what their Parent Councils have been doing since the last meeting (different fundraisers, movie nights, etc.).

Date of Next Meetings: Wednesday, February 17, 2016
 Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Dr. Donna M. Michaels
Superintendent of Schools/
Chief Executive Officer

/tlc

**Scent Policy Consultation
With
Parent Councils
November 18, 2015 – 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

PRESENT:

8 Parent Council Representatives
Trustees Bambridge, Bowslaugh, Sumner
B. Ewasiuk

QUESTIONS:**1) What are your concerns about the use of scented products?**

- Is smoke smell and 2nd hand smoke on children part of the policy?
- Main concern is staff and students and scent that will cause physical illness
- Soaps in schools was discussed. It was noted that there is the capability to have unscented products in schools
- Showering after gym was discussed – some thought it should be mandatory at the high school level and that younger students should follow a clothing wash cycle.
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2) How would you see this policy working for you?

- Format the same as nut-free – notify/educate
- Check-in at office
- Following the rules of the school – if scent is troublesome, change into school clothing?
- Has to be uniform punishment throughout all schools
- Where does the child go – no room to put them in as there is no space in schools
- Suggestion to package with all other policies – signed sheet re: scent use

3) How should the Division address the situation if someone is using a scent that is inappropriate?

- Intentionally spraying someone was discussed
- Who is enforcing?
- Different teachers may smell/not smell as everyone is different – different thresholds for scent.
- Teachers need to be enforcing the policy
- Has to be based on a complaint basis – those situations have to be addressed – can't policy it all.
- Post signs and enforce on buses?
- Education is the key piece of information
- Has to be Divisional support
- Different cultures don't know their scents are offensive or harmful
- Separate policy for different schools if they have an extreme sensitivity
- A lot of the students won't say anything to teachers/administrators
- Same procedures for students and teachers

WRAP-UP:

Trustees thanked the Parent Council Representatives for attending the meeting and providing their feedback.