Policy Review Committee Minutes

Tuesday, October 27, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room, Administration Office

Present: P. Bartlette (Chairperson), D. Karnes, J. Murray, Dr. D. Michaels, G. Barnes
Regrets: B. Jolly (alternate)

BRANDON
SCHOOL DIVISION

"Accepting the Challenge"

1.   CALL TO ORDER:

The Policy Review Committee Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Committee Chairperson, Trustee Bartlette.

2.   APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Policy Review Committee Agenda was approved as circulated.

3.   COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS

a)   ANALYSIS OF DIVISION POLICIES IN THE AREA OF SUSTAINABILITY

The Committee reviewed the Bethel School District – 2008-2009 School Board Priorities as an example of sustainability and student achievement. It was agreed that both sustainability and student achievement were required when drafting a policy on sustainability. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, confirmed that the policy was in the process of being drafted but required further input and direction from the Committee. She spoke about the Grade 3 literacy achievement expectation from the Education Committee and the need for such direction from the Board in other areas of student achievement. Discussions were held regarding Leadership Teams; the difference between standards and standardized testing; and the difference between process and results. The Committee agreed that goals may change on a yearly basis as student achievement changes and therefore it is important that the Board state their goals and expectations at the beginning of each year. It was further agreed that the Board would review any area where a major injection of money was provided as a demonstration that progress has been accomplished due to the increase in resources would be needed to prove value for dollar for the tax payer.

Agreed:
The Policy Review Committee would suggest to the Trustee Professional Development Committee that the Board establish priorities in the budget process that would weave in sustainability through budget discussions.

b)   SUMMARY OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND CONSIDERATION TO DATE

The Committee reviewed the summary of policies currently being developed by Senior Administration. Timelines for the Equity policy; updating Policy 4044 to include identification of learning potential as directed by Education Committee; Policy 5005 and the need for possible working Vice-Principals at some of the early years schools; Policy 6006 and the requirements for the position of Administrator of Student Support Services; principal allowances; and development of a school fees policy were all discussed.

4.   OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS:

a)   DEVELOPMENT OF A CONSULTATION POLICY

Discussions were held regarding what would be included in the proposed policy. Stakeholder groups would include parents, students, staff (through the unions and general, depending on the topic), and community as identified. It was agreed timelines must be included in the policy and that the policy would be drafted based on the culture and local. The process for the recently held consultations on the Single

Track French Immersion was discussed. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels spoke about the District Consultative Committee established in British Columbia. It was suggested that the Support Labour Management Committee or the Teacher Liaison Committee might be used instead of establishing a new Committee.

Agreed:
It was agreed that the draft policy would be discussed with the entire Board and not send as a recommendation from the Committee thus letting the public know they have been heard regarding this matter.

b)   STANDARDS OF ALLOCATIONS FOR SPECIALTY TEACHERS POLICY

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, provided an update on the status of this policy. Timelines were discussed as well as funding and budget concerns expressed. It was agreed to wait until after budget to discuss further.

5.   OPERATIONS INFORMATION:

NIL

6.   NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 11:230a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Bartlette, Chair   D. Karnes

J. Murray   B. Jolly (Alternate)