



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Education Committee Minutes

Tuesday, November 8, 2016 – 12:00 p.m.
Boardroom, Administration Office

Present: P. Bartlette (Chair), G. Kruck, M. Sefton (Alternate)
M. Gustafson, M. Casavant

Regrets: G. Buri

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Education Committee Meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Committee Chair Peter Bartlette.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Kruck added one item to the agenda.

The agenda was approved as amended.

3. PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

The Minutes of October 19, 2016 were received as information.

4. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS

A) Trustee Budget Requests

1) Indigenous Language Program

Trustees reviewed and discussed the Trustee Budget Request from Trustee Kevan Sumner, which requested that the Indigenous Language Program course be made a permanent part of the regular curriculum.

Trustees agreed they would like to first review and receive data from the pilot year of the program, which would then be used to direct decisions moving forward. The Committee reviewed this as an operations item and should be left in the hands of Administration. The Committee did not support this Trustee Budget Request.

2) Neelin High School Off-Campus – Implementation of Year Two of Extended Hours

Trustees reviewed and discussed the Trustee Budget Request from Trustee Kevan Sumner, which requested that the extended hours of operation for the Neelin High School Off-Campus facility be implemented for year two.

Trustees asked questions for clarification regarding low attendance during the first year of the implementation of the extended hours. Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Assistant Superintendent, noted that preliminary data shows that the current year is showing the same patterns. The Committee discussed the students' feedback regarding the request for more assistance with math and sciences during regular hours. The Committee reviewed this as an operations item and should be left in the hands of Administration. The Committee did not support this Trustee Budget Request.

3) Elimination of HALEP

Trustees reviewed and discussed the Trustee Budget Request from Trustee Kevan Sumner, which requested the elimination of the HALEP program.

The Committee acknowledged that the elimination of a program is an operations matter, not a Board governance matter. Trustees spoke for and against the HALEP program. The Committee advised that Administration may want to do a program review to see whether their program is meeting it's intended programming needs.

The Committee did not support this Trustee Budget Request.

B) Graduation Rates

Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Assistant Superintendent, learned how Manitoba Education calculates and tracks graduation rates. Mr. Gustafson indicated that where a student starts school in grade 9 is where their statistic is recorded regardless of where they graduate.

Mr. Gustafson provided samples of Brandon School Division's Cohort Retention Data from 2009-2016. The Committee reviewed and discussed the information provided and asked questions for clarification.

The Committee asked Mr. Gustafson to provide this information to the Board in the Report of Senior Administration at the next regular Board Meeting. Dr. Casavant, Superintendent/CEO, suggested working with the Province and other Divisions regarding the calculating and collection of graduation rates.

5. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS

A) Sub-Committee Reports

Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee – October 20, 2016

The Committee reviewed the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee minutes. Discussion took place regarding Budget Requests and the deadline for Committee Budget Requests. Trustee Kruck noted he will bring any requests received from the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee to the next Education Committee meeting.

Brandon Community Drug and Alcohol Education Coalition – October 27, 2016

Trustee Bartlette provided a verbal report on this meeting. Trustees asked questions for clarification.

Friends of Education Fund Committee – October 17, 2016

Received as information.

6. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

7. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, December 13, 2016, 12:00 p.m., Boardroom

The meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Bartlette, Chair

G. Buri

G. Kruck

M. Sefton (Alternate)