



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Policy Review Committee Minutes

Tuesday, March 17, 2015, 11:30 a.m.
Boardroom, Administration Office

Present: P. Bartlette, P. Bowslaugh, G. Buri (Chairperson), Dr. D. Michaels,
D. Labossiere.

Regrets: S. Bambridge, (Alternate).

Guests: C. Cobbe, C. Laluk.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Policy Review Committee Meeting was called to order at 11.34 a.m. by Committee Chair George Buri.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee agenda was approved as circulated.

4. PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

The Minutes of February 24, 2015 were received as information.

5. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS

A) École Harrison and École New Era Schools' Registration Processes for French Immersion Kindergarten – In Attendance: Mr. Craig Laluk & Mr. Chad Cobbe

Mr. Cobbe, Principal of École New Era School, spoke on Kindergarten Registration. He explained the entry system and the screening/registration process after grade 1. He noted that 95% of students (or greater) begin French in Kindergarten or grade 1. Mr. Cobbe said Kindergarten registration interest is expressed for the following school year, starting at the beginning of December all the way through to the following September. The number of students currently registered for the 2015-2016 Kindergarten classes is 20 between the a.m. and the p.m. classes and he is expecting that number to double by September 2015. Currently there is room at École New Era School to accommodate enrolment growth.

Dr. Michaels, Superintendent, asked Mr. Cobbe to comment on the nature of young learners and how they are presenting themselves?

Mr. Cobbe responded that the students appear to have increasing needs and decreasing readiness, but not to an alarming degree.

Due to the re-routing of students, it was noted that École New Era School now has space for new classrooms and from a Division standpoint there is room to accommodate.

Trustees asked questions for clarification regarding whether the students who are unable to get their first choice in single track French at École Harrison, then registered at to École New Era School. The response was that 50% slightly up or down, possibly 5 or 7 students, would go to École New Era School. Mr. Cobbe noted that this percentage has increased since day one.

Mr. Laluk, Principal of École Harrison, spoke on the current process for accepting registrations. He noted that the school accepts registrations the first day back to school in January after the Christmas break for families that already have a child attending school at École Harrison. Siblings can register the month of January; open registration begins in February.

Mr. Laluk noted that for the last few years people have been coming early for the February registration. Craig explained that he knew a few parents would be waiting all night, so he went to the school at midnight to open the doors so the parents could wait inside. Once the Kindergarten classes were filled to capacity, any additional registrations were accepted but forwarded on to École New Era School.

When asked about whether there should be a change in the registration process, Mr. Laluk responded that the process was vetted vigorously this year with parents and staff. The feedback was to keep the process as is, as this is believed to be the fairest way to address registration.

The Committee agreed that if the school, teachers and parents are happy, there is no need to change the registration process.

6. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS.

A) Sponsorship Policy and Procedures

Questions were posed by Trustee Bartlette: "What do we want? What do we want to accomplish?" Other divisions that have successfully used sponsorships were discussed. Trustee Bartlette noted that the community spirit is here to foster sponsorship, but this must be advantageous for both parties. Naming rights is something that is not going to happen as per direction from the Ministry.

Trustee Buri asked what exactly is the Committee talking about regarding sponsorships?

Dr. Michaels explained that this would be external financing or in-kind support that divisions and schools received in order to enhance what they already have. The question becomes: "How much latitude do you want to give?" If there is no policy there could be difficulty.

Mr. Denis Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer, clarified the difference between advertising and sponsorship.

The Committee agreed that the next steps would be to keep examining and define what this policy needs to accomplish. The Committee will continue to develop relationships with the community by talking about what we are doing and why we need continued support.

7. **OPERATIONS INFORMATION**

A) **Request from Assistant Deputy Minister re: Changes to Policy 1001.1 – Equity (for April meeting)**

Policy 1001.1: *Equity* was discussed and it was noted that the Deputy Minister had contacted the Division and advised that the policy must be more specific in saying that there would be more gender protection.

B) **Scheduling of Consultation Meetings**

- a) Staff – May 26, 2015 – Dr. Michaels will ask Principals to identify one person per staff to join in the discussions.
- b) Parents – will be invited to an evening consultation.
- c) Students – from grades 7-12 will be invited to a lunch meeting.

8. **NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 21, 2015, 9:00 a.m., Boardroom**

The meeting adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

G. Buri, Chair

P. Bartlette

P. Bowslaugh

S. Bambridge (Alternate)