



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Education Committee Minutes

Tuesday, December 13, 2016 – 12:00 p.m.
Boardroom, Administration Office

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

Regrets: G. Kruck

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Education Committee Meeting was called to order at 12:13 p.m. by Committee Chair Peter Bartlette.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as circulated

3. PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

The Minutes of November 8, 2016 were received as information.

4. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS

A) **Brandon School Division Research Advisory Committee – Research Application: Supporting English as an Additional Language (EAL) Students – Research Request from Dr. Burcu Nteliogiou, Brandon University**

Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Assistant Superintendent, reviewed the Brandon School Division Research Advisory Committee memorandum to the Education Committee. The research objectives and questions were provided:

1. Looking at pedagogical resources and innovative instructional approaches that consider the needs of EAL students within BSD;
2. Incorporating both an awareness and skill set that responds to EAL student needs within the initial teacher education program at BU and;
3. Using research and language and literacy education to inform and change current discourse and policy about what constitutes effective teaching of linguistically diverse students.

The BSD Research Advisory Committee had recommended approval of this research request, provided that the following points are addressed:

1. What criteria will you use to select one Early Years, one Middle Years, and one Senior years teacher for this research?
2. Expectation that Dr. Nteliogiou is prepared to translate the parent/guardian consent forms so that parents understand what they are agreeing to, for both themselves and their children.

Mr. Gustafson indicated that six EAL Co-op teachers have accepted the mentoring piece and Joanna Ford, EAL Specialist, is willing to be a collaborator and provide support where needed. Translation services will be covered by Brandon University.

Trustee Bartlette asked if the Committee would receive the results of the research. Mr. Gustafson responded that research will be shared with the Division prior to publication.

Trustees asked questions for clarification. The Education Committee supported the recommendation to approve the research.

Recommendation:

That the Board approve the research request from Dr. Burcu Ntelioglou, Brandon University, for the study entitled "Supporting English as an Additional Language (EAL) Students" provided that the researcher obtain permission from the Principal, Students and Parents/Guardians at each of the schools, prior to the study.

B) Graduation Rates

Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Assistant Superintendent, spoke to this item and on tracking the path of current students. Electronic information from the Province tracks where the student was in grade 9. With students moving in and out of the Division, it is impossible to have the numbers balance for Graduation and September 30. Trustees asked questions for clarification. The Committee agreed that there is no perfect solution to the calculation of graduation rates and calculations should remain as they are.

C) Aboriginal Student Achievement

The Committee discussed how the success of Aboriginal Student Achievement is measured. Mr. Gustafson noted that Provincially, Literacy and Numeracy and meeting basic needs are considered successes. He added that it is a multi-factor piece which includes causal theory. Mr. Gustafson indicated that in summary, the Department is looking to see how the Continuous Improvement Framework (CIF) program moves forward with students, staff, specialists, teachers, etc.

The Committee discussed how the Committee Goals will fit moving forward with the updated Strategic Plan, as well as Middle Years options programs and possible upcoming program reviews. Trustees asked questions for clarification.

The Committee asked for Mr. Gustafson to provide reports on the work Senior Administration is doing at upcoming Education Committee meetings.

5. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS

A) Sub-Committee Reports

Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee – NIL
Brandon Community Drug and Alcohol Education Coalition – NIL
Friends of Education Fund Committee – NIL

6. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

7. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, January 10, 2016, 12:00 p.m., Boardroom

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

G. Kruck

M. Sefton (Alternate)