

**MINUTES OF THE NEW WESTMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
EDUCATION POLICY & PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, April 2, 2019, 7:30 PM
Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary School
1714 Eighth Avenue, New Westminster**

PRESENT	Anita Ansari, Vice Chair Dee Beattie, Trustee Danielle Connelly, Trustee Gurveen Dhaliwal, Trustee Mark Gifford, Chair Maya Russell, Trustee	Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent Caroline Manders, Recording Secretary Guests Jen Richter, Principal, Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary Sonia Maglio, Acting Vice Principal, Lord Tweedsmuir Stacy Brine, Social Studies Teacher, NWSS Bruce Cunnings, Director, Instruction, Learning Services Maureen McRae-Stanger, Director, Instruction, Learning & Innovations
REGRETS	Mary Lalji, Trustee	

Chair Dhaliwal recognized and acknowledged the Qayqayt First Nations, as well as all Coast Salish peoples, on whose traditional and unceded territories we live, we learn, we play and we do our work.

1. Approval of Agenda

Add 4. School Tour - Seismic Upgrade Project

Moved and Seconded

THAT the agenda for the April 2, 2019 Open Education Policy and Planning Committee meeting be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Presentations

a. Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary School Learning Plan Presentation

Principal Richter introduced Sonia Maglio, Acting Vice Principal, who presented on how students are learning to incorporate conferencing, which is showing learning through a performance task, to provide parents a better understanding of what students are learning.

In Term 1, the students along with the parents and teachers participate in goal-setting and steps to achieve the goals.

In Term 2, the student, parent and teacher complete a core competency sort together, which provides a better understanding of how the child is performing. Parents provided positive feedback relative to the three-way conference format. Teachers have enjoyed getting to know/learn how to best shift to the new way of learning.

Students also are learning to shift how they demonstrate their learnings to their parents/teachers.

b. Student Voice-Empowering Students in Decision-Making

Stacy Brine, Social Studies Teacher at New Westminster Secondary School (NWSS), introduced student members of the NWSS Student Voice Club. The club began meeting in October 2018, is open to everyone and currently has 15-20 members mainly from grades 10-12.

The club encourages students to share their concerns, which most recently include: school cleanliness; lack of resources such as Chromebooks, access to online textbooks, the need for more counsellors; and school start-up concerns.

Students appreciated the opportunity to participate in the Student Symposium in November 2018 and the Talking Tables event in February 2019, which provided a forum for them to share their concerns and ideas directly with the Superintendent and Trustees.

Students shared with the Trustees their interest in having student representation at Board of Education meetings and suggested three students, from secondary and middle school, rotate between the meetings. Alternate methods to engaging with students such as social media, coffee-meetings, etc. were discussed.

i. Backgrounder: Student Voice – Empowering Students in Decision-Making

The material was circulated in the agenda package and was not specifically addressed at the meeting.

Superintendent Hachlaf introduced Murray McLeod, the new Principal at New Westminster Secondary School. Principal McLeod provided comments highlighting the caliber of the student presentation, and his intent to work positively with students, parents and teachers.

3. Comment and Question Period

David Brett addressed the Board regarding May Day and his support for the event.

4. School Tour - Seismic Upgrade Project

Principal Richter took the Trustees on a tour of the school to highlight the seismic capital project currently underway in the school.

5. Reports from Senior Management

a. Special Education Review April Update

Associate Superintendent Naser and Director of Instruction, Learning Services Cunnings updated the committee as follows:

- comprehensive process, focused on improving practice
- guided by research; stakeholder engagement (appreciative inquiry); and alignment with the District strategic plan.
- will include all students who require support, not only those with a designation.

Next steps include the finalization of the Special Education Review Advisory Group members and its Terms of Reference. Members will include parents, staff, Board representative, and students via online surveys and focus groups.

May Update will provide the names of the members of the advisory group (one primary point-of-contact plus one alternate for each of the member types, terms of reference; and name(s) of potential consultant(s).

June Update will include the work plan 2019/20.

b. Administrative Procedures Revisions Review

Director of Instruction, Learning & Innovations McRae-Stanger reviewed the following revised Administrative Procedures (APs). APs align District practices with clear policies, Ministry guidelines, the *School Act* and other relevant documents.

AP 117 Appendix A Glossary - Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) terms/definitions revision.

AP 356 Student Substance Abuse - language added to align with privacy language in the *Human Rights Code* as well as wording to make explicit that there will be no drug testing requested nor conducted within the District.

AP 490 Parent / Guardian Volunteers - alignment with the Parent/Guardian Volunteer Form 490-1

c. Board Authority Authorized (BAA) Courses

Director of Instruction, Learning & Innovations McRae-Stanger advised that BAA courses are locally developed by teachers in each school district.

Purpose of BAA's is to provide flexibility and choice for students, acknowledge specific and personal learning needs, and promote engagement in learning to support student success.

Courses cannot be used toward the adult graduation program; courses do not have pre-requisites.

i. BAA Retired Courses - Grades 11 & 12

In 2019 there will be no new BAA courses. Grade 10 BAA courses were reviewed 2018/2019 and grades 11 and 12 BAA courses are the focus of this year's review. A list of retired courses was reviewed. All but two are now part of the new curriculum.

6. **Old Business**

Nil.

7. **New Business**

Nil.

8. **General Announcements**

Upcoming Trustee meetings and events were reviewed.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55pm.