



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

Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 5:00 PM

Via Webex Livestream

PRESENT	Dee Beattie, Vice-Chair Anita Ansari, Trustee Mary Lalji, Trustee Danielle Connelly, Trustee Maya Russell, Trustee Mark Gifford, Trustee	Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent Leanne Sojka, Recording Secretary Guests: Maureen McRae-Stanger, Director Instruction Learning & Innovations Bruce Cunnings, Director Instruction, Learning Services Tanis Anderson, District Vice Principal Early Learning Amy Grey, Associate Secretary-Treasurer Connie Swan, District Vice Principal, Indigenous Education Murray McLeod, Principal, NWSS Stacy Brine, Teacher, NWSS Kristen Keighley-Wight, Communications Manager Julie MacLellan, Reporter, New Westminster Record Sarah Wethered, President, NWTU Student Trustees
REGRETS	Gurveen Dhaliwal, Chair Robert Weston, Executive Director Human Resources	

Committee Chair Beattie recognized and acknowledged the Qayqayt First Nation, 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. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

Moved and Seconded

THAT the agenda for the February 8, 2022 Education Policy and Planning Committee meeting be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. COMMENT AND QUESTION PERIOD

Nil.

3. **STUDENT VOICE**

a. Fall Survey Update

Student Trustees shared the results, feedback and next steps from the Fall Survey. A total of 309 students, 15% of the student body, responded to the survey that encompassed 4 major themes:

- Safety & Feeling Welcome at New Westminster Secondary School
 - 85% of student respondents feel measures to protect them against the spread of COVID-19 are adequate or somewhat adequate. Students provided input on how to improve COVID-19 safety measures at school
 - 90% of student respondents feel welcomed or feel neutral on this topic. Students provided input on how to create a more welcoming feeling at the school
- Supporting LGBTQA+ Students
 - 26% of student respondents identify as part of the LGBTQA+ community and 17% preferred not to answer. Students provided input on how to better support the LGBTQA+ school community.
- Mental Health Supports
 - 56% of student respondents identified that school was affecting their mental health, negatively or very negatively. Students provided their input on what was particularly challenging for them. Some students feel they are reaching their breaking point.
- Technology
 - 65% of student respondents indicated they can bring their own device to school and 25% indicated they could, though not on a consistent basis.

Superintendent Hachlaf confirmed there is plan for an upcoming student symposium.

4. **REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT**

a. Student Learning / Welfare Accountability Report - Policy 12 (M. McRae-Stanger, B. Cunnings, T. Anderson & C. Swan)

Director of Instruction, Learning & Innovations McRae-Stanger along with District Vice Principal, Early Learning Anderson; Director of Instruction, Learning Services Cunnings; District Vice Principal, Indigenous Education Swan provided context to the Student Learning / Welfare Accountability Report – Policy 12 presentation. Please refer to the [meeting video](#) for the detailed presentation. A copy of the presentation was also included in the [meeting agenda package](#). Trustees were asked to submit questions and comments via the Padlet app.

Highlights included qualitative and quantitative data on the 7,778 students enrolled in New West Schools:

Part 1 – Intellectual Development Data:

FSA results, K – 8 report card data and graduation assessments were reviewed.

Literacy:

- Grade 4 and grade 7 reading is consistently above 80%
- Grade 4 writing consistently above 90%
- Grade 7 writing consistently above 80%

- Grade 4 is consistently above the provincial average in reading and writing.
- Grade 7 is consistently on par or slightly above in reading and writing to the provincial trend

Numeracy:

- Grade 4 is consistently above 75%, above the provincial trend
- Grade 7 is consistently on par with the provincial trend but dipped by 4% this reporting year

Report Card Data:

A proficiency scale identifies where K – 8 students fall: emerging, developing, proficient or extending.

Graduation Numeracy & Literary Assessments:

- Graduation numeracy assessment in proficient and extending first time grade 10 writers exceeded the provincial average these past two reporting years
- Graduation literacy assessment in proficient and extending first time grade 10 writers exceeded the provincial average these past two reporting years

Part 2 – Human and Social Development Data:

Early Development Instrument (EDI):

- 2021 – 2022: Wave 8 provincial data compiled & available Spring 2022
- 2022 – 2023: Wave 9 year 1, New Westminster participation February 2023
- September 2022: District is exploring the use of Childhood Experiences Questionnaire for families

Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI):

- Not completed in 2021 due to COVID-19 impacts on staff and students
- FSA scheduled at the same time as MDI
- Commencing 2021 – 2022: shifting to grade 5 and grade 8 cohorts. Provides data that will support transition planning to middle and secondary schools

Student Learning Survey:

- Data, “often or always” grades 4, 7, 10 and 12 is consistently on par to the provincial trend:
 - Is school a place you feel you belong?
 - Do you feel safe at school?
 - How many adults at school care about you?
 - Do you feel welcome at your school?

Part 3 –Career Development Data:

Completion Rates:

- All resident student completion rate is 86% (five year) & 91% (six year) which is consistently on par with the provincial trend
- Indigenous student completion rate is 84% (five year) & 93% (six year) which is well above the provincial trend for the last two reporting years

- Students with diverse abilities completion rate is 48% (five year) & 65% (six year) which was previously on par with the provincial trend until it dropped slightly this past reporting year

Post-Secondary Transitions:

- 53% of students transition immediately to post-secondary. Within three years that percentage grows to 72%. These rates are consistent with the provincial trend. Breakdown is as follows:
 - 30% BC College
 - 8% BC Institute
 - 7% BC Teaching Intensive University
 - 26% BC Research Intensive University
 - 29% PSI in another province or country, work

Questions and discussion occurred. Director of Instruction, Learning & Innovations McRae-Stanger will provide a comprehensive response to Trustees on the questions they submitted via the Padlet app.

5. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nil.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm