

grandparents have been meeting since late fall to plan the project. The garden will be situated on the top portion

Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, March 24, 2015

The Education Committee met on Monday, March 2, 2015 at 4:30 pm. In attendance were Trustees Harman Pandher (Chair), Rajinder Narang and Mailing Chia, DPAC representative Jennifer Mezei and Assistant Superintendents Heather Hart and Wanda Mitchell.

1. Aboriginal Education Update

District Vice Principal Abigail LeBlond, District Aboriginal Education Specialist provided the committee with a summary of Aboriginal Education programs and services. In 2014-2015, the Aboriginal service delivery model was adjusted to better meet the needs of Aboriginal schools working with Aboriginal Education staff to create opportunities for culture experiences as well as academic support throughout the year.

Professional development for the district Aboriginal Education Team has centered on establishing collective values and creating a shared vision for service delivery. The team

is working with educators across the district to increase the collective knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal perspectives and history.

Examples of deep learning and cultural experiences include a totem pole project at Brentwood Park Elementary, an integrated unit focusing on Aboriginal history and

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. First Wave Initiative

Director of Instruction, Peter Dubinsky provided an overview of Burnaby's involvement in the First Wave, a provincial initiative on self-regulation in schools. Burnaby is one of seven districts in the province participating in First Wave, and is currently in the first year of the initiative.

Effie Aadland, Vice Principal at Burnaby Mountain Secondary, provided background information on cohort one. The cohort is comprised of six secondary schools in the Burnaby district and is in its second year of a two year commitment. Teams in schools are learning about self-regulation and implementing strategies that benefit students in learning different ways to self-regulate.

Cohort two is comprised of two secondary and two elementary schools within the Burnaby district and is currently in its first year of a two year commitment. Teams at Brentwood Park Elementary and some of the schools have participated in learning that aligns with school area of social emotional learning. Love Demers, Vice Principal at Brentwood Park

Elementary spoke about how it could be a learning journey in the classroom.

Tim McCreech, Head Teacher at Cascade Heights Elementary, also a member of cohort two, shared the benefits of participating in the First Wave Initiative. He reported that this work is leading to increased student and teacher understanding of self-regulation.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

3. Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada – Portfolio Based Learning Assessment

Louise Thorburn, Manager of Adult and Continuing Education provided the committee with an overview of Portfolio Based Learning Assessment (PBLA). PBLA is a systematic approach to language assessment that engages teachers and students in learning English and meeting personal goals. It is a comprehensive method of evaluating a student's

Benchmarks.

This systematic approach starts with a student needs assessment and uses the five principles of assessment for learning: clear criteria for success; feedback; self-assessment and reflection; peer assessment and effective classroom discussions. This collaborative approach is task based using authentic real world tasks and includes ongoing dialogue, and mid-term and end of term conferencing. The portfolio, known as The Language Companion, shows progress made to reach student's academic, employment and/or community-based goals.

Two PBLA lead teachers, Anna Viitanen-Safer and Rachel Spence, began their training in September 2014. In January 2015 they started to implement these techniques in their classrooms. Both teachers spoke about the merits of this new approach to assessment and the positive feedback they are receiving from students.

In September 2015, Anna and Rachel will be working with other PBLA teachers and provide support for them as they transition to this new approach to language assessment. Full implementation of PBLA is scheduled for July 2016.

Recommendation: That the Board receive this information.

4. Next Meeting

The next committee meeting will take place on Monday, April 13, 2015 at 4:30 pm.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, March 24, 2015

The Youth and Community Services Committee (YOSC) met on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. In attendance were Trustee committee members Pollock, Norman (Chair), Ketrine Chen, Larry Herman, Roberto Romo, Uin Anisatrat, and Keshon H. Schneider, DPAC.

1. ERASE – District Safe Schools Coordinator Meeting

The committee received information from the district safe schools coordinator meeting that was held on Friday, February 20, 2015. The Ministry of Education provided updates on the Emergency Management and Guidelines, the e-Security and Reporting Tool and ERASE – Level 3 Training.

Emergency Management Guidelines are to be finalized and will be shared in the near future. The Online Reporting Tool has been made available on mobile devices. The ERASE Level 3 training, which includes a larger focus on mental health, is being implemented throughout the province.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

2. ERASE – Level 3 Training

On February 18 and 19, 2015 the district participated in ERASE – Level 3 training with approximately 25 teachers, counsellors, youth service workers and administrators in attendance. RCMP School Liaison Officers also joined the district for this training.

Recommendation: That the Board receive this information.

3. Social Justice Conference

Assistant Superintendent, Roberto Bombelli provided information regarding the upcoming 2015 Social Justice Conference at Burnaby South Secondary School. Students from Burnaby will have been invited to attend and it is expected that approximately 200 students will participate in the conference.

Recommendation: That the Board receive this information.

4. Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver

The committee received an update on Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver's site based mentoring program. Big Brothers supports approximately 90 Burnaby students through

The results of their evaluation survey of these programs indicate a positive relationship with mentors and students, and a positive influence for the students involved in the programs.

Recommendation: That the Board receive this information.

5. New Business/Updates

a) PARCY Foundation

The committee received information regarding a proposal for a collaboration between the *Resilience Awareness about and Research into Concurrent disorders in Youth (PARCY) Foundation* and the Burnaby School Board. The PARCY Foundation is proposing a collaboration with the Burnaby School District to produce a mini-documentary, and possibly a series of mini-films, that features youth who have gone through a concurrent disorder. The mini-films will feature youth who are affected by concurrent disorders. District staff will collect more information regarding this possible partnership and will report back to the next committee meeting.

b) EverFi – Future Goals Program

The committee received information regarding an administrator's *Future Goals Program*, a digital learning initiative that teaches students skills to help prepare for success in life. The online program will help students understand and read word applications of science and math and covers such topics as cyberbullying, substance use, social media, and online safety. This program is currently being piloted in several schools and will be directed to the Education Committee for follow up.

c) Improving Educational Outcomes for Youth from Care

The committee received information regarding "*Manning Approaches to Improve Educational Outcomes for Youth from Care*". Sue Dorcy, Manager Youth Services, has been asked to sit on our provincial advisory committee which intends to look at key issues and opportunities relating to helping youth in and from foster care to help improve their educational outcomes. Sue Dorcy will report progress back to the committee.

Recommendation: That the Board receive this information.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

7. Next Meeting

The meeting of the Youth and Community Services Committee is Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.