



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 47 (POWELL RIVER)
BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
12:00 PM., Wednesday, January 11, 2023
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE

MEETING NOTES

Present: Dale Lawson, Jaclyn Miller, Kirsten, Van't Schip, Maureen Mason

Also in attendance: Jay Yule (Superintendent), Steve Hopkins (Secretary-Treasurer)

Regrets: Rob Hill

Presentations

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved: J. Miller

Seconded: K. Van't Schip

THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda for January 11, 2023, be adopted as presented.

Status: Carried

2. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

2.a) **Education Committee**

i) **Review Process for 2023-2027 Strategic Plan**

J. Yule reviewed the various methods to move forward with respect to preparing a District Strategic Plan for 2023-2027. It was recommended that a facilitator be engaged. Several facilitators would be solicited looking at experience and availability/cost. Also open to the District preparing the Plan on its own if the Board prefers.

At next meeting, a Strategic Plan interim report will be presented which measures/indicates where we are presently. Facilitator would need to have this information in order to know how to proceed.

D. Lawson reviewed past process and asked what a new process could look like. J. Yule indicated a facilitator would provide a template. Engagement piece would take place. We have in place, an engagement process involving staff and parents. This is much broader as it is four-year plan. Question asked about past processes in place for parents/staff and if they are still effective and how could the Board access these processes.

Trustees spoke to their past experience with strategic planning.

Questions:

- How will the District's new policy be referenced when working on the new strategic plan?
- Will the Board have an opportunity to review where the Board is at so that information could be provided to the facilitator rather than a template provided for the Board to work from. J. Yule responded this could take place as an extra meeting or at next meeting.
- Do we have facilitators in mind? Not presently, but BCSSA or BCSTA would be asked for recommendations.
- Because Indigenous Ed intercepts with all parts of Education, how could we ensure we have individuals from the Nation be part of this. J. Yule responded they would be involved as it is part of the TEA, however they will want their own input via J. Johnson.

BCSSA, BCSTA would be asked for facilitator recommendations, however anyone having suggestions can forward names to J. Yule.

Trustees directed that staff solicit names to hire a facilitator so a District Strategic Plan for 2023-2027 can be prepared.

ii) Prospective Strategies for Public Engagement

K. Payne reviewed prospective strategies for public engagement.

Main questions

- Who are we engaging?
- What are we asking them to do?
- How are we engaging them?

Met with the Intergovernmental and Policy Lead from Tla'amin Nation in an exploratory conversation regarding the District's potential approach to changing our name.

Recommendations

- To respond to Tla'amin's original request to change our name with an official letter declaring our decision to change our name.
- Involve Tla'amin early on in any process as they are keen to participate.

- They would be open to receiving name suggestions from the Board for them to consider and open to putting forward names for us to consider.
- Are supportive of the leadership and encourage us to work through a change process that is timely and efficient.

Options

- Board propose new name/and or asks for recommendations from Tla'amin Nation with the Board making the final decision on name.
- Board work with Tla'amin to come up with up to three name ideas, then a key group of stakeholders (excluding the broad public) be asked for feedback. The Board makes final decision on name.
- Stakeholders (excluding broad public) asked to make recommendations for new name. Board makes final decision on name.

Discussions/Questions

- Write letter asap and ask Nation for suggestions of names vs working with the Nation and suggesting names, asking if they have others they would like us to consider.
- Reminder - The Board stated to change its name to better reflect the cultural diversity and geographic area of our District.
- Consider the three options above and decide which one the Board will embark on.
- What we don't want is why we are changing the name; should be about the name itself.
- PRDTA President I. Loveluck mentioned that teachers are looking forward to this process and agree that it is best not to open to broad public, but rather coming up with a couple of suggested names and meeting with the Nation would be best.
- Comment that because Nation asked the Board to change their name, that the process should be led by the Nation. J. Yule responded that the Nation would always be involved, however, the name change was solicited prior to their letter, providing historical information, and stating that the District was embarking on this already as we realized our name was not reflective of our District, and not as an act of reconciliation.
- Reminder that we are a separate government, and this is our process, not the Nation's process, however, our first piece of engagement will be with the Nation.
- Nation has established processes – makes sense to work through them with their process with our shared content.
- Do we want to suggest the name qathet in letter? Decision was not to include that but rather work with the Nation.

Direction was for staff to move forward and meet with the Nation with respect to our name change.

iii) Plans for Recognition of Literacy Week

- Family Literacy Week runs from January 22 – 29.

- In school plans being finalized next Tuesday with principals but may include Trustee reading visits and/or other local guests.

Communications

- Ad in Peak
- Website feature article.
- Calico Clark our Literacy Coordinator will be speaking to the Peak discussing literacy at SD47.
- Profile school activities through social media.
- Encourage social sharing by families of reading/writing, storytelling, etc.
- Share literacy related community events through our social media channels

2.b) Operations Committee

i) 2022/2023 Amended Operating Grant Information

S. Hopkins reported on documents included in the agenda and reviewed the budget planning cycle which was discussed at a prior meeting.

Question asked with respect to the Learning Improvement Fund and why the support staff amount is lower compared to other districts. S. Hopkins responded how the funding has evolved but is not apprised of the historical information. Will report back at next meeting.

2.c) Policy Committee

2.c.i) How to Help DPAC and PACs ie: Hot Lunches and Inclusivity

Item came forward from last COTW meeting.

- Hot lunches are a program set up by PACs, not a District program.
- Question asked why, PACs are still charging monies for hot lunches if we have affordability fund.

Discussion

- What would the workload be if PACs were asked to provide free hot lunches to all students? Can we ask this of PACs if it isn't our program?
- Could we invite PACs to our Strategic Planning Meeting so to become familiar with goal setting for their individual PACs?

Suggested that staff explore how many schools are running a hot lunch program. Should a monthly community meal replace a hot lunch program accessing affordability funds?

Suggest that a list be provided - unless specific fundraising is required, what are they are fundraising for? Those lists can then be reviewed and possibly ask that they not fundraise further as we will use the affordability funds. PRDTA President I. Loveluck mentioned that PACs involve SD

employees (teachers and support staff) which can be problematic at times. Would be good to have broader range of parents on PACs.

2.c.ii) Board Committees – Terms of Reference

Education and Curriculum Change Committee

This Committee has not met this school year. The committee did meet in the past to discuss collaboration and reporting but there are no big items to discuss at this time. J. Yule indicated that this committee doesn't need to meet monthly; it was intended to meet to discuss larger items. It is important to have clarity with respect to purpose and function of committee.

Is it mandatory that it be a board committee? A. Burt spoke to its history and J. Yule spoke to its importance when an important issue arises and are asked to solicit information and relay a recommendation.

Health Committee

Question asked if this is required to be a board committee as information doesn't necessarily make its way back to the Board. What would the Board like from Health Committee? If Trustee on Committee, should be more purposeful.

Discussion ensued on how the committee could be more purposeful, possibly provide a framework to be clear of its purpose and function.

Joint Management Committee

No changes required. Contractual that this committee be formed. It was noted that the terms of reference do not mention Strategic Plan. J. Yule indicated that the JMC works with school goals and works within the goals of the Strategic Plan.

French Immersion

Question asked if this is required to be a board committee or even in place as there are no decisions that are needed presently.

OLC

Question asked if this is required to be a board committee as well.

Would it be purposeful to have alignment of each committee in their TOR so that each member of the committee would be aware of their link to the Strategic Plan. J. Yule responded that because our Strategic Plan is broad, it would be difficult to find items that wouldn't fit within it. He suggested looking at policy which speaks to committees and review the policy and if Trustees felt changes are needed to bring those forward.

J. Yule suggested that possibly the OLC and French Immersion committees could be changed from Board Committee to Regular Committee, however, how would the Board be informed of what each committee is working on? Important to understand so informed decisions are made.

It was decided that each Trustee meet with their respective committees, review their terms of reference, and report back to the Board as to whether they recommend it be a board or regular committee.

3. OTHER INFORMATION

3.a) Financial Disclosure Forms Reminder

Trustees were reminded of the January 13, 2023 deadline.

3.b) Board Work Plan

For information.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved: J. Miller

THAT the Committee of the Whole Board Meeting be adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Status: Carried

SH/ac