

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

Tuesday, May 7, 2019, 7:30 PM
New Westminster Secondary School (NWSS)
835 Eighth Street, New Westminster

PRESENT Anita Ansarw

It was asked that students and adults with mental health challenges be included in creating the mental health curriculum; mental health model – to identify what are the drivers of mental well-being.

4. New Business

a. Proposed Changes to Education Assistants' (EAs) Hours Allocation

Trustee Beattie provided an overview of the backgrounder highlighting concerns around high absenteeism for Educational Assistants (EAs) in the district. EAs' workdays are calculated in minutes, no other job classification banks hours based on minutes, this causes a problem with recruitment and retention. We need to ensure that when a student enters the classroom, there is an opportunity for the EA to have sufficient preparation time.

It was asked whether the Board should consider hiring more EAs; however; it was suggested that this consideration be part of the special education review, which is taking place.

5. Reports from Senior Management

a. Superintendent Update

Superintendent Hachlaf updated the Board briefly that sound system is being sourced for the live streaming.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Education Policy and Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) to approve livestreaming for Open Operations Policy and Planning Committee and Open Board of Education meetings, excluding Education Policy and Planning Committee due to privacy concerns relative to showing children on camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Special Education Review May Update

Director of Instruction, Learning Services Cunnings updated the Board. The District has engaged the services of Special Education Review Consultants, Susan Powell and Laurie Meston. The work involved in the Review is extensive and required a second person to help gather feedback and collate the report.

Next steps include finalizing the workplan, which will be presented at the June 4, 2019 Education Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

Student voices will be included via focus groups.

c. Administrative Procedures Review - Categories 100, 200, 300

Associate Superintendent Naser, Director of Instruction, Learning & Innovations McRae-Stanger and Director of Instruction, Learning Services Cunnings presented an overview of the Administrative Procedures (AP), which have been revised:

- x AP 132: Closure of Schools Due to Inclement Weather or Other Hazards;
- x AP 190: Copyright Compliance – new;
- x AP 206: Plan for Alternative Delivery of Physical and Health Education K-10 - new;
- x AP 240: Student Counselling Services - new;
- x AP 354: Physical Restraint and Seclusion - new;
- x AP 364: Course Challenge - new;

Concern was expressed around the implications of AP 206 that there is a possibility that parents may choose to have their children opt out of sexual health related activities. It is important to note that very few parents have chosen to have their children not participate over the past number of years.

d. 2019-2020 School Fees

Associate Superintendent Naser briefly highlighted the changes to the School Fees schedule. More alignment of school supply fees for elementary and middle schools which are optional:

- x Elementary School Supplies: \$25-\$40 this is an optional fee
- x Kindergarten Activities: \$20 activity fee has been removed
- x Middle School Supplies: \$40 this is an optional fee
- x ~~Guidance (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25) (26) (27) (28) (29) (30) (31) (32) (33) (34) (35) (36) (37) (38) (39) (40) (41) (42) (43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53) (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (61) (62) (63) (64) (65) (66) (67) (68) (69) (70) (71) (72) (73) (74) (75) (76) (77) (78) (79) (80) (81) (82) (83) (84) (85) (86) (87) (88) (89) (90) (91) (92) (93) (94) (95) (96) (97) (98) (99) (100) (101) (102) (103) (104) (105) (106) (107) (108) (109) (110) (111) (112) (113) (114) (115) (116) (117) (118) (119) (120) (121) (122) (123) (124) (125) (126) (127) (128) (129) (130) (131) (132) (133) (134) (135) (136) (137) (138) (139) (140) (141) (142) (143) (144) (145) (146) (147) (148) (149) (150) (151) (152) (153) (154) (155) (156) (157) (158) (159) (160) (161) (162) (163) (164) (165) (166) (167) (168) (169) (170) (171) (172) (173) (174) (175) (176) (177) (178) (179) (180) (181) (182) (183) (184) 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