

MINUTES OF EDUCATION & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, June 2, 2011

4:30 p.m. at the Division Office

Present:

Trustees: Kathleen Guillas
Administration: Jason Young, Melanie Burnett
Principals: Allen Hanke, Kathy Bjarnason, Kelvin Hollier

Regrets: John McNeily, Debbie Rea

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

1. The agenda was reviewed.
2. The minutes of the February 10th meeting were reviewed.
3. Policy J.C.B. - Teacher Evaluation
 - Streamline policy to 3 pages.
 - Will reference/reflect procedures manual
 - A discussion was held regarding new teachers timeline (April 30th)
 - Procedures manual to be reviewed with staff by school principals before the end of the school year.
4. Policy J.G.K. - Cell Phone /Electronic Communication Devices
 - A discussion was held on giving teachers the ability to use in educational context or not at all.
 - Need to define communication device.
 - Policy needs to be manageable to keep up with the changing technology.
 - Current practise takes cell phones away but not Ipods?
 - Do we want a "no use" for all?
 - Is it okay to allow unsupervised texting? - where, when, what
 - How do we manage out of class time?
 - Different practise at high school. Do/should schools have autonomy to police appropriate use in or out of class? Dilemma - current policy isn't being followed, large discrepancy of staff ideology on matter.
 - Tabled to next meeting
5. Policy I.G.C. - Assessment
 - Board will go over in more detail.
 - Superintendent will express administration concerns as discussed at previous admin meetings.
 - Closely matches provincial document "Academic Responsibility, Honesty and Promotion/Retention"
 - Our policy allows our schools a lot of autonomy and discretion.
 - Policy to be reviewed with staff at a school level by the end of the school year.

6. Policy on Drugs and Alcohol

- Discussion on semester vs. non semester schools. Supervision lengths will not differentiate.
- Probation length extended to 18 months?
- Suspension length - use word "minimum" to leave some flexibility
- Attendance - going silent allows flexibility on whether it counts toward attendance policy.
- Discussion on how programming will be provided.
- Use of word "may" in regards to providing programming and re-entry meeting
- Discussion regarding on or off grounds - selling/supplying
- "Mandate AFM" - too restrictive instead "conditions may have to be met"
- How to implement new probation length - discussion around how to handle students who have already been suspended.

7. Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.