

Education Committee Meeting—Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Location: Huband Park Elementary School

Address: 5120 Mottishaw Road, Courtenay, BC

6:30 pm

Members:

Committee Chair, Janice Caton, City of Courtenay	✓
Board Chair, Peter Coleman, Town of Comox	✓
Trustee, Paula Selby, Puntledge, Black Creek	✓
Trustee, Sheila McDonnell, Baynes Sound (Denman/Hornby Islands)	✓
Trustee, Donna Gambacorta, City of Courtenay	✓
Trustee, Tom Weber, Lazo North	✓
Trustee, Rick Grinham, Village of Cumberland	✓
Superintendent, Sherry Elwood	✓
Assistant Superintendent, Tom Demeo	✓
Director of Instruction (Elementary Curriculum) Allan Douglas	✓
Director of Instruction (Student Services) Esther Shatz	✓

1. **Huband Park Elementary School Update**, Presentation
Barb Robertson (Principal)/ Gracie MacDonald (Vice Principal)

Principal Barb Robertson shared the following highlights:

- a. Climbing Wall - new this year, former principal Ian Craigon began this process 2 years ago and the wall was completed this year. The school held an opening event and invited Mr. Craigon to the official opening.
- b. Outdoor Education - A large number of classes are involved in outdoor education. The school also started an active travel program this year. As part of the active travel program all students were trained in the cougar smart program.
- c. Environmentally Friendly School - The school has a number of "green" initiatives such as: water bottle refill station, solar power, composting, and school gardens.

Huband's Growth Plan is focused on 3 areas:

1. Math
2. Technology
3. Student Engagement

PLC Topics:

- Digital Reporting / Assessment
- *I Can* Projects
- Accessing tech for students
- Improving writing through Art

Brad Fraser (Teacher) Active Adventure Learning (Grade 4/5):

- Integrated Study Program

- Cross Curricular Unit
- Inquiry based
- Physical Activities
- Health and Safety - all students are taught safety skills

2. **International Student Program Update**, Steve Knight (District Principal, ISP)

Mr. Knight gave the annual report for the International Student Program. The report highlighted the progress made in 4 goal areas:

Goal 1: Increase enrollment between 175-200 (currently 154)
Highlighted the programs offered to students

Goal 2: Strengthen the organization to manage the growth

Goal 3: Continue to provide enriched program offerings to the district:

- Marketing support to the IB program
- International students in Explorer
- Student offering calendar

Goal 4: Provide our students with one-on-one exchange opportunities

3. **Program Reviews/Update**

1. **International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme**

Assistant Superintendent Tom Demeo gave an overview of the International Baccalaureate Programme offered at Highland Secondary School. This year marks the first graduating class of the program. An overview of enrollment numbers and costs of the program were also shared.


2. **Band 7**

Director of Instruction (Elementary) Allan Douglas gave an overview of Band 7. Mr. Douglas highlighted the current number of students involved in the program as well as the *Bands in the Round Concert* which was recently held.

3. **Montessori Program**

Director of Instruction (Elementary) Allan Douglas gave an overview of the Montessori Program. Mr. Douglas explained that a detailed report is being prepared and will be shared with the superintendent.

Next Education Committee Meeting:

 **DATE:** Tuesday, May 13, 2014
TIME: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
LOCATION: Airport Elementary School
1475 Salmonberry Drive, Lazo BC