

BOARD OF EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE

NORTH VANCOUVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Meeting Summary of October 13, 2015

Meeting Summary of the Board of Education's Standing Committee Meeting held at the Education Services Centre, 2121 Lonsdale Avenue, North Vancouver, British Columbia, on Tuesday, September 22, 2015.

Meeting Attendance:

Trustees, representatives of the North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council (NVPAC), North Vancouver Administrators (NoVA), North Vancouver Teachers' Association (NVTa), the public, and members of District Staff attended the meeting.

Call to Order:

Standing Committee Chair Susan Skinner called the Standing Committee to order at 7:00 pm.

Aboriginal Education Enhancement – Indigenizing the Curriculum

District Principal Brad Baker introduced Aboriginal Success Teachers Jessica Johnson, Heather Myhre and Aboriginal Academic Support Teacher Stephanie Maki, and shared that the evening would highlight how the District is Indigenizing the curriculum.

Mr. Baker spoke to the importance of the Aboriginal Education Enhancement, a collaborative partnership, which is being developed for its third term, to: create a sense of belonging and presence of students of Aboriginal ancestry; increase awareness and provision of healthy choices; increase academic success; and, increase the number of students that move onto further education. This partnership includes the Skwxwú7mesh and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, all other North Vancouver Aboriginal peoples, the North Vancouver School District, and the Ministry of Education.

Ms. Johnson and Ms. Myhre continued, speaking to their personal experiences sharing authentic resources with students, educators and the community. Building capacity and confidence through resources and dialogue is key to 'weaving' in Indigenous perspectives and worldviews into classrooms across the North Vancouver School District. The District Aboriginal Education Team created a resource, *K-7: Entry Point Lesson Plans to Help Teachers Indigenize the Curriculum and Classroom* which provides primary and intermediate lesson plans that assist educators Indigenize the classroom.

Embedding authentic Indigenous authors into the curriculum honours the goals of the Aboriginal Education Enhancement. Ms. Maki presented how the novel *Indian Horse* by Richard Wagamese, was embedded into English 10 classes at Carson Graham Secondary School by following the First Peoples Principles of Learning. *Indian Horse* introduced students to the nature of First Nations literature and the sensitive topic of residential schools.

North Vancouver School District Capital Plan – 2015

John Lewis, Superintendent of Schools, presented the DRAFT 2015/16 Five-Year Capital Plan which was developed in consultation with the North Vancouver School District's Capital Planning Committee. The Board of Education develops and maintains a comprehensive School District Facilities Plan (SDFP) to assist in prioritizing funds for school construction and upgrading. The Capital Plan will be presented to the Board for approval at its public meeting of October 20, 2015, after which will be provided to the Ministry of Education by the submission deadline of November 2, 2015.

The presentations can be found online: [Meetings & Minutes 2015/16](#)

Next Meeting:

November 3, 2015

Mountain View Room

Topics: Social Emotional Learning: Mental Health and Wellness Initiatives