

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MINUTES**

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020

2:30 PM PST – 4:00 P.M. PST

In person: School District 8 Kootenay Lake, Board Office, 811 Stanley Street, Nelson, B.C. V1L 6J2

By video conference: Prince Charles Secondary, Room 104, 223 18 Ave S, Creston, BC V0B 1G0

BOARD:

L. Trenaman
C. Beebe (*via Video Conference*)
S. Chew
B. Coons
A. Gribbin
D. Lang
B. Maslechko, Trustee
S. Nazaroff
S. Walsh

DISTRICT STAFF:

C. Perkins, Superintendent
M. McLellan, Secretary-Treasurer
N. Howald, Director of Information Technology
N. Lynn, Learning Innovator
N. Ross, District Principal
J. Schmidt, District Principal of International Education

PARTNERS:

L. Arsenault, CUPE
C. Bendig, KLTF
R. Bens, CUPE
S. Kalabis, KLPVPA
L. Mackay, KLPVPA
S. Metcalf, DPAC
L. Quattrocchi, DPAC
C. Ziffle, KLTF (*via Video Conference*)

GUESTS:

N. Nazaroff, DPAC
C. Wilson, KLTF
J. Thiessen, Member of the Public
T. Bouchier, International Program Assistant
S. Packham, Intercultural Ambassador
K. Urriola, Intercultural Ambassador
L. Borhaven, Student Trustee
K. Knapik, Teacher Homestay Manager
T. Bouchier, International Program Assistant
A. Strackan, Vice Principal Trafalgar Middle School

REGRETS:

B. Eaton, Director of Innovative Learning
D. Holitzki, Director of Inclusive Education
D. Kunzelman, KLTF
B. MacLean, Director of Operations
T. Malloff, KLPVPA
C. Singh, Director of Human Resource Services

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Maslechko called the meeting or order at 2:31 p.m.

2. Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Territory

We acknowledge, respect and honor the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District No. 8.

3. Insertions/Deletions to proposed Agenda: Nil

4. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Walsh, seconded by Trustee Chew, **AND RESOLVED:**

THAT the agenda for this March 10, 2020 meeting, **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

5. Receiving Presentations:

A. International Program: Jann Schmidt, Kathi Knapik, Tanis Bouchier

J. Schmidt, District Principal of International Education provided a [presentation](#) on the School District 8 International Program. J. Schmidt introduced her team and Intercultural Ambassadors.

District Principal Schmidt provided an overview of the SD8 International Program, which includes recruiting and managing international students visiting Canada, support of English Language Learners, strengthening community relationships and partnerships, and cultural development.

District Principal Schmidt shared a video presentation from a past SD8 International Student who is now studying International Economics at UBC.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12fYViinK6GzNGgnwMCS4zbwxigvg5c4b/view>

The student presentations highlighted how taking part in the SD8 International program inspired future travel, intercultural awareness, future area of study at university, as well as enriching ones life.

District Principal Schmidt shared how understanding diversity in an important skillset to learn, and will encourage success in the work place. Understanding diversity enables people to problem solve more easily, and provides the ability to connect and collaborate. SD8 International program is being used to help develop this as a core competency.

Trustee Gibbon entered at 2:48 pm.

Trafalgar Vice Principal, Amy Strackan provided a presentation on the International Program at Trafalgar Middle School. Vice Principal Strackan shared the recent

experience of 30 students from China visiting Trafalgar in January 2020. District elementary students were able to come to Trafalgar to participate with the visiting students in project based activities. Once completed the projects were shared in the community, and extremely well received. Vice Principal Strackan discussed how having these international students visit Trafalgar Middle School students and learning with SD8 students has encouraged engagement and citizenship, learning and academic success, and relationships have been built which has encouraged social emotional development.

District Principal Schmidt congratulated Trafalgar for the work they have done for the local and international students.

District Principal Schmidt provided an overview of how the International Program students contribute to our community fiscally.

The International program is funded by international students and includes.

- Welcome Centre (support to new immigrants to Canada). Work with families to ensure we meet Ministry guidelines.
- English Language Learners – 64 in our district. English Language Learning staffing, working with teachers. Professional Development opportunities for international teachers. Purchasing computers/technology/sports equipment/out of school trips.
- Intercultural development.
- Student Exchange and Experiences.
- School Courses – BAAs

The Business of Culture

Connection with Selkirk College (pathways for course and entrance, summer programs, professional development, events).

- Agents investing in the Kootenays
- Arrow Lakes – SD 10
- Home Stay
- Short term overseas employment opportunities.
- Supporting the MoED for Intercultural Curricular Development

Have been able to send teachers overseas for learning opportunities.

K. Knapik, Teacher Homestay Manager provided an overview of Homestays and showcased how Homestay families are the heart of the program.

S. Packham, Intercultural Ambassador, shared the positive experience of her 2 week cultural exchange in China.

Skyler Urriola, Intercultural Ambassador, a student from Panama shared her positive experience in joining the International Ambassador program.

Question:

C. Bendig, KLTF - recognized the work teachers do day to day for international students. Asked if District Principal Schmidt could speak to supports the international program provides to teachers in welcoming international students.

District Principal Schmidt – Shared that the International program staff would be open to going to schools to work with staff to provide support. Schmidt meets with all English Language Learner teachers in the district to provide resources and supports, and to ensure they are meeting Ministry requirements.

Trustee Walsh – encouraged everyone at the table to be a homestay family.

Trustee Trenaman – thanked the International team for the presentation. Trenaman also thanked the students for taking the time to come to speak with the Education Committee of the Whole to help everyone understand what is happening in the International program.

Chair Maslechko – Thanked the students for coming to share what is going on in the International program.

6. Opportunity for Comments by the Public: Nil

7. Consent Package: Nil

8. Adoption of Minutes

App. 8

Moved by KLTF Partner Bendig, seconded by Trustee Walsh, **AND RESOLVED:**

THAT the minutes of the December 10, 2020 Education Committee of the Whole meeting **BE ADOPTED.**

9. Old Business: Nil

10. New Business

A. Curriculum Projects 2020

District Principal Ross – provided an update on the 2020 Curriculum projects which are Focus Learn Excel funded. There were 19 applications submitted this year, which involve teacher collaboration from across schools in the district. Due to the nature of these projects being rolled out in the spring, they will be continued on through the 2020/2021 school year.

Trustee Chew – congratulated everyone on the curriculum projects and asked if there is a project from every school in the district.

District Principal Ross – shared that there was a submission from nearly every school, but that there was a Curriculum Project application from every family of schools.

B. Learning Tours 2020/2021

App. 10B

Superintendent Perkins – provided an overview of the Learning Tours which will start in the fall of 2020. Trustees will be asked to sign up. The document which will be circulated to Trustees will show the school, the student presentations, and what the school is trying to achieve in their strategic plan. Schools are encouraged to make connections back to the Board strategic plan and the Ministry strategic plan. Trustees will then have lunch with the entire staff from the school being visited. This will give the Board an opportunity to thank staff at the schools, to honor staff who will be provided with service awards and give their service button to them. Two schools will be visited at a time, sequentially throughout the district. The Learning Tours’ document will be shared with PVP later this week, and then will be brought back to the Education Committee of the Whole.

Trustee Chew - noted an edit to be made to the Learning Tours’ document with respect to the year. Would like to see what the schools would like to highlight to the Board. Shared that she sees value in the schools sharing the good work that is going on with one another.

Superintendent Perkins – yes, early years, middle years, and grad programs will be meeting together. Teachers will also all come together, possibly every second year.

Trustee Nazaroff – asked if Trustees will also visit Wildflower in Creston?

Superintendent Perkins – yes, when Trustees visit Prince Charles Secondary School, Wildflower will also be visited.

Trustee Gibbon – Asked if Trustees will also visit Homelinks in Creston.

Superintendent Perkins – noted that we will look at adding Homelinks to the list of sites being visited.

KLTF Partner Bendig – asked if the findings at the schools will be shared with the committee.

Superintendent Perkins – shared that a framework will be provided which is related to the strategic plan. We will be looking for direct data of how to improve student learning. Everyone will have the framework by the end of the year.

11. Celebration of Learning

Please come prepared to share a recent learning experience.

Superintendent Perkins – spoke about the amazing presentation of learning from Mount Sentinel and the Slocan Valley called From the Heart which was a multi-media performance that incorporated dance, spoken word, video and drama.

Trustee Walsh – Also gave high praise of the From the Heart performance as well as the Indigenous Cultural event which took place at the Capitol Theatre.

KLTF Partner Bendig – shared a musical celebration fundraiser to send middle and high school bands to a competition in Kamloops. Shared appreciation for teachers making extra curricular

programs happen such as the Trafalgar Basketball team. Shared that the robotics students will compete in the Selkirk Robo games, and there will be a pie eating contest at Trafalgar to celebrate Pie day.

District Principal Ross – shared that Skills BC competition which took place where 50 students from School District 8 competed. Multiple students took home bronze, silver, and gold prizes and will be going to provincials.

Trustee Tranaman – visited Salmo Elementary and shared how impressed she is with the use of coding, little bits and soldering in the maker space.

12. Question Period: Nil

13. Meeting Schedule and Reminders

App. 13

The next meeting of the Education Committee of the Whole is scheduled for April 28, 2020 at 2:30 pm at the Nelson Board Office.

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.