

STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 3-2016

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg Public School Board:

November 29, 2016

The Student Advisory Committee reports as follows:

1. Responsible Use of Technology and Social Media

The Committee was informed that at a meeting held December 9, 2015, the previous Student Advisory Committee members discussed the possibility of creating a Facebook page dedicated to the members of the Student Advisory Committee in order to discuss topics of interest and share ideas that have been implemented and successful in their respective schools.

The was informed that at a meeting held June 6, 2016, the Board approved revisions to Policy JFCBA – Responsible Use of Technology and Social Media which provides opportunities for students to create a Facebook account for school related activities.

Mr. Doug Edmond, Director of Research, Planning & Technology Services was in attendance to provide an outline of the policy including definitions, Digital Citizenship, unacceptable conduct, responsibilities, privacy and discipline.

The Committee agreed that the Chair of the Student Advisory Committee, along with the help of the Learning Technologies Consultant, will create a Facebook page dedicated to the members of the Student Advisory Committee for the 2016/2017 school year. The Committee also discussed other forms of social media, such as twitter. The Committee was also informed that all students have a Division Email account.

In response to an enquiry from a student, The Committee was informed that students have the ability to archive digital portfolios with Google Drive as well as One Drive which are provided to all students in the Division. The Committee was encouraged to visit "My Site" to be aware of all the services provided to Division students.

2. Student Sustainability Development

Rob Riel, Director of Aboriginal Education and Newcomer Services informed the Committee that at a meeting held June 6, 2016, the Board of Trustees approved a motion to determine the feasibility of the Winnipeg School Division hosting a Student Sustainability Development Conference.

The Committee was informed that the Board of Trustees would like to receive feedback and input from the Student Advisory Committee as to the level of interest amongst students and suggestions on the structure and organization of the conference.

The Committee was informed that the three pillars to Education for Sustainable Development are Environment; Economy; and Human Health and Well-Being. The Committee was provided with five questions on the subject and asked to have discussions in small groups. The Committee was asked to hand in their feedback to the Director of Aboriginal Education and Newcomer Services to be compiled and presented to the Board of Trustees. A copy of the feedback will also be provided to the Committee at the next meeting.

3. **2017/2018 Budget Development**

Trustee Freedman provided the Committee with an overview of the 2017/2018 Draft Budget. The Committee was informed that the Board developed the Budget in support of Winnipeg School Division Strategic Plan.

The Committee was informed that the Budget was developed on the following Strategic Priorities: providing a robust and comprehensive education for students; improving learning outcomes; addressing barriers to learning; retaining and attracting valued staff; communicating and partnering with our communities; strengthening and enhancing sustainable development and managing tax dollars responsibly.

The Committee received an overview on the 2016/2017 Budget expenditures which totaled \$396 million.

The Committee reviewed the current Budget under the following categories: regular instruction, student support services, community education and services, instructional and support services, administration, student transportation, operations and maintenance and fiscal and capital expenditures.

The Committee was informed that the two major sources of funding are the Province of Manitoba and the property tax levy. In the most recent budget, provincial funding provided only 62% of the total revenue required to balance the WSD budget. The second major source of funding is from property taxation which provided an additional 36% of the total revenue. The remaining 2% is revenue from other sources such as the federal government, First Nations authorities and other school divisions who use WSD resources.

Education is service based and the majority of the annual budget, or 81%, goes directly to the cost of providing instruction and supports in the classroom. Another 19% covers costs such as student transportation, building maintenance and operations, business administration and support services related to research, planning and technology.

The 2017/2018 Budget, will continue to focus on improving student success and aligning resources with student needs. The Board is committed to maintaining programs introduced during previous budgets. These include safe school initiatives, language programs, early years education and programs to ensure student success through to graduation.

The Committee was informed that the provincial funding announcement is expected from mid-January to mid-February.

The Committee agreed to have discussions in small groups. The Committee expressed concern that students are unaware of the supports that are available within their schools. Committee members would like to be made aware of their school's supports such as psychologists and guidance counsellors. The Committee was informed of the importance of communication between administrators and students to ensure students are aware of resources available to them.

4. Future Agenda Items

The Committee discussed and agreed to add the following topics for discussion at a future meeting:

- Budget Provisions for Sustainable Projects (eg. wind turbine, solar panels)
- Available Grants
- School Structure

5. Advisory Council on Indigenous Education

The Committee was informed that last year, the Policy/Program Committee approved the formation of a sub-committee, the Advisory Council on Indigenous Education. The purpose of the Advisory Council on Indigenous Education (ACIE) is to communicate and provide feedback to the Policy/Program Committee on all matters relating to the teaching, learning and cultural needs of First Nations, Metis and Inuit students in the Winnipeg School Division.

The membership includes two trustee representatives from the Policy/Program Committee, and one trustee representative from the Finance/Personnel Committee, as well as the Chair of Board of Trustees who acts as an ex-officio member of the Council. The membership also includes the Division's elders, administration, and six members of the parent/business/community representatives. At a meeting held November 7th, 2016, the Committee appointed Trustee Broughton as Chair of the ACIE, and Trustees Koshelanyk and Naylor as representatives.

The Committee was informed that the Indigenous Education Collaborative Blueprint was signed in December 2015. All educational partners in Manitoba are participating in identifying practices and models of Indigenous education across the early, middle, senior and post-secondary years.

The Committee was informed that the Winnipeg School Division has supported Indigenous Education through providing a variety of programs and services to students/families in schools.

The Committee was informed that the members of the Board of Trustees would be interested in receiving feedback on the current practices or models that your school promotes in the best interests of Indigenous students and communities in WSD and any suggestions on practices that you would like the Advisory Council on Indigenous Education to explore in the future. The Committee was informed that feedback could be directed to the Board Office at 1577 Wall Street East, Winnipeg, MB R3E 2S5 or by email at board@wsd1.org.

The Committee was informed that the discussion would continue at a spring District Advisory Committee meeting.

6. 2016/2017 Advisory Committee Dates

The Committee was informed of the following schedule of the Advisory Committees for the 2016/2017 school year.

Central District Advisory Committee
7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 9, 2016
Thursday, February 23, 2017
Thursday, May 4, 2017

North District Advisory Committee
7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 15, 2016
Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Tuesday, April 25, 2017

French Immersion Advisory Committee
7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 30, 2016
Thursday, March 2, 2017
Thursday, May 11, 2017

Inner City District Advisory Committee
6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 16, 2016
Thursday, February 16, 2017
Thursday, April 27, 2017

South District Advisory Committee
7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 22, 2016
Tuesday, February 21, 2017
Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Student Advisory Committee
4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 29, 2016
Wednesday, March 1, 2017
Tuesday, May 9, 2017

Respectfully Submitted,

KEVIN FREEDMAN
Trustee Representative

Student Representatives:

Argyle Alternative High School
Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute
Gordon Bell High School
Kelvin High School
R. B Russell Vocational High School
Sisler High School

Regrets:

Churchill High School
College Churchill
Elmwood High School
Grant Park High School
Tec Voc High School

Administration:

Rob Riel, Director of Aboriginal Education and Newcomer Services
Doug Edmond, Director, Research, Planning & Technology Services
Lorraine Ilagan, Staff Advisor, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute
Katharine Thiessen, Staff Advisor, R.B. Russell Vocational High School
Leanne Turner, Staff Advisor, Tec Voc High School
Carmelo Militano, Staff Advisor, Sisler High School
Helena Tessier, Recording Secretary

Trustees:

Kevin Freedman
Arlene Reid