

**School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen)
Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting
November 19, 2013 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Keremeos, SESS Library (Hosted by USIB)**

Vision Statement (as was developed in April 2013):

Enhance students pride through Okanagan culture and traditional ways of learning that will be reflected at all levels in the district so that all students are successful in school and beyond.

Present:

AEAC Members:

Kalie Gabriel-Baptiste, Jr. Rep., SOSS	Jim Insley, Assistant Superintendent, Chair
Darlene Melgar, Sr. Rep., SOSS	Alec Rousseau, Sr. Rep, SESS
David Foster, Administrator, TEN	Sharon Wilson, LSIB Education Director
Mike Safek, Administrator, OSS	Nancy Allison, USIB Parent Rep.
Myrna Coates, Trustee	Tyla Parker, Ancestry Parent Rep, Similkameen
Kalika Archachan Jr. Rep., SESS	Lindsay Anderson – OIB Education Alternate

Guests:

Michael Reid, Support Worker, OKF	Lynn Couch-Alaric, Support Worker, TEN
Sandy Terbasket, Support Worker, SESS	Les Louis, Support Worker, SESS
Karlie McCarthy, Support Worker, OSS, OSE	Sonya Jensen, Support Worker, SOSS
Lisa McCall, Principal, OKF	Scott Tremblay, Vice-principal, SESS
Shendah Benoit, Vice-Principal, OSE	Barton Tumlinson, Principal, OES
Raylene Baptiste, Support worker, SOSS	Marty Marchand-Ring, Support Worker, CPS
Matthew Baran, OIB Youth Worker	Rod Kitt, Career Coordinator, SOSS and OSS
Boyd Turnbull, Career Coordinator, SESS	

Regrets: Chief Charlotte Mitchell, USIB Education Coordinator, Charlene Allison (USIB rep)

1) Opening Prayer – Marty Marchand-Ring

2) Introductions

3) Career Prep and Work Experience Presentation by Rod Kitt and Boyd Turnbull

- **Work Experience:**
 - 4 credits
 - work in a business/trade in the area
 - often leads into an apprenticeship (SSA)
- **Yes 2 It:**
 - awareness program for grade 6 and 7 students
 - receive funding from Industry Training Association (ITA)
 - parents and teachers invited to attend
 - scheduled for last week of January
- **Secondary School Apprenticeship (SSA):**
 - 480 hours
 - start of apprenticeship in a trade

- are paid and receive 16 credits
- can qualify for a \$1000.00 scholarship
- **ACE-IT Program** (grade 11 and 12 students):
 - post-secondary program, base level course in a trade
 - school district pays tuition
 - travelling is an issue – most students have to travel to go to the college or find accommodation with family (can be quite daunting for a 17 or 18 year old)
 - receive dual credits, college credit and high school credit

4) Matthew Baran – OIB Youth Worker

- Leadership skills: teaching kids to do good things for the sake of doing good.
- Our Native Voice Program: working with Amanda Montgomery (Okanagan Nation Alliance) to take over delivering the program and opening it up to all Aboriginal students.
- Canoe Program: will start in spring (went out a couple of times as introduction).
- Okanagan Nation exchange program – Sonya will be taking two OIB youth to New Zealand for 2 weeks.
- Lunch time youth program at SOSS: open to any youth that is willing to attend during lunch time.
- Working with students who exhibit high risk behaviors.

5) Barton Tumlinson – Fluid Survey (support workers database):

- Online survey system that sets up surveys to collect data
- used by support workers to record contacts and cultural activities (Enhancement Agreement).
- Has not sent out monthly reports yet.
- Will now allow for choosing multiple students.
- Alpha – allows you to choose number of students you need.
- Still working out kinks, will be revising, i.e., add cultural tab.
- Please contact him for any additions and suggestions to survey.
- Will bring support workers together to review the use and convenience of database
- Support workers need to keep separate notes on students as survey is just for documenting stats.

6) Helen's Updates:

- **Pow wow:**
 - Fund raiser at the OIB hall raised \$872.00.
 - Similkameen's fund raiser is tonight at SESS in the cafeteria - raised \$591.45!
 - Osoyoos' fundraiser is March 6th at N'kmip Campground clubhouse.
 - OK Falls is hosting their first ever on March 13th at the school.
- **Cultural Awareness workshop**
 - Reviewed the program and possible improvements. Could be more visuals to help those who do not know the area/territory. We may need to provide support to presenters to create power points.

- Dave is collecting feedback from the administrators and we'll start working on a pro-d plan. (Helen will do support workers!)
 - How can schools improve Aboriginal learning? Next step – revise to deliver to teachers.
- **Support Workers Sharing Circle:** a cultural activity binder is being created for all workers. The lessons each worker creates will be shared with others (our goal). Will include crafts, stories and resource contacts/people.
 - **Circle of Life Reading Series:** Looking at putting together the funds to purchase these books for all elementary schools. A set of books costs \$1200.00 (6 books for 33 titles) Jim will work with administrators on purchasing after Helen arranges for principals/key teachers to evaluate them. Considering the new curriculum, schools will need more Aboriginal reading materials in order to meet major learning outcomes. Explore resources to find stories that fit what is happening across Canada. First Nations content is now becoming popular and that is the direction the curriculum is going.
 - **Student Leadership:** Helen asked Okanagan Mainline Region group to keep her informed of any gatherings or leadership conferences that will be suitable for AEAC student reps. Gathering Our Voices may be an excellent opportunity.
 - **School's Aboriginal Delivery Plans** will be sent out to the AEAC membership and schools once all are in. This will allow one school to learn ideas from another.

7. Action Goals for 2013/14:

- Integrate Aboriginal activities [*curriculum*] school-wide
 - Indigenous Principles of Learning
 - Native games in PE
 - FN literature at all levels
 - Field trips
- Develop more FN oriented field trips and out-of-school activities
- Continue to develop a list of resource people with emphasis on communication between resource people, school and support workers.

8. Resource People:

- Appropriate to offer a honorarium for teaching something to our students (skill, tradition, story, etc.). In most cases \$35 is the rate for a 40 minute presentation, however the resource person may negotiate a higher fee or may not wish to be paid. Some are quite happy to do as volunteer. Whatever is decided should be put in writing and should be confirmed with a signature or a returned email accepting the conditions. For a major presentation to teachers, administrators, etc., the rate negotiated may be quite high (can even go above \$1000), depending on the presenter and the audience. Jim will put together a form (mini contract) for this. Any rate agreement above the usual \$35 should be confirmed by the principal.
- It is important for the presenter to feel respected and fairly treated. The elders are the knowledge keepers and are the teachers within the culture.
- The providers for larger gatherings are usually tendered. This is not necessary for smaller gatherings, i.e., AEAC meetings. For smaller gatherings, the host organization (LSIB for today) is

responsible for soliciting the meal. The AEAC has set the rate at \$15 per person, which should include drinks, cutlery, plates, traditional meal and dessert.

9. **Aboriginal Graduation:** June 24th at SESS. Next committee meeting will be set in the new year.

10. **Other:**

- create a list of school events for Helen
- create a “Need List” form for presenters to fill out for supplies they may need, equipment so that all presenters can be better prepared.
- Jim will put together a draft mini-contract for presenters regarding the payment amount including honoraria, travel (gas or mileage), time of presentation, etc.

11. **Next Meeting:** February 18th. OIB to host

Agenda development: Send any items you would like discussed, to Helen at hgallagh@sd53.bc.ca

12. Meeting adjourned at 2:50