

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53 (OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN)

Our Mission

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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.

September 22, 2015

Present:

Members:

Bev Young- SD#53 Chair, Brooke Tanner- SOSS Jr. Rep., Kali Gabriel-Baptiste-SOSS Sr. Rep., Colleen Baptiste-OIB Parent Rep., Frieda Prince-LSIB Educ. Coordinator, Dave Foster- Elem. Admin. Rep., Tracy Harrington-Sec. Admin. Rep., _____ Stewart, SESS Jr. Rep. designate.

Guests:

Bev Stewart-potential Sim. Ancestry Rep., Lindsay Anderson-OIB Designate, Shendah Benoit-TEN Admin., Natasha Schroeder- Network Leader, Naomi ETTY-OK Falls Support Worker, Marty Marchand-Ring-CPS Support Worker & Language Instructor, Mike Reid-SESS Sec. Support Worker, Les Louis-SESS Elem. Support Worker & Language Instructor, Karlie Clarke-OSS & OSES Support Worker, Sonya Jensen-SOSS Support Worker, Alanna Waunch-SOSS Support Worker, Lynn Couch-Alaric-TEN Support Worker, Scott Tremblay – SESS Admin., Mike Safec-OSS Admin.

Regrets:

Charlotte Mitchell-USIB Educ. Coordinator, Theresa Gabriel-OIB Educ. Coordinator, Linea Arcand-SESS Jr. Rep.,

- 1) Opening Prayers – Helen Gallagher done before meal.
- 2) Introductions
- 3) Review Frame of Reference. – EA is coming up soon and if anyone has suggestions for additions or change, email it to Helen or Bev.
- 4) Aboriginal Teacher Update: See attached. (change date please)
- 5) **Round Table Highlights** – Support Workers: Bev – Reminder that reports are due Sept. 30th and support workers and administrators jointly work on report.
 - **Lynn – TEN 2 Goals:** Setting up her new room , Food Feast, Planning for National Aboriginal Day – school wide activity, Earth Day.
 - **Sonya and Alanna – SOSS 2 Goals:** School Wide cultural events – bring in singers and drummers, open up lines of communication with parents and teachers (working on improving from last year), trip to post-secondary campuses.
 - **Karlie – OSS –** Making connections with colleges, universities so students can see availability, connections with the other high schools
 - **Karlie -OSES –** Bring in parent as speakers on various topics, Mon., Wed. and Fri. work in different classrooms delivering various cultural lessons.

- **Les – SESS Elem. Side** – planning a local year-end field trip with his Okanagan Language students, bringing in Knowledge Keepers for oral history and topics, drumming in other classes, painting pictures to create a sense of belonging in the school.
 - **Mike – SESS Sec. Side**- support potential grads, have luncheon and expose them to opportunities beyond the doors of the high school, Cultural activities working with language instructor, artisans, Knowledge Keepers and drumming.
 - **Marty – CPS** – Taking grade 4s to local pond and teaching about the plants and their traditional uses, reintroducing the 4 Food Chief flags (hasn't been done for 4 years), Family night with Les and Mike, have local band school visit and have them perform with their flutes and songs (sharing).
 - **Naomi – OK Falls** – decorating new classroom, bring in guest speakers, drumming, and have students help plan Aboriginal Day.
 - **Questions and/or Comments**
 - Colleen likes Les idea having a local year-end trip for his students.
- 6) The enhancement Agreement renewal is coming up next spring. Members- Bev and Helen will review past minutes and then figure out who needs to be on the committee. Bev will contact the people who should be on the committee. This has been done – waiting for some responses.
 - 7) The Aboriginal Education Series looks like a great program and maybe we should be encouraging all EAs to take the course as well in the future. Further discussion will happen with Bev and Susan Trower, Manager of HR. A total of 25 hours for all the courses and the support workers signed up for all the available courses.
 - 8) Natasha Schroeter – Natasha will be working with teachers developing strategies so they can have engaging learners. She is hoping to guide teachers to incorporate the First Peoples Principles of Learning throughout their lessons. Wants to: connect with teachers and promote First Peoples English, create resource list for teachers, build a survey for students to find out what works for them, focus on classroom practice, teachers choice on cultural perspectives/strategies, FNEESC math.
 - 9) Send all service plans to Helen and she will send to Bev.
 - 10) Additions: Frieda – a) LSIB is hosting a Welcome Back to School BBQ on September 30th at Ntamqen Band School. Bev will go to meet new principal
b) LSIB now hosts a monthly community breakfast 9-11, the last Monday each month.
 - 11) Next Meetings:
November 24, 2015 – OK Falls
February 16, 2016 – CPS
May 31, 2016 – OSES

* Each school will have students come in and show/ display work they have done in the Ab Ed Program.*