

**School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen)
Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee Meeting
September 24, 2013, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
School Board Office – Annex**

Present:

AEAC Members:

Kalie Gabriel-Baptiste, Jr. Rep, Okanagan	Jim Insley, Assistant Superintendent, Chair
Darlene Melgar, Sr. Rep, Okanagan	Myrna Coates, School Trustee
Alec Rousseau, Sr. Rep Similkameen	Tyla Parker – Ancestry Parent Rep – Similkameen side
David Foster, Administrator	Sharon Wilson – LSIB Education Director
Joanne McGinnis, OIB Rep	Mike Safek, Administrator

Guests:

Michael Reid, Support Worker	Lynn Couch-Alaric, Support Worker
Samantha Marsel, Support Worker	Les Louis, Support Worker
Karlie McCarthy, Support Worker	Scott Tremblay, Administrator (VP) SESS
Shendah Benoit, Administrator	Bev Young – Superintendent
Linda Theil , Administrator CPS	Huia Martin – Guest
Raylene Baptiste, Support Worker	Linda Minnabarriet – Guest
Barton Tumlinson, Administrator OSE	

Regrets: Charlotte Mitchell, USIB Education Coordinator, Loraine Thompson, Ancestry Parent Rep- Okanagan Side, Charlene Allison, USIB Rep

- 1) Opening Prayer:** Kali Gabriel-Baptiste
- 2) Vision Statement:** Bev Young gave an overview of the District Vision Statement and a brief outline on how it was developed through the collaboration of the district's schools and groups.
- 3) Reviewed frame of reference** – The original/first AEAC members approved it. No changes are needed at this time.
- 4) Budget** – Was approved as presented. There were increases in support worker time at a number of schools where registration is up. (Aboriginal Department members absented themselves from the meeting during this discussion.)
- 5) Aboriginal Teacher Update:**
 - Grade 4 Okanagan Unit: An in-service will be offered to new grade 4 teachers and School District No. 58 teachers on November 1st. Place to be determined.
 - Pow Wow: will be at SOSS on April 25th and 26th, 2014. The dates for the fund raiser will be determined at first committee meeting. First committee meeting will be held at Osoyoos Elementary on October 10th at 11:00. Smokey Valley and Nelson Leon have already committed.
 - Cultural Awareness: Date has finally been set. Presentation to administrators will be held November 14th. Location needs to be determined. First committee meeting will be held Oct 10th at 9:30. The presenters will be present and final details will be discussed, including the time allotment for each presenter.

6) **Action Goals for 2013/14:** During break-out sessions, discussion around what members would like to see continue, stop and start. We then selected the following items as our top priorities (Note, we have used some editorial license to combine and refine the items. Some are natural extensions and these are highlighted for you on the brainstorm attachment.) These will be discussed at the next meeting.

- 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 resource people list with emphasis on communication between resource people, school and support workers. ???

In addition to these, continued in-service/training for support workers and a strategy to improve and expand Okanagan Language delivery is desired.

Meeting adjourned.

For your information and thought, the vision we developed last April:

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.

This will be discussed at our November meeting.

Next meeting: LSIB on November 19, 2013. Venue: to be determined.