

**COMMITTEE REPORT OF THE
EDUCATION-POLICY COMMITTEE
School Board Office
December 3, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.**

Present: Cendra Beaton, Trustee (Committee Chair)
Allison Watson, Trustee (Committee member)
Trudy Spiller, Trustee (Committee member)
Amanda Culver, STA
Tim Hamblin, CUPE
Melissa Horner, SPVPA
Paul Block, Superintendent/CEO
Dave Strange, Associate Superintendent

Guests: Christine Merner, Fred Hibbs and Mark Johnston

Regrets: D’Arcy Deacon, Associate Superintendent
Sandra Arnold, SPEAC

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FIRST NATIONS TERRITORIES

We are honoured to be meeting on the traditional territories of the Coast Salish, specifically Esquimalt Nation, Songhees Nation, and acknowledge the three nations SD62 works with directly in our schools: Sc’ianew Nation, and T’Sou-ke Nation; including the West Coast Pacheedaht Nation, Nuu-chah-nulth. (words gifted by the three nations SD62 works with)

2. Opening Remarks from Chair, Cendra Beaton

The Chair recognized the Territory. The Chair highlighted this is the last meeting of the calendar year for the committee and extended thanks to all members for their contribution to the important work of the committee.

A reminder was given to the committee that the season brings joy but also challenges for individuals and families and the Chair encouraged people to check in with others and with self and to prioritize self care and care for others this December.

The success of the Strategic Plan engagement process was highlighted by the Chair and the Chair asked partner groups to share anything that they may want to highlight since the last committee meeting. Partner groups shared a number of examples.

3. **COMMITTEE REPORT** of November 5, 2024 Education-Policy Committee meeting
The committee report for the November 5, 2024 Education-Policy Committee meeting was received by the committee. No errors or omissions were noted.
4. **BAA COURSE PROPOSALS**
There were no BAA course proposals for this meeting.
5. **NEW BUSINESS**
There were no New Business items for this meeting.
6. **REVIEW OF POLICIES/REGULATIONS**
 - a. Draft Revised Regulations C-329 “Field Trips” – Christine Merner
Staff presented on the Draft Revised Regulations C-329 “Field Trips”. Christine Merner, Manager – Occupational Health and Safety, highlighted the three main areas of change being proposed. These changes are in response to a WorkSafe BC Order as well as changes in the WorkSafe BC Regulations which became effective November 2024. Additional housekeeping was completed to the Regulations to clean up the document, including work to make the documents’ language gender neutral. The presentation was well received, and the committee followed with questions and requests for clarification.

Recommended Motion:
That the Board of Education for School District #62 (Sooke) give Notice of Motion to draft Revised Regulations C-329 “Field Trips”.
 - b. Draft Revised Policy and Regulations D-121 “Animals on District Property and in Classrooms” - Fred Hibbs and Mark Johnston
Staff presented on the Draft Revised Policy and Regulations D-121 “Animals on District Property and in Classrooms”. Fred Hibbs, Executive Director – Human Resources, shared with the committee that he was returning with a significantly revised version from what was presented earlier this fall with changes informed by meaningful feedback from committee partners. The presentation was well received, and the committee followed with questions and requests for clarification.

Recommended Motion: Motion Carried
That the Board of Education for School District #62 (Sooke) give Notice of Motion to draft Revised Policy and Regulations D-121 “Animals on District Property and in Classrooms”.
7. **FOR INFORMATION**
8. **FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**
9. **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE:** Jan. 9, 2025