

# COMMITTEE MEETING

## COMMITTEE I – MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATING

MONDAY, 2011 SEPTEMBER 26

### Committee Report to the Board, 2011 October 03

#### 1. Standing Committee Orientation

The Chairperson of the Committee referred to information material dated 2011 September, *Standing Committee Orientation*. He reviewed the following key points:

- composition and scope of the Board and its Standing Committees;
- roles and responsibilities of Committee members and representatives;
- Committee reports to the Board; and
- district policies and bylaws relating to Board and Board Standing Committees.

This item was received for information.

#### 2. We Day Update

P. Peters, Education Co-ordinator, provided an overview of the *We Day* event to be held at Rogers Arena on 2011 October 13. An initiative by *Free the Children*, the purpose of the event is to educate, engage, and empower youth in building compassion and empathy for others. The event will be attended by students and teachers from the Vancouver school district.

P. Peters distributed information material and reviewed highlights of the Vancouver School district's participation at the 2010 We Day.

This item was received for information.

### **3. Funding Review Input**

R. Krowchuk, Secretary-Treasurer, referred to a memorandum dated 2011 September 23, *Submission to BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) on Input Into the Funding Formula for Operating Grants*. BCSTA has requested input from boards of education on the changes they would like to see made to the funding formula that the Ministry of Education uses to allocate operating grants. The district's submission outlines the current operating grant allocation system and identifies some areas that should be investigated for possible change. In addition, the report notes that the adequacy of the total amount of funding provided by the Province for public education still remains the most significant issue.

R. Krowchuk reviewed proposed changes in the following areas:

- Holdback Funds
- Funding for Special Education
- Basic Per Student Allocation
- Unique Geographic Factors
- Funding Protection

Some Committee members and a representative provided their feedback regarding the submission. It was agreed that amendments to the submission be made based on feedback received and a revised version be included with the report for presentation to the Board on 2011 October 3.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Vancouver Board of Education submit the attached revised report entitled *Vancouver School Board Input Regarding the Funding Formula for Allocating Operating Grants* (Appendix A) to the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA).

### **4. Advocacy Report**

P. Bacchus, Trustee provided the Committee with an update on the District Advocacy Committee (DPAC) meeting held on 2011 September 19. She reviewed the following issues discussed at the meeting: 125 Celebration-Yearbook Project, Job Action, Communications, Parent Advisory Council survey regarding fundraising and fees, student discussion groups, BC Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services, Ministry audits, dismantling of the HST and reinstatement of the GST and PST, Funding Formula feedback, funding for salary increments, BCeSIS, Carleton Elementary (Green Thumb Theatre), and the upcoming municipal elections.

This item was received for information.

### **5. Sectoral Review Update**

J. Tinney, Deputy Superintendent, referred to memorandum dated 2011 September 23 entitled *Update on Sectoral Review*. He provided a powerpoint presentation and reviewed the following information:

- Areas of Focus for the purpose of data collection: planning and monitoring, enrolment and demographics, programs, facilities, finance, transitions, human resources, and community;
- Open data initiative in partnership with the City of Vancouver and the University of British Columbia; and
- Development of *PlaceSpeak*, a social media tool for online feedback and consultation of topics of interest. C. Hardwick, PlaceSpeak, responded to questions from Committee members.

A Committee member commented that while the development of social media tools for public consultation can be positive, the district is cautioned that others, who may not have access to social media, should be provided the proper mechanism to participate in the consultation process.

This item was received for information.

## **6. New Business / Enquiries**

### **a. A Plea for Help from a Vancouver Inner-City Teacher**

A Committee member noted that C. Gelson, a teacher from Vancouver's inner-city, has made a public plea in support of providing help and care for children living in poverty around Seymour Elementary.

Following discussion, Committee members agreed to forward the following recommendations to the Board.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Board send a letter to C. Gelson to thank her for bringing the issue of youth poverty in Vancouver to the public's attention;

THAT the Board send a letter to the Government of British Columbia and copy

C. Gelson, regarding the call made in May 2010 for the Government of British Columbia to launch a comprehensive and accountable poverty reduction plan aimed at dramatically reducing homelessness and poverty in British Columbia.

Correction noted at the 2011 Oct 03 Board Meeting.

**7. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled for Monday, 2011 October 24 at 1730 hours.

Meeting adjourned at 1915 hours.

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Mike Lombardi, Chairperson

Committee I Members Present:

Al Blakey, Patti Bacchus, Jane Bouey,  
Sharon Gregson, Allan Wong

Other Trustees Present

Ken Clement, Ken Denike, Carol Gibson

Senior Management Present:

Steve Cardwell, Jordan Tinney,  
Rick Krowchuk, Valerie Overgaard

Association Representatives Present:

Geoff Taylor, VASSA  
Magdalena Kassis, VEPVPA  
Tim Chester, IUOE  
Colin Redfern, DPAC