

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 – BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: General Affairs Committee DATE: June 7, 2017
CHAIRPERSON: Trustee L. Mossman STAFF CONTACT: K. Kaardal, Superintendent/CEO

Attendees:

Trustee M. Baxter
Trustee D. Butler
Trustee R. Cacchioni
Trustee J. Fraser (Absent)
Trustee C. Gorman
Trustee L. Mossman (Chairperson)
Trustee L. Tiede

Staff:

K. Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO
T. Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent (*absent*)
L. Paul, Secretary-Treasurer
M. Essler, Executive Assistant (*recorder*)

Partner Group Representation:

COPAC	Shelley Courtney, President
COTA	April Smith, First Vice-President
COPVPA	Kevin Auclair, Executive Member
CUPE	Margaret Varga, Student Support Services Shop Steward
DSC	Yihan Xia, Student, Okanagan Mission Secondary School

Agenda – Additions/Amendments/Deletions

The June 7, 2017 Agenda was approved as presented.

Report/Matters Arising

The June 1, 2016 General Affairs Committee Public Meeting Report was received as presented.

Discussion/Action Items

1. Joint Statement on Engaging Our Community in Positive Civics

At the April 12, 2017 Public Board Meeting, Jane Nordquist, Teacher at Rose Valley Elementary School, requested the Board of Education's joint endorsement with the Central Okanagan Teachers' Association and Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council of the following pledge:

We pledge to be civil in our civics.

We will be mindful in how we express our political opinions and respond to ideas that oppose our own.

We will cherish the privilege of living in a free society by celebrating everyone's participation in democracy.

The General Affairs Committee members agreed to support the sentiments of the statement. As the Board of Education and the two other partner groups are separate entities, the General Affairs Committee is recommending the Board of Education endorse their own statement. If the statement is approved by the Board of Education, it will be inserted as part of the Trustee Handbook.

Outcome:

The General Affairs Committee recommends to the Board of Education:

THAT: The Board of Education, as an autonomous political entity, endorse the statement:

We pledge to be civil in our civics.

We will be mindful in how we express our political opinions and respond to ideas that oppose our own.

We will cherish the privilege of living in a free society by celebrating everyone's participation in democracy.

AND THAT: The Board of Education not endorse a joint statement with the Central Okanagan Teachers' Association and the Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council.

2. Naloxone

The Province of British Columbia is currently experiencing a public health emergency related to the unprecedented increase in opioid overdoses across the Province. Ministries and other public sector organizations within the Government of British Columbia are assessing whether their staff should be trained and stock naloxone in the event employees, clients, or members of the public experience an overdose. Naloxone is a drug that can reverse an opioid overdose (rather than exposure) in three to five minutes. Opioids are a class of drug or medication which includes heroin, morphine, fentanyl, methadone, and codeine. Naloxone is available in 2 formulations – intramuscular (ie injectable) and intranasal (ie nasal spray). The effects of naloxone last 20 to 90 minutes, so it only reverses the overdose temporarily; immediate medical attention must be sought, and subsequent doses may be required.

Naloxone is available without a prescription to anyone in British Columbia for emergency use to reverse an opioid overdose, and regulatory changes have made it possible for anyone to administer naloxone in any formulation with the appropriate training. Interior Health reports that this emergency has only had a very few school age students overdose on drugs across the Province and none at school sites. Interior Health has requested School Districts to perform an assessment of the likelihood of someone witnessing an opioid overdose and the consequence of not having naloxone available, to allow School Districts to determine if they should consider stocking naloxone. As the results of the assessment for the Central Okanagan Public Schools is "Likelihood Low/Consequence High", the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools/CEO is for the purchase of naloxone kits for secondary schools and staff to receive training to administer the naloxone. The purchase of the intranasal formulation is suggested due to staff comfort and ease of access. The First Aid Attendant, Vice-Principal and Principal Designate will be trained. A reporting template has been created to complete when staff have administered naloxone in response to an opioid overdose. Reporting protocols will be established to track naloxone use. If the recommendation is approved by the Board of Education, the actual protocol will be developed between the District's Health & Safety Office along with Interior Health. The protocol, which would include the training process as well as the schedule for checking on the shelf life of naloxone, would be brought back to the Board of Education for review.

Outcome:

The General Affairs Committee recommends to the Board of Education:

THAT: The Board of Education approve that naloxone kits be on site at Secondary Schools as a safety measure and that a staff member(s) receive training.

Recommendations/Referrals to the Board/Coordinating Committee/Other Committees

June 8, 2017 Public Board Meeting Action Item:

1. Statement on Engaging our Community in Positive Civics
2. Naloxone

Items for Future General Affairs Committee Meetings

Amendments to Policy 705 – Relations with Parents of Students

Amendments to Policy 715 – Consultation with Partners in Education

Future General Affairs Committee Meetings

Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at 4:00 pm

Questions – Please Contact:

Lee Mossman, Chairperson

Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent/CEO

Larry Paul, Secretary-Treasurer

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