



REPORT

Policy Committee

- *Minutes of the Policy Committee meeting September 23, 2014.*

Resolutions:

- *That the Rainy River District School Board approve the following policies:
6.20 School Attendance Zones
2.14 Student Voice
2.05 Communications and Media Relations*
- *That the Rainy River District School Board approve Policy 1.20, Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee for stakeholder consultation.*
- *That the Rainy River District School Board rescind the following policies:
5.70 Cooperative Education
7.13 Board Employees as School Bus Drivers*



**Policy Committee Minutes
Education Centre
September 23, 2014 – 9:30 a.m.**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Dianne McCormack, Michael Lewis, David Kircher, Ralph Hill

REGRETS: Earl Klyne, Trustee

STAFF: Heather Campbell, Director of Education; Bill Daley, Principal Representative; Ann Cox, Manager of Human Resources; Kathie Zatulsky, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

Trustee Dianne McCormack called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

There was no conflict of interest declared.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the June 17, 2014 meeting were approved.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Summer Work 2014 Update

The Committee received a report on reorganization of Board policies during the summer months. All policies were reformatted to provide more consistency. Also, some policy sections were renamed and cross references were updated.

The Committee recommended that the policy organization be reviewed at a future date for any additional changes.



b) Policy Feedback

6.20 School Attendance Zones

No feedback was received from stakeholders on Policy 6.20, School Attendance Zones.

The Committee reviewed Policy 6.20, School Attendance Zones and a revision was noted in the order of bulleted items in guideline 2.1. There were no further changes. Director of Education, Heather Campbell, reported that the Ministry of Education plans to send out School Accommodation guidelines to school boards which provide additional options to the current process. As the timelines in the current School Attendance Zone Policy could be affected by the new guidelines, the Committee discussed whether the policy should be held or moved forward for approval. It was agreed by the Committee that the policy should go forward for final approval by the Board with consideration given to amending the policy at a future date when the new Pupil Accommodation Review guidelines are released.

The Committee recommended that Policy 6.20, School Attendance be presented to the Board for approval.

2.14 Student Voice

No feedback was received from stakeholders. A reference to the *Education Act* was added to the policy. A further revision was noted regarding the appointment to the Student Senate. There was discussion regarding the voting rights of students. A Student Trustee can speak at the Board level but their vote is non-binding which is in accordance with the *Education Act*.

The Committee recommended that Policy 2.14, Student Voice be presented to the Board for approval.

2.05 Communications and Media Relations

No feedback was received from stakeholders. It was agreed that Policy 2.12, Access to School Premises be added as a cross reference.

The Committee recommended that Policy 2.05, Communications and Media Relations be presented to the Board for approval.

c) 1.07 Role of the Board Member

As requested at the June 17 Policy Committee meeting, Heather Campbell provided a draft policy outlining the Role of the Board, incorporating Policy 1.07, Role of the Board Member as part of that policy. In addition, the role of the First Nation Trustee and Student Trustee would be included in



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the policy. Revisions were noted up to Section 5.0, Responding to Concerns.

In order to deal with other items on the agenda, it was suggested that this policy be brought back to the Committee at the next meeting to continue the review.

3.46 Performance Appraisal

Policy 3.46, Performance Appraisal was deferred to the next Policy Committee meeting for review.

d) Policy Governance – Proposed Schedule for Policy Review

In follow-up to the memo dated April 29, 2014, relating to the proposed schedule for policy review, the Committee reviewed the following policies to be rescinded. These policies will be converted to procedures only.

The Committee recommended that the following policies be rescinded:

- 5.70 Cooperative Education
- 7.13 Board Employees as School Bus Drivers

Heather Campbell requested that Policy 5.75, Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition for Mature Students be deferred for rescinding as work relating to this policy has not yet been completed. The Committee was in agreement.

6. New Business / Reports

a) Policy Review

1.20 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee

Heather Campbell brought forward a recommendation to the Committee to change the policy to allow an external member to be elected to the position of chair. It was suggested that a chair and alternate or co-chairs be elected annually. The Policy Committee was in agreement.

The Committee recommended that Policy 1.20, Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee be presented to the Board for stakeholder consultation.

Policy 8.09 Procurement

A memo from Laura Mills, Superintendent of Business was reviewed by the Committee regarding Policy 8.09, Procurement. Trustee Kircher spoke about the need for modification of approval levels within Policy 8.09, Procurement. This memo will also be presented to the Finance Committee September 23. It was noted that some approval levels outlined in the current policy between



consulting and non-consulting services do not align. It was requested that the recommended changes in wording for the approval levels be accepted by the Policy Committee and deferred to the Finance Committee for further discussion. Following the approval of changes at the Finance Committee meeting, it would then be presented to the Board at the October meeting for approval for stakeholder consultation. Feedback on the policy would be brought back to the Policy Committee before final approval. The Committee was in agreement.

Correspondence

The Committee discussed correspondence received regarding policies sent to stakeholders for review. Recent policies sent to stakeholders were due by September 19 and concern was expressed that school councils are not yet in place for the school year. The Committee agreed that although a deadline is noted in the memo to stakeholders, policy feedback is welcome at any time. A deadline date on feedback is suggested in order for it to be presented and dealt with at the next Policy Committee meeting. Further, it was suggested that the two-week deadline be extended to just prior to the Policy Committee meeting which will allow additional time for stakeholders to respond. The Committee was in agreement. This information will be shared with principals at their next meeting which can be shared with school councils and staff.

Recommendations:

“That the Rainy River District School Board approve the following policies”:

6.20 School Attendance Zones

2.14 Student Voice

2.05 Communications and Media Relations

“That the Rainy River District School Board approve Policy 1.20, Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee for stakeholder consultation”.

“That the Rainy River District School Board rescind the following policies”:

5.70 Cooperative Education

7.13 Board Employees as School Bus Drivers

7. The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.
8. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

<i>Rainy River District School Board</i>	SECTION 1 <i>Governance</i>
ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE	1.20

POLICY

The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee will create and enhance an understanding of the educational and social needs of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students.

RATIONALE

The Rainy River District School Board will ~~more effectively~~ meet the needs of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students with a greater understanding of the unique needs of these students.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee will make recommendations to the Board relating to the education of aboriginal students and ensure the appropriateness of the content of Board curriculum materials and programming by:

- a) Expanding the awareness of the educational needs of aboriginal students to improve opportunities and ensure successful completion of secondary education;
- b) Increasing the awareness of the nature of native educational concepts and the positive impact it has for all students of the Board;
- c) Advising the Board with the development and implementation of Native Language/Studies programs.

GUIDELINES

1.1 Recommended participants:

- a) One trustee of the Board under Section 188 of the *Education Act*, RSO 1990 who is appointed by the Board to represent the interests of First Nation students. At the beginning of the year, a trustee alternate will be identified to attend when this person is unavailable;
- b) Director of Education/designate;
- c) Administrative representatives from elementary and secondary panels representing Aboriginal students in each of the geographic areas of the Board;
- d) Participants representing Aboriginal students in each of the geographic areas of the Board. One Aboriginal student from Fort Frances High School and one Aboriginal student, annually alternating between Rainy River High School and Atikokan High

FEEDBACK TO BE RECEIVED
BEFORE
OCTOBER 27, 2014

School, will serve a one year term. Membership will be by application to the Committee.

- e) One or more members at large appointed by the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee. At the beginning of the year, an alternate will be identified to attend when a member is unavailable. Appointment to the committee will occur through Aboriginal partner agencies.
 - f) Ex-Officio Member – the chair.
- 1.2 A committee member missing three consecutive meetings may be removed for that term by the committee and a replacement will be appointed for the remainder of the term.
 - 1.3 Every vacancy on the committee occasioned by the death or resignation of a member, or by any other cause, shall be filled by a qualified person and that person shall hold office for the remainder of the term of such member.
 - 1.4 ~~The trustee shall chair the committee, and an appointment will be made for Director/ designate to the committee.~~ **The Committee will elect a chair and alternate or co-chairs annually.**
 - 1.5 The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee will meet a minimum of three (3) times per year.
 - 1.6 Notwithstanding, the Committee shall not concern itself with salaries of the employees of the Board or with matters pertaining to personnel problems and policies relating to personnel.

<u>CROSS REFERENCE</u>	<u>Date Approved</u> <u>Board Motion</u> <u>Review Prior to</u> 2019	<u>LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE</u> <i>Education Act, RSO 1990</i> Section 188
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