

**COMMITTEE REPORT OF THE  
EDUCATION-POLICY COMMITTEE  
School Board Office  
October 3, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.**

---

- Present: Allison Watson, Trustee (Committee Chair)  
Cendra Beaton, Trustee (Committee Member)  
Russ Chipps, Trustee (Committee Member)  
Christina Kempenaar, STA  
Dana Savage, CUPE  
Georgette Walker, SPVPA  
Paul Block, Deputy Superintendent  
Dave Strange, Associate Superintendent  
Monica Braniff, Associate Superintendent
- Guests: Vanessa White – District Principal – Safe and Healthy Schools
- Regrets: Denise Wehner, District Principal – Curriculum Transformation; Scott Stinson, Superintendent/CEO; 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: T'Sou-ke Nation and Sc'ianew Nation and Nuu-chah-nulth: Pacheedaht Nation. We also recognize some of our schools reside on the traditional territory of the Esquimalt Nation and Songhees Nation.*
  - 2. Opening Remarks from Acting Chair, Cendra Beaton**  
Welcome and Territorial Acknowledgement given by the Acting Chair, Trustee Cendra Beaton. Trustee Beaton shared her experiences this past weekend related to Truth and Reconciliation events and activities. An invitation was given to members of the committee to share their experiences from the weekend. Several powerful and important stories were shared.
  - 3. COMMITTEE REPORT of September 12, 2023**  
The committee report for the September 12, 2023 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. REVIEW OF POLICIES/REGULATIONS**
    - a. Draft Revised Policy C-210 "Placement of Students" – Dave Strange and Denise Wehner**

Associate Superintendent Dave Strange thanked Denise Wehner and Janine Brooks for their work reviewing and proposing updates to policy C-210. Mr. Strange spoke to the proposed adjustment in the policy language and how it aligns the policy with recently updated regulations and current practice in our school settings.

Committee members expressed gratitude for the work done by Ms. Wehner and Ms. Brooks to review and update the policy.

**Recommended Motion:**

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give Notice of Motion to draft revised Policy C-210 "Placement of Students".

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Education-Policy Work Plan 2023-24 – Paul Block

Deputy Superintendent Paul Block shared with the committee the updated Education-Policy Work Plan. Mr. Block shared that much of the work of the committee arises from:

- requests of the Board of Education.
- policy review timelines.
- new Ministry of Education and Child Care policy or direction.
- new district initiatives requiring policy development.

Committee members were reminded that they can bring items forward for inclusion in the work of the committee by reaching out to the Chair of the committee.

Trustee Watson reviewed the rationale for the work plan and the desire to ensure that the committee was able to be informed of upcoming presentations, policy work, etc.

Committee members expressed gratitude for the work done and how helpful this will be for members to prepare ahead of meetings and to have a clear sense of the flow of the work for this current year.

b. Safe Schools Presentation – Vanessa White

Associate Superintendent Monica Braniff established context for the presentation and called upon District Principal of Safe Schools, Vanessa White, to lead the presentation. Ms. White began the presentation with an overview of the current Safe Schools staff (STA, CUPE and Exempt) and their various roles and responsibilities.

Following this, Ms. White spoke to Ministry resources, and future Ministry directions including several significant changes that will be coming soon. This was followed by an overview of the work of the team including a more detailed breakdown of work in the area of prevention and response. Game Ready and Here for Peers were two programs highlighted in addition to other work being done in support of staff, students and families. Cross department collaboration was also reviewed.

The presentation was well received, and appreciation expressed by committee members for the work being done. Committee members engaged in discussion and asked questions of both Ms. Braniff and Ms. White.

7. **FOR INFORMATION**

a.

8. **FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

9. **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE:** Nov. 7, 2023  
Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

DRAFT

POLICY AND REGULATIONS ADOPTION

School District #62 (Sooke)

October 24, 2023

---

Draft revised Policy C-210 "Placement of Students" is now ready for Notice of Motion.

**NOTICE OF MOTION:**

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give Notice of Motion to draft revised Policy C-210 "Placement of Students".

**School District #62 (Sooke)**

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS</b> | No.: C-210   |
|                              | Effective: June 27/95<br>Revised:<br>Reviewed: Oct. 3/23; Oct. 24/23 |

**SCHOOL BOARD POLICY**

The Board supports the three basic principles of learning which guide all aspects of curriculum development and instructional practice in the schools of British Columbia. These are:

- people learn in different ways and at different rates;
- learning is both an individual and a social process;
- learning requires the active participation of the learner.

The Board understands that these principles require that provision must be made in each classroom for student learning needs, styles and rates.

The Board acknowledges that **not all students learn at the same rate, in the same learning environment, in the same ways. It involves the provision of individualized and responsive instruction and assessment opportunities.** Learning is a developmental process that proceeds in a unique way for each student. ~~and that the assessment and evaluation of student progress as well as the reporting on that student's progress must contribute to continued learning for the student.~~ The Board recognizes that controlled research studies consistently demonstrate that the effects of grade retention (failing) on student achievements are negative **and have impacts beyond the classroom.**

Therefore, it is Board policy that the placement of students Kindergarten through Grade 8 will be with their age level peers.