



Aboriginal Advisory Committee
Friday, January 19, 2018
Held at Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board Office
MINUTES

Present:

Shawn McDonald	Indigenous Education Lead Algonquin & Lakeshore Catholic DSB
Kevin Reed	Indigenous Education Lead, Limestone DSB
Kathy Brant	Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte
Danka Brewer	Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation
Terri Daniel	Principal, Regiopolis Notre Dame Catholic HS, ALCDSB
Scot Gilliam	Supervising Principal of Safe & Caring Schools, Limestone DSB
Melanie Howard	Director, Aboriginal Access to Engineering Faculty of Engineering And Applied Science, Queen's University
Elaine Jeffrey	Métis Nation of Ontario
Brian Kerby	Trustee, Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB
Candace Lloyd	Highland Waters Métis Council
Erin Pincivero	Principal, NDSS Napanee, Limestone DSB
Brad Reitzel	Principal, Sacred Heart Catholic School Batawa, ALCDSB
Terri Slack	Superintendent of School Effectiveness, ALCDSB
Nicholas Woolley	Vice-Principal, Regiopolis Notre Dame Catholic HS, ALCDSB

Regrets:

Krishna Burra	Superintendent of Education, Limestone DSB
Sheri Jones	Limestone DSB
Meri MacLeod	Limestone DSB
Kelly Maracle	Limestone DSB
Jolene Knowles	Limestone DSB
Charlene Landry-Kyte	Vice- Principal, St. Theresa Catholic SS, Belleville, ALCDSB

Also in Attendance:

Romaine Mitchell	Education Officer Education Policy and Programs Unit Ministry of Education - Ottawa
------------------	--

1. Opening and Greetings
Shawn McDonald welcomed the group and introduced Mr. Romaine Mitchell, Education Officer. Mr. Mitchell was asked to open the meeting with a traditional welcome.
2. Review of Minutes
The minutes were reviewed and accepted with a few minor changes
3. Approval of Agenda
The agenda was reviewed and accepted

4. ALCDSB Update:

- Indigenous Names, Logos and Mascots
The committee determined that both boards were vigilant about recognizing the inappropriate use of images for school/team mascots. It was decided that there were no issues.
- ALCDSB has been providing many PD opportunities for staff; Environmental Inquiry for SK-Gr 3; Collaborative Inquiry sessions with Itinerant Arts teachers to maintain an Indigenous presence through the curriculum; reviewing the World Religions curriculum, which is a compulsory credit for every student. Also Social Studies, History and Geography for Gr 4-8 has curriculum revisions to support Indigenous Education. We are actively embedding Indigenous Education components into the curriculum to ensure every student is reached. Although not part of the usual curriculum review cycle, it is a response to the “Calls to Action” for the TRC.
- Relationships
- ALCDSB is in the process of providing information to each school so they can form their own community partnerships that will be relevant to the local community. We are hoping to create a roster of contacts for the schools. There have been two meetings to date between our boards. We are looking for assistance with the vetting process to be mindful of appropriate protocol.

Terri Slack commented on the rules and regulations around curriculum. We are looking for assistance to determine appropriateness of who would be approached as the messages should be clear and valid. Not wanting to insult community members but still wanting authentic resources.

Danka suggested a mentoring program. There could be criteria around knowledge, experience, background and specialty.

5. LDSB Update:

- LDSB is running a Collaborative Inquiries at four elementary schools and one Native Studies Program at secondary.
- Planning to transition traditional English courses to Indigenous Voice Courses.
- A copy of a draft press release was shared with the committee. The Limestone Board wants to ensure that the message is correct. Not to be shared until official.
- Increased acquisition of books with lots of new Canadian Literature.

Land Acknowledgement

- Land acknowledgement was distributed to schools in French and English.
- Want it to be read at all public events.
- Should it be read every day in school with opening of day? Looking for input. Do not want to overdo as the message could be lost.
- At NDSS students present it at events. They are coached on pronunciations
- Romaine Mitchell suggested that the week be opened with the Acknowledgement and closed on Friday with same. It is hard to break it up over the week. It is mostly said in English. Melanie has a shortened version and Romaine said there was a version that could be shared.

6. Community Partners Update

- Danka: 7 Grandfathers First Nations Teaching. Students want to know how to help Canadians seeking Reconciliation. Would like to partner with schools. How can we help students in need locally and nationally?
- Nick Woolley: small group of 10 students meeting at school on Thursdays. Trying to build a sense of community.
- Romaine: there is a lot happening at the Ministry. Regarding the Indigenous Language program, there is a lack of language carriers in Ottawa. Looking to create an elder circle. Calling on Inuit to sit on circle to make recommendations. Approaching the College of Teachers and Boards to recognize language instructors as specialized teachers. These teachers will be OCT certified. The circle will make recommendations, vet candidates.
- Melanie: Program Update: Unit Gr 4 Rocks on the Queens website. It is available for teachers for free. Code Makers club ready to go starting January 22, every Monday. This is for Gr 4-6. There are posters available. Award Winner: Queens STEM; see press release. Moving locally developed courses to regular curriculum. Queens can support. Federal Grant **Tech 'n' Tinker Trailer** is fully booked. Upcoming: HWEQCO: research questions; why no STEM in Indigenous Education; why is it not accepted; would self-identification help? Can the boards provide data about self-identified students in Grade 12 science? There will be a new director in New Directions.
- Danka: On the Land: Shelsey Taylor, Donna Ray and Danka applied for funding program and will be running seasonal sessions for ECE. One Saturday for half day. 20 people per session in February, April, November and December; fully booked with a wait list. Areas covered are Crafts, Welcome, Smudge, Seasonal Teachings and Moons.

- LDSB Lakes Program: using story belts with traditional oral story telling
 - Candace: Metis Highland Water is holding a Mural Contest
 - Brian Kerby: Federal Youth Council with Mike Bosio MP. This is a group of students that are concerned with education. They will be meeting regularly to discuss education matters with a link to the Federal Government
 - Brad Reitzel, Sacred Heart Batawa: Read Acknowledgement every Monday. At a Lenten celebration, the Acknowledgement was read and received mixed reviews. There was interest as to what and why as well as curious but respectful response,
7. Next Meeting, March 22, 2018
 Katarokwi Learning Centre
 38 Cowdy St. Kingston.
8. Closing: The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 pm