Policy Review Committee Minutes

Tuesday, November 24, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room, Administration Office

Present: P. Bartlette (Chairperson), D. Karnes, J. Murray, Dr. D. Michaels, G. Barnes
Regrets: B. Jolly (alternate)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Policy Review Committee Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Committee Chairperson, Trustee Bartlette.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Policy Review Committee Agenda was approved as circulated.

3. REVIEW OF OCTOBER 27/09 MINUTES

Chair Bartlette referenced these minutes for Committee members.

4. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS

5. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS:

a) STUDENT EMAIL ACCOUNTS

Senior Administration presented a request for the procedural form 1007.2b "Outlook Live User Agreement" to be amended as form 1007.2a.

Agreed.

b) POLICY 1001.2 – Educational Sustainability in Student Achievement

Dr. Michaels presented an initial draft of proposed Board policy on educational sustainability in student achievement. This draft was in response to the Policy Review Committee's previous consideration on what is essential in developing policy in the areas of educational sustainability. Essential is the emphasis on student achievement and development.

The proposed Board policy was reviewed in detail. The following areas were identified for the next revision:

- Directly related to regular instruction.
- Detail required in procedures as to how student achievement in literacy and numeracy is reported to the Board quarterly.
- "Big picture" of student achievement is required for the Board.
- Numeracy standards required.

The draft policy will be revised and brought forward to the next meeting.

c) DEVELOPMENT OF EQUITY POLICY/PROCEDURES 1001.1

Draft #9 of the proposed policy was reviewed with specific discussion of:

"Educational *"equity"* refers most broadly to a condition of fairness with respect to educational opportunities, access, and outcomes for all people. As applied in education, the legal principle of *"equity rights"* provides that all students have a right to an education that maximizes opportunities to develop their knowledge, skills and attitudes as embedded in the mission statement of the Brandon School Division.

The Board recognizes and accepts its responsibility to provide policy direction and resources to enhance and support quality instruction and learning opportunities that assist schools in closing educational achievement gaps by investing strategically in all students.

To demonstrate its commitment to equitable education in all Board activities, the Board commits to governance decisions that reflect these principles:

- the provision of appropriate learning opportunities for all students;
- the assessment of the effectiveness of programs and services to help students succeed;
- the identification and removal of systemic barriers to student achievement;
- the use of data to inform resource allocation decisions;
- the advocacy for funding and resources to support students in at-risk situations; and
- the advocacy for the enactment and protection of student equity rights."

Draft #2 of the administrative procedures was reviewed. The procedures cross reference the above described six (6) governance principles of equity with the standards of "organizational factors impacting equity principles" – school-based resources; staffing; access to curricular and learning experiences; learning/support services; professional/support staff development; transportation, learning environment. Discussion was held regarding the purpose and structures of these procedures.

It was agreed that further study and in depth discussion was necessary at the next meeting.

d) 2010-2011 BUDGET PROPOSALS

The matter of required additional professional development funds was discussed.

Agreed:
The Policy Review Committee agreed to ask the Finance Committee to set aside $200,000 for staff professional development as a possible budget enhancement for the 2010/11 budget deliberations.

5. OPERATIONS INFORMATION:

Dr. Michaels advised that the Senior Administration is working on the following:

- Review of Policy 5026 – Harassment
- Draft Policy – Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting of Student Learning
- Draft Policy – Student Fees
- Draft Policy – Fund Raising
- Draft Policy – Parent Liaison Committee

6. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, December 22, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Bartlette, Chair	D. Karnes
J. Murray	B. Jolly (Alternate)