

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC)

Date: September 19, 2018

Time: 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Location: Maitland Room, Education Centre, AMDSB

1. Welcome & Introductions

Attendance:

Amy Kipfer, Pauline Harrison, Amanda Gooch, Laura Scott, Superintendent, Kim Black, Kate Jackson, Becky Nethery, Monique Pregent, Trustee, Colleen Schenck.

2. Updates

- i. Stratford Central Secondary School Mural
- ii. Summer Learning Institute: Grand River Pow Wow: *~10 Teachers took part in the Summer Learning Institute*
- iii. Self-Identification Update: *All schools were asked to distribute the FNMI self identification documents. 181 students have self-identified in AMDSB, this is an increase from last year.*
- iv. First Nations, Metis and Inuit Courses: *All AMDSB secondary schools are running courses related to First Nations, Metis and Inuit Studies 2018/2019.*

3. Business

- i. Curriculum Revisions - Ministry of Education Letter

<http://nationtalk.ca/story/amdsb-supports-resolution-questioning-cancellation-of-writing-revisions-blackburn-news>

Phase 1 - revisions have been made to Social Studies Grade 4-6, History Grade 7&8, Canadian and World Studies Grade 10 History. Revisions focus on strengthening the learning connected to Indigenous perspectives, cultures, histories and ways of knowing. This includes treaty education, the impacts of the residential school system and the Indian Act.

At the recent AMDSB Board Meeting, Trustee Pratley brought a letter forth from Simcoe District SB, which encourages other school boards to approach the Ministry of Education regarding their feelings related to the stalling of the curriculum revisions. AMDSB has composed a similar letter, which IEAC committee read and made revisions to.

Proposed Revisions:

- *PP1 - "...inquire about **the** soft launch of the five..." change from "this falls" to "the."*
- *PP1 - Change "Metis" to "Métis."*
- *PP2 - "...demonstrated the commitment to Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Actions (**Article** 62 & 63). Change "Actions" to "Calls."*

- *PP3 - "...history of Perth and Huron Counties in regards to the First Nations that were present on these lands." Change from "were" to "First Nations that were and are present on these lands."*
- *PP4 - "...son of Honourable, Murray Sinclair." Change to his correct title - "Senator"*
- *PP4 - "He shared many important messages with us, garnering our optimism and also mobilizing us to..." Change to "He shared many important messages with us, awakening our responsibility and role in the importance of reconciliation and mobilizing us to advance the Calls to Action."*

Motion: All those in favour of sending a letter from the AMDSB Indigenous Education Advisory Committee to the Minister of Education in regards to the cancellation of the curriculum sessions. Motion approved.

A second motion was then tabled.

Motion: All those in favour of having Superintendent, Kim Black and Trustee, Colleen Schenck present the Curriculum Cancellation Letter to the AMDSB trustees at the next school board meeting asking for the support of the Board of Trustees to add their name in support of the letter. Motion approved.

ii. Request for KAIROS Blanket Exercise (Train the Trainer Model)

<https://www.kairosblanketexercise.org/>

<https://www.kairosblanketexercise.org/become-a-facilitator/>

- Amy Kipfer will do more exploratory work regarding KAIROS - the exercise, facilitators and the possibility of training trainers. Katie has a possible connection to a trainer, so perhaps we begin with this contact in schools. Amy and Katie will connect. This will be a future agenda item for discussion.

iii. Stratford's Writers Festival

- Discussion about "Son of a Trickster" content by Eden Robinson. Senior Staff discussion has decided to not promote the session with writer Eden Robinson due to the adult/explicit content in the novels being discussed. Discussion about the possibility of other authors in the future - Drew Hayden Taylor, Chad Solomon, etc.

iv. Pre/Post Board Assessment and Planning Tool

- Discussion about barriers to families and students self-identifying. How to help schools, staff, families promote the self-identification piece. Groups used stickers to place priority on the areas of the Board Action Plan.

v. Board Action Plan in Progress

- Looked at proposed items for the Board Action Plan. (See frame breakdown)

vi. Identity Based Data Collection - Laura Scott

- Laura Scott - pilot project coordinator.
- Project Purpose: to bring clarity to our diverse student population and enhance understanding of Avon Maitland students. This project will then support equity and student achievement through evidence-informed decision making. Proposed time: December 2018.

- Project Scope: Board-wide student data collection based on identity categories provided by the Ministry of Education.
- Tentatively the goal is to administer the survey at the start of December.
- Students K-6 surveyed by parents/guardians.
- Grade 7-12 electronic surveys.
- This will be going to the Board when the Communications Strategy also goes to Board (Oct 23/18).

vii. FNMIEAO: Elder's Gathering

- Please let Amy Kipfer know you would like to attend by September, 28, 2018
- <http://fnmieao.com/events/>
Options to attend conference and then submit expenses.

4. Resource Corner

- i. Canadian Geographic: Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada
<https://www.canadiangeographic.ca/article/coming-soon-indigenous-peoples-atlas-canada>
- ii. APTN Series: First Contact
<http://aptn.ca/firstcontact/>

5. Future Agenda Items

- i. *Terms of Reference for IEAC*

6. Set Next IEAC Meeting Date

Amy Kipfer will send a doodle poll for upcoming dates.

7. Closing

Appropriate closing comments about the phrasing "all of my relations" comments from Richard Wagamese's Embers (2016).