

# Minutes Educational Policy Committee

April 23,2021

**1. Call to Order** 9:00am

**2.Quorum Requirement-** Lisa Mosher, Carl Garrett, Karen Kean, Nadine Savage, Averill Huxter (all by distance)

**3.Approval of the minutes** February 5, 2021 moved by- Karen Kean

**4.Approval of the agenda-**moved by Carl Garrett with video recording added to varia

## **5. Business Arising-**

**A) Online Ped Days/Teaching-** Good attendance by teachers to the sessions. Copies of the “playbook” have been ordered for each school

Some statistics have been gathered from the surveys including that 48% of high school respondents were responsible for younger children in their households as there were learning.

Any comments about the survey can be forwarded to Zac.

**B) Common exam period-** To be discussed in New Business

**C) Tutoring measure-** discussion of the format and request service for implementation

**D) Code of Conduct –** 0 cases of bullying have been reported to the ombudsman. It was noted at this time that minutes from the Council of commissioners is not being posted in an appropriate time on the ESSB website.

Anti Violence/Anti Bullying AVAB presentations have been shared with AVAB teams within schools, however all staff members and parents may not be made aware of the scope of the policy.

Second Step (bullying program) has been purchased for each school but it is not clear if it is being used effectively.

Schools are encouraged to share the results of the Tel Them from Me survey with older students.

Codes of conduct have been re visited by schools and are to be reviewed by Governing Boards.

It is possible that the Power Points from the AVAB presentation will be made public for schools to help educate families.

## **6. New Business**

**A) Exams-** The letter from ESTA dated            was discussed. The timeline of the decision to cancel provincial exams was reviewed. The timing and messaging directly to the parents prior to making the policy clear to the teachers was discussed. Teachers do have the autonomy to assess students in a manner that they see fit. Teachers are encouraged to assess student learning in a variety of ways.

Question banks will be shared by consultants that teachers can assess to add to their classroom assessments. If schools choose to implement a more formal examination it is noted that students who are not being assessed will still be in the classroom. Teachers choosing a more formal examination are encourage not to weigh the exam in the same way as the ministry has in the past.

It is noted that Learning for a Sustainable Future has units of student-centered inquiry will be made available which may be of interest to demonstrate student learning.

**B)** Data has been shared with the principals about success in term 1, to help guide priorities for student learning.

**C) Ethics and Religious Culture** The pilot of the new ERC program has been delayed. Only 12 schools in the province will be involved in the pilot program and the English translation will not be available until 2022. The rumor of the Sex Ed program being exclusive to the new ERC program is still only a rumor and the covering of the Sex Ed curriculum is still to be discussed by school staffs and approved by the Governing Board.

**D) Pre-School Framework Changes** Trainings will be made available to learn about the changes to the pre-school program. Barb Flowers will attend sessions on behalf of ESSB. It is noted that sessions for anglophones are not being offered fairly and that it is important that when sessions are offered in English, that we (teachers) take advantage of the offer, because lack of attendance and our “flexibility” to attend in French is indicating to the MEES that the sessions are un-needed.

## 7.Varia

**A) Video Recording Policy-** Policy development dates have been scheduled at the board level. Participants have begun seeking out information. A draft policy for the committee to review is hoped to be ready for a fall meeting.

**B) Local Agreement responsibilities** for this Committee is requested to be on the agenda for our next meeting

**8.Next Meeting-** Dates of May 28 or June 3 were proposed.