

Meeting November 21, 2017 Minutes

1. Welcome and Review of October 23 Minutes

Co-chair Trustee Bob Patterson welcomed Advisory Committee members.

2. Reconfiguration Timeline

Co-Chair Superintendent Evelyn Novak presented an updated Reconfiguration Timeline and asked for questions and comments, which were received as follows:

- Regarding Electronic Registration for new students and students selecting schools of choice, what are the plans for parents who are ESL and/or have no internet access? There will be someone available to help at the district office and at schools.
- There is a sense of anxiety among staff regarding the staffing process. A suggestion was made for additional communication to all staff, i.e., Connect 33.
- School registration will occur earlier, with information going to parents early in the new year.
- The general guidelines for bussing will be provided along with school registration information.
- Add hyperlinks to the Timeline where possible.
- Middle School Values, Vision and Mission Statement to be broadly circulated.

3. Boundary Update

Assistant Superintendent Rohan Arul-pragasam reviewed the Board approved option for Boundaries and Feeder Schools:

- SSS enrolment will be capped at 1400 (head count).
- The district will communicate to parents and students regarding enrolments and timelines for students from Watson Elementary choosing to transition to MSMS or VMS prior to the December break.
- Students from grades 8 and 9 in MSMS who are choosing to transition to SSS (based on space availability and resources) will also be informed about the process prior to the December break.

Questions/Comments:

- Has the district considered new students moving in to Chilliwack? Yes, projections include an in-migration factor.
- Electronic Registration will eliminate multiple registrations.
- Additional learning spaces need to be considered in future planning as well as other functional spaces such as washrooms.
- Are the capacities the same at GWG and SSS? The functional capacity at GWG is 900 and at SSS is 1200. Additional capacity is typically added with portables. Additional learning spaces at GWG and SSS are required, and are included in the District's capital requests to the ministry.

- The district continues to support its partnership with UFV, with some SSS students participating in programs at UFV. A new partnership between GWG and UFV has also been established.
- How will the staffing process for Education Assistants be determined? Decisions regarding EA allocations will continue to occur starting in mid-April based on student enrolment information. Necessary adjustments will be made in May-June as per the standard process.

4. **Staffing Process Update**

Co-Chair Superintendent Evelyn Novak noted that the District continues to meet with the Chilliwack Teachers Association to discuss the process for staffing in preparation for fall 2018 reconfiguration of schools. The plan for the staffing process will be completed prior to the December break.

5. **Report – Elementary School Implementation Working Committee**

Director of Instruction Janet Hall and Principal Chuck Bloch highlighted the work done at the elementary level in preparation for Reconfiguration. The November Elementary Working Committee Report can be found here: <https://www.sd33.bc.ca/elementary-reconfiguration>.

Questions/Comments:

- French Immersion – the district is continuing to consider when the early FI students will merge with the late FI students. VMS and CMS will provide the late FI programs starting at grade 6.
- Middle school principals are speaking with elementary PACs about student transitions and, similarly, secondary schools are supporting student transitions from middle school with information nights and school visits. School websites can be referred to for parent information sessions.

6. **Report – Middle School Implementation Working Committee**

Director of Instruction Kirk Savage and Principal Paula Gosal highlighted the work done at the middle level in preparation for Reconfiguration. The November Middle Working Committee Report can be found here: <https://www.sd33.bc.ca/middle-reconfiguration>.

Questions/Comments:

- What is the timing of Late FI applications for grade 6? It is part of the staffing process. As of now it is status quo.
- We will have Late FI at Middle School. Communication regarding FI will be provided on the district and school websites.
- What are the plans for Middle School Advisory? Plans for how Advisory will be structured are currently being co-constructed by a committee of teachers and principals/vice principals.
- Will there be pods at MSMS? Grades 6 and 7 teams of two core teachers will have a cohort of 50 students, and grade 8 teams of four teachers will have a cohort of 100 students. Exploratory teachers will be in addition to the core teachers.

- The district is not anticipating split classes for grade 6 and 7.
- How is leadership development being provided for staff? December 1-2 Middle Years Retreat, W.E.B. Training, building capacity for Advisory. There will be a Team Leader model rather than Department Heads. The district will move from subject specific departments to Teams. Discussions have started.
- What impact will Reconfiguration have on specialist teachers? The district has a lot of excellent teachers who are qualified to teach more than one area and specialist teachers will still be required.
- Learning Assistance and Counseling supports for Middle School students are part of the staff planning that is currently taking place.

7. Report – Secondary School Implementation Working Committee

Assistant Superintendent Rohan Arul-pragasam and Principal Brian Fehlauer provided a report highlighting the work done at the secondary level in preparation for Reconfiguration. The November Secondary Working Committee Report can be found here:

<https://www.sd33.bc.ca/secondary-reconfiguration>.

Questions/Comments:

- How do we ensure a cohesive culture is created at the secondary level with grade 9s and new staff feeling included? Secondary schools will be doing more team building with staff and will ensure that grade 9s students and staff are well integrated.
- Are current 10-12 teachers interested in teaching grade 9? That is very possible.
- Secondary schools are looking at combined grade 9 and 10 shop classes.

8. Questions/Comments

- The district is continuing to collect questions and will provide a communique regarding Reconfiguration plans to date to parents and the community prior to the December break.
- How are the parents on this committee communicating and to whom should parents be communicating? The DPAC Advisory Committee representatives share information with those PACs that are part of DPAC. Parents on the committee also share information with their PACs. Reconfiguration updates that are posted on the district website immediately appear on every school website.
- Will CUPE be consulted on the staffing process? Future meetings between CUPE and the district will include discussions regarding CUPE staffing.

9. Next meeting date: Tuesday, January 23, 2018, Computer Lab, 2nd Floor, Neighbourhood Learning Centre, 46361 Yale Road