



RECONFIGURATION

Elementary Working Committee

REPORT To: Reconfiguration Advisory Committee

REPORT Date: October 10, 2017

Elementary Working Committee Membership:

Chuck Bloch, Sardis Elem. (Advisory Member)
Janet Hall, District Office (Advisory Member)
Jackie Schott, Watson Elem.
Angela Utley, Unsworth

Iain Gardner, Cheam Elem.
Lisa Kean, FG Leary
Noel Sharman, Strathcona
David Wellingham, Greendale

The first regular meeting of the Elementary Working Committee was held Wednesday September 20, 2017. Attendance: David Wellingham sent regrets.

Communication with the larger PVP group

- School level committees/communication- the Elementary Working Committee will report out to the larger PVP group at AO meetings
- We need to be communicating reconfiguration information to CUPE members
- Reconfiguration should be on all staff meeting and PAC meeting agendas
- We need consistent communication from the PVP group to parents/students- we are gathering information and working together to create a plan that best meets the needs of all students

Staffing Process

- Human Resources is working on this. At this time, the process has not yet been determined.

Plans for school leaving celebrations for grade 5 &6

- Schools are looking at honoring the grade 5 students and the grade 6 students
- Discussion around joint celebrations, versus separate grade 5 from grade 6. Size constraints, facility restrictions and scheduling concerns all impact the decision.
- All schools are working through similar concerns in a manner that is best for the unique size, composition, traditions etc. of their building.
- Common themes: include grade 5 students in awards, celebrations, sports teams, assembly seating. Each school may have a different approach.
- Parents need to hear that we are looking at options to honor/include grade 5 students and that their concerns are being heard.
- Discussion around the transition to middle school i.e. gym blasts, activity options. Our suggestions and questions:
 - Ensure that students are able to participate in their “home school” transition activities
 - Keep in mind and consider that the grade 5 students are younger and may need more structure to the transition activities



- Public knowledge sharing about the changes in the framework and structure (timetable, rotation) of middle school. Parents need to have the information that the structure is changing.
- Incorporating opportunities for playground activities at middle school
- Socio-emotional learning is going to be key
- Articulation meetings: is there a possibility to see the students in the elementary setting before transitioning (if staffing was complete). What framework could work to allow teachers at both schools the opportunity to observe?
- What is the best time frame for articulation meetings? Meetings need to be done earlier this year (April perhaps).
- What will the assessment/intervention structures look like at the middle school level? i.e. guided reading, small group instruction
- Visits to middle schools for elementary administrators
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- Visits to existing K-5 schools by our committee

Moving Forward

- How do we find out the concerns from parents? Can we answer those questions in a consistent manner?
- Further explore options for administrators to visit other schools i.e. elementary to middle, K-5 schools in other districts

Upcoming dates for the Elementary Working Committee:

- Wednesday, October 25 at 3:45 @ Sardis Elementary School
- Wednesday, November 22 at 3:45 @ Sardis Elementary School