

Upper Grand District School Board PIC Committee

Monday, March 28, 2022

# MINUTES

## Those Present:

Gillian Prieur, Barb White, Martha MacNeil, Kumudinie Kariyapperuma, Jason Boyce, Ben McCabe, Jennifer Edwards, Jeff Bennett, Ashley, Jennifer Cowie, Anita Macfarlane, Joanne Jordan, Laura White, Sarah Ward, Jen Tulloch, Maureen Oesch

## 1. Welcome And Introductions

- Barb White welcomed everyone to the meeting and individuals in attendance introduced themselves. Everyone shared who their favourite teacher was when growing up and why

## 2. Approval Of Agenda

- Gillian Prieur asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Motioned by Maureen Oesch. All in favour.

## 3. Approval Of Minutes

- Gillian Prieur asked for a motion to approve the previous minutes. Motioned by Barb White. All in favour.

## 4. Student Census and Future Student Achievement Use - Guest Speaker Blayne Primeau

Blayne Primeau - Academic Achievement Data Analyst

- PIC Committee had previously expressed interest in wanting to learn about equity and inclusion and how to support student and families from different backgrounds
- Academic Achievement Data Analyst for the Board is a new role created this year
- New Director Peter Sovran wants UGDSB to be more of a data driven organization
- The multi year plan discussed in previous meeting is to be built around data we are capturing
- The leading initiative this year is around student census, and will help the Board to identify different identities and backgrounds in order to be more inclusive and to help with student

achievement

- Purpose of data collection: Identify and name bias and oppression, Eliminate bias oppression and racism, Address and educate, Build collaborative relationships
- UGDSB Equity Plan states that Board must describe racism and oppression and work to dismantle it
- By identifying and naming areas of oppression the Board will be able to make systematic changes in order to create more equitable outcomes for students
- This is also mandated by Ministry of Education
- Identity Based Data Couple: Student achievement, credit accumulation, suspensions/expulsions, special education services, academic/extra curricular program participation, graduation rates, pathways
- Identity based will be joined with existing data, such as Why Survey, in order to identify areas where UGDSB policies and programs are creating barriers for students based on their identity
- For first time at the UGDSB personal data collected from different surveys across the Board will be tied to a personal identifier in order to join data sets
- When is this data being collected: Concrete plan by Dec 2022, UGDSB plan sometime between May and December for census
- What Identity based data will UGDSB be collecting? - First language, Indigenous identify, Ethnicity or culture origin, Race or racial background, Religion and/or Spiritual affiliation, Gender identity, sexual orientation (Grade 7 and above), Disabilities, Canadian citizenship, Socio-economic status
- Answers to questions are voluntary and private and parents can chose to opt out of any socioeconomic information at beginning of survey
- Link to Draft survey: [IBSD 2022 Census - Draft \(Review Copy\)](#)
- How will UGDSB be collecting this information?
- Elementary parents or caregivers to complete,
- Secondary students at school, parent can opt out in secondary if 16 and younger
- Informed Consent - Voluntary survey, process in place to students or families to make changes, additions or revoke consent at any time
- Privacy - Data that is collected will add an encryption key to each student
- Encryption key is used only used in this one instance
- Data will be split into encrypted data sets with an encryption key
- Only 2 people in the Board will have access to this key
- Encrypted data set has no personal identifier so difficult to tie back to a student
- If there are any identity based groups with 15 students or less that that data will be suppressed and not reported on publicly
- Data will be kept in its own database, only brought together to help identify marginalized students
- Data will be used to identify outcomes to see if any disparities or disproportionality, any groups being underserved, or over represented? Why are barriers in place and what can we do to remove them?
- Options in survey - no comments, or refuse to answer, so how much data will you get in terms of diversity, how can you be confident you will get honest answer, and how valuable will this data be
- Ministry of Education and UGDS believe in collaborative relationships
- Raw data set will not be available to everyone but research report with findings and analysis will be available for parents and students

## 5. Board Report -

Board Report Matt McCutcheon  
School Operations Updates

### Covid19 Health and Safety Guidance:

- Protective Measures Continue such as daily covid screening, hand sanitizers, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting, ventilation and HEPA Filters, protocols to management individual illness at school, absenteeism reporting to Ministry and WDGPH, distribution of rapid tests, continued access to PPE
- There will be no questioning or policing of the covid screening form
- Everyone should just be careful and diligent of completing those screening
- If staff aware of discrepancy then follow up in gentle way with family
- Follow-up with school principal if any issues or concerns for parents

### What has Changed?

- Mask requirements strongly encouraged
- Cohorting and Distancing
- Transportation - no longer designated seats, no seating plans
- Vaccination Disclosure policies - no longer required for visitors
- Access to schools or board sites
- Rapid antigen tests staff/students

### Board Launching Phased Plan Focusing on Student Success and Learning

- Beginning in April - New 3 part program to support elementary and secondary students
- Board received just under \$4M through Ministry for reading interventions, student success and summer initiatives
- Learning loss in particular areas for particular students - key areas such as reading and literacy
- Access to these programs will be based on data from student achievement identified early this year
- French Immersion students that are struggling with english reading will also have access to this help for literacy but not for french

### Board News and Updates

- Empowerment Week - March 7 - 11
- Online learning graduation requirements for students who entered grade 9 in 2020-2021- they would be required to complete 2 online courses to graduate
- Can get opt out form signed by parent
- Board to offer 62 elearning courses for secondary school students in 2022/23 year
- New Science and Technology Curriculum for 2022/2023 schools: Online learning graduations requirements
- Grade 9 Science destreaming in upcoming school year
- Graduation will proceed - inclusive and equitable - no restrictions for covid

## 6. Trustee Report - Martha MacNeil

- Masks - Trustees obliged by Provincial Government and must rescind motion for mandatory Masks,
- Board of Trustees strongly recommend that masking continue in the school
- Food program/food preparation there is nothing specific that says need mask for that
- Multi year plan - trustees participating in small focus groups on what they would like to see in the updated plan, surveys they participated in, workshops in group and parent engagement pieces
- Municipal election coming up which also includes trustee elections
- Anyone interested in running as trustee can email Martha MacNeil [martha.macneil@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:martha.macneil@ugdsb.on.ca)
- Email will be sent out containing links/websites with more information regarding Trustee election

## 7. Chairs' Report

Parent Engagement Event Planning – My BluePrint and Student Assessment/Destreaming event was held on March 2, 2022; 7:00 – 9:00pm

- Event had approximately 90 participants
- Lots of positive feedback received regarding event
- The use of some pre-recording material along with live material and Q&A went very smoothly
- This approach can be applied to future events.

Parent Engagement Event Planning – Spring Event – May 4th

- Focus area on Indigenous Studies and Equity
- Sub-committee was rescheduled for March 30th

## 8. Questions, New Business And Final Remarks

Anita MaFarlane - Food & Friends Help Kids Live Free From Hunger campaign

- \$35000 from programs
- \$26000 from UGDSB, \$7400 general donations, \$32,750 sponsorships
- This is equivalent to providing over 40,000 meals
- Thanks to all who promoted and/or donated the campaign

Gillian thanked everyone for their attendance.

**The next meeting will be on meeting: Monday, May 30th at 7:00 pm**