BC School Trustees Academy – <u>DRAWING CHANGE: Reimagining Education</u>, Dec. 2-4, 2021 Marianne VanBuskirk - <u>Report to the SD83 Board of Education</u> (Dec. 14, 2021)

Day 1 Thurs. Dec. 2

Key Message: Your local voices in public education focused on student success.

Trustee Academy Official Opening – Indigenous Welcome by the Salish Anthem Xpey' Students & Staff Singing of O Canada – Handsworth Student Laura Tiegler

President Stephanie Higginson – The students we serve depend on our focus on best practices and student-centred actions during these difficult times. Students are the solutions, not the casualities.

Keynote: Students Have to be the Ones to Bring About Change – Eddy Robinson

- Indigenous Speaker (Anishinaabe)
- The utter importance of engaging Indigenous people in a respectful and reciprocal way.
- Believes strongly that students have to be the ones to bring about change.
- Talk focused on fostering relationship building between the organizations, institutions and agencies with thoughtfulness and cultural safety.
- Power of knowledge, inclusiveness and sharing of First Nations cultures helps our nation and all of its people to be connected and stronger.
- Examples of white privileged man advocating for Indigenous People: Dr. Peter Bryce health inspector who tried to raise alarms about Indigenous schools; and Gord Downie Tragically Hip.
- Are children reflected in our communities?

Day 2 Fri. Dec. 3

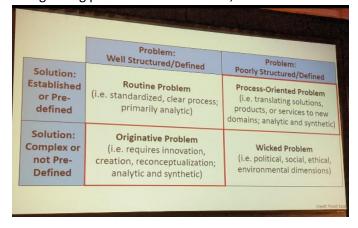
Opening and Welcome: Minister of Education: Jennifer Whiteside

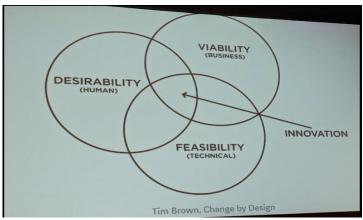
- Trustees are leading our schools and communities during the toughest imaginable times, and Minister Whiteside and Premier Horgan appreciate all that we are doing.
- Spoke of Ministry of Education incentives: Indigenous work, early childcare, putting a stop to hate; superb work in the SOGI area;
- We need to prepare students for a post-covid world one in which they take part in the planning.
- Ensuring students can thrive in a rapidly changing world.
- We will continue to work together to build the safest, most inclusive spaces for students that we possibly can.

Minister Whiteside participated in a Q & A section with topics such as assessment, climate change, graduation requirements, inclusion and rebuilding the systems.

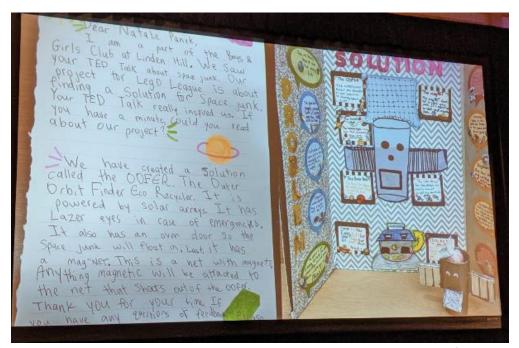
<u>Plenary 1: Learning Should Know No Boundaries</u> – Natalie Panek – Aerospace Engineer

Categorizing problems – visual slides, two of Natalie's favourites:





Problem solving is so important but even more important is sharing with students about the process of problem solving and inspiring them to come up with their own ideas.



So, learning has no boundaries. The curiosity, the awe – constant asking of questions – dream big and wonder... most important characteristic that we can instill in children.

Five pillars for learning and developing new skills and competencies:

Perseverance
Embracing failure
Working outside comfort zones
Optimism

Peak Moments

Concurrent Sessions – continuation on Friday

1) Policy Session on Surplus & Financial Reporting

Speaker: Jonathan Foweraker, Ministry of Education

Definition of "Surplus". Flow chart diagram

Plans often change (i.e. number of International students, etc.)

Surplus – feeds back into the planning for the next school year.

New policy says that:

- Reasonable surplus is appropriate
- Aligns Operating Surplus use with the board's strategic plan
- Supports transparency and accountability
- Boards are required to have specific plans for certain kinds of surplus
- Clear reports on how surplus will be or was spent
- Ministry may have requirements for use of restricted surplus for capital project priorities

Boards have to:

- Create local policy on surplus management
- Consultation (2022/23 Budget)
- Make transfers of surplus by motion
- Allocate surplus to the four assigned categories
- Have specific plans and timeline
- Work with Ministry and S.-T. to ensure policy is a success

2) The Last Year: Strategies to Meet Goals Before End of Mandate

A team of trustees lead this discussion.

- Tim Bennett BCSTA, Director
- Korleen Carreras SD42 (Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows), Board Chair
- Estrellita Gonzalez Vice-Chair, SD39 (Vancouver)

Tim: Focus on students. Abide by policies and processes that we already in place. "Filter out the silly stuff." While I have my Trustee hat on, my role is to govern. Use your strategic plan wisely in your last year.

Estrellita: What can you do in the next few months? Be clear on the work you wish to get done and over the finish line.

Korleen: Keep politics away from the Board table. See local elections financing act - it has changed. Campaign – what is your plan? Is it clear? How do you govern and campaign simultaneously. Be united – aligned with strategic plan. Campaigns are an opportunity (privilege) to talk about the school district in a positive way. Good work which is happening in our schools.

3) Policy to Practice: New FESL Tools and the Review Program

- <u>Lisa McCullough</u> Ministry of Education, Presenter
- Marnie Mayhew Ministry of Education, Presenter

Boards are responsible for:

- Alignment;
- Collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, Rightsholders and education Partners;
- Build system-wide capacity;
- Collectively publish education outcomes;
- Conduct a review program to improve educational outcomes.

Ministry is responsible for:

- An Indigenous Peoples, Rightsholders and Partners Roundtable;
- A Framework in Action learning series;
- A set of sector resources available through The Source and Framework Website;
- A Continuum of Supports through a Communities of Practice pod structure;
- A process for the ongoing review of district strategic planning and results reporting.

Superintendent meetings will include the topic of increased level of support with a focus on how to:

- Communicate
- Facilitate
- Cooperate
- Direct

An applied process for rebuilding a strategic plan.

Review of Annual Cycle of Continuous Improvement to build your FESL.

4) Knowledge Series - A Brave Journey

The Indigenous Education Committee leads the discussion. (5 posters circulated.)

- Presenters: Joe Thorne, BCSTA Elder and Knowledge Keeper (Cowichan);
- Colette Trudeau, Métis Nation;
- Jane Fearing, Columbia Métis
- Anne Cooper, retired School Superintendent
- Dayna Morries, Haida Gwai
- John Chenowyth, SD58 Upper Nicola Band
- Janet Fraser, Vancouver Trustee

All posters interwoven with resources from BCTEA BC Tripartite Education Agreement and DRIPA (BC Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People's Act.)











A full set of glossy poster-size copies were provided to Mishel Quaal, Principal of Indigenous Education and Donna Kriger, Superintendent of Schools.

5) Leadership Management Standards

- <u>Teresa Downs</u> Gold Trail (74), Superintendent
- <u>Linda Beddouche</u> Ministry of Education, Presenter

A group formed a co-ordinated and system-wide approach to come up with a model addressing the current gaps in the education system. First step was to focus on Principals and Vice-Principals as they are transitioning from the teacher role to a leadership role.

Ministry, FNESC, BCSTA, BCSSA, BCPVPA, BCASBO, FISA BC (independent schools) were the partners involved.

Key findings:

- Effective leadership can have a significant impact on improving student outcomes;
- High-performing jurisdictions have a systemic strategy to train leaders;
- Engagement through hands-on and experiential learning;
- Some areas have implemented a "stackable credential" model;
- There are many initiatives and programs already underway in BC that we can build on.

6 training modules focussing on student growth, achievement & equity of outcomes:

- Governance, Legislation, Roles, Responsibilities;
- Relations with First Nations, Métis and Inuit
- Working with People;
- Evidence-informed decision making;
- Planning for Impact;
- Financial & Resource Management.

(Note: this is a very BC-based approach.)

Day 3 Sat. Dec. 4 - Thompson Okanagan Branch Meeting

THOMPSON OKANAGAN BRANCH

Business Meeting

Saturday, December 4, 2021 Business Meeting from 7:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

Plenary 2: Reimagining the Future Through Education

Speaker - Ann Makosinski - Student inventor



A Canadian inventor and public speaker, best known for her invention of the thermoelectric flashlight in 2013. Appeared in Time Magazine, Popular Science. Canadian Geographic, Glamour, Forbes Top Under 30, and even appeared on the Jimmy Fallon Show. She attended St. Michael's University (Secondary school in Vancouver) as well as UBC.

Inspirational words on how to encourage curious learners to solve problems in innovative ways.

Plenary 3: Creating Belonging: Helping Children Thrive

Speaker – **Jennifer Charlesworth** – Representative for Children and Youth, Office of the Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)



