

## **Policy and Governance Meeting** – September 15, 2020 @ Van Bien Training Centre

Kim Pryschlak, DPAC Vice Chair attended on behalf of DPAC

Betty Bekkering (Trustee, Committee Chair) began the meeting by giving an **update on the status of Policy and Administrative Procedure review process**. Said at the June meeting they decided to ask the Lheidli Tenneh to review it through an Indigenous lens. It is currently on hold while they work on terms of reference for an Ad Hoc committee to do this review.

The meeting reviewed **Policy 8310: Policy and Policy Development**, and we were reminded that a large part of the meeting would be looking at how the Policy had been separated from the Administrative Procedures. Clarified that Board has sole authority over Policies, and the Superintendent has authority over Administrative procedures including appendices. Policy is a statement of the beliefs and/or intents of the Board, and Administrative procedures set out the specific management actions necessary at the school or department level to ensure that the policy and regulations are fully implemented.

We looked at **Policy 5131.1: Bus Conduct**, where disciplining on buses was changed from the bus driver's responsibility to the school's. The Rationale stated that 'once students board a school bus they become the responsibility of the District'...'and all students are required to conduct themselves in accordance with the same standards of behaviour that have been established for the classroom'. It also allows the school to customize the handling of the student according to that student's needs.

**Policy 3541.35: Winter Weather**: Administrative Procedures states that 'In advance of the cold weather months, schools should consult with parents and clearly communicate to parents what educational alternatives the school will offer in the event of low attendance caused by excessively cold weather'. Also, that Principals will ensure that parents are informed about the Regulations each fall and periodically through the winter months.

**Policy 5131.4: Student Attendance, Secondary Schools**: Discussion at the meeting involved removing 'Secondary Schools' from the title of the Policy as it refers to all schools. States 'Specific provisions for regulating the attendance of students shall be developed in consultation with students, staff members and *parents' advisory councils*, as appropriate'.

**Policy 6145: Student Transportation and Travel**: added a question to the volunteer driver application form about whether or not the applicant had had their license suspended in the past three years.

**Throughout**, where applicable, they suggested changing the phrase 'Education Partners' to 'Rightsholders and Stakeholders' to broaden the scope to include individuals, not just groups.

Next meeting October 6<sup>th</sup>, 4 p.m. at Van Bien Training Centre