

**Education Programs and Planning Committee
May 18, 2021 at 4pm on Zoom**

Attended and Summarized by Nicole Laferriere – DPAC Representative

Diversity Audits:

Review of the library book collection is done by teacher-librarian who will look at the protagonist of the books, authors, and portrayal of minority groups for accuracy, stereotypical or problematic. SD 57 is hoping to look at 200 to 500 books a year but that will depend if the librarian is working full time or part-time. Note very few librarians are hired to work full time in elementary schools.

Currently there are 10 schools that are fact finding because many of the books are written by white authors about non whites.

Building Stronger Schools Team:

Strengthening compassionate systems – focus has been on Student-Learner Partnership, Understanding Trauma and Learning, Safety/Assurance, Supportive School Climate, Positive Discipline and Behaviour/Emotional Regulations. Currently working with 14 schools.

District Awards Program:

Fewer donors in 2021 – Total donors - 125, number of total awards 271, Scholarships 158 and Bursaries 113.

Compared to 2020 – Total donors – 139, number of total awards 258, Scholarships 136 and Bursaries 124.

Value of Awards in 2021 in SD 57 was \$180,300 and in 2020 \$179,000. Students can access the award applications on line.

Although there were fewer donors and Covid-19 persisted, the donations and total awards were more in 2021 compared to 2020 which is awesome.

Fees and Deposits 2021 – 2022:

Financial Hardship (Policy 5101) – ensure that no student is denied an opportunity to participate in a course, class, or program because of financial hardship.

Specialty Academies – It is an education program that emphasizes a particular sport, activity or subject area and meets the prescribed criteria set out in the Ministry of Education regulations. A Specialty Academy may charge a fee for its program. The schedule of fees for the academy must be communicated yearly to the PAC connected to the academy for approval. Please see the EPPC Report for more details on fees.

Next Meeting: September 2021