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**COMMITTEE REPORT OF THE  
EDUCATION-POLICY COMMITTEE**

**School Board Office  
Nov. 4, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Cendra Beaton, Trustee (Chair)  
Allison Watson, Trustee (Committee member)  
Trudy Spiller, Trustee (Committee member)- virtual  
Russ Chipps, Trustee - virtual  
Dana Savage, CUPE  
Amanda Culver, STA  
Corrinne Kosik, SPVPA  
Ash Senini, SPEAC  
Paul Block, Superintendent/CEO  
D'Arcy Deacon, Associate Superintendent  
Vanessa White, Acting Associate Superintendent

**Guests:** Danielle Huculak, Brian Hotovy, Mike Huck, Laura Schwertfeger

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FIRST NATIONS TERRITORIES**

*With gratitude and respect, we acknowledge that we live, learn, and work on the traditional territories of the Coast Salish: T'Sou-ke Nation, SCÍÁNEW (Beecher Bay) Nation, and the Nuu-chah-nulth: Paaŋčiidŋath (Pacheedaht) Nation. We also recognize that some of our schools are located on the traditional territories of the MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat) Nation, and the Lək'wəŋən peoples of Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.*

**2. Opening Remarks from Chair Cendra Beaton**

- Nov 8<sup>th</sup> – Indigenous Veteran's Day
- Nov 11<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Day
  - Reminder of the impact on our current families with a member(s) currently serving
- Hindu Heritage month
- Indigenous Disability month
- National Domestic Violence Awareness month
- Disability Employment month

**3. COMMITTEE REPORT of Oct. 7, 2025 Education-Policy Committee meeting**

The committee report for the October 7, 2025 Education-Policy Committee meeting was received by the committee. No errors or omissions were noted.

**4. BAA COURSE PROPOSALS**

- a. BAA Course Proposal – Care Economy Career Sampler 11 – Danielle Huculak and Brian Hotovy with Mike Huck - District Principal – Pathways and Choice  
The Pathways and Choice team advised that these courses will provide exciting career pathway opportunities for students in response to the need in the community for a greater number of trained health care and other caring career personnel.

A presentation was shared which provided background information on the proposed courses and their alignment with provincial priorities and district vision. The grade 11 course was developed by SD64 Gulf Island and the grade 12 course was developed by SD73 Kamloops. Both courses will increase the potential employability skills of students. The Ministry is actively supporting the implementation of the courses through targeted grants and resources (\$5000). Discussion ensued about the benefits of these courses for Sooke students.

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education for School District #62 (Sooke) approve the proposed BAA Course “Care Economy Career Sampler 11”, effective September 2026.

b. BAA Course Proposal – Health Career Sampler 12 – Danielle Huculak and Brian Hotovy

This course is also 120 hours of instruction and 4 credits towards graduation. This course involves hands-on learning.

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education for School District #62 (Sooke) approve the proposed BAA Course “Health Career Sampler 12”, effective September 2026.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. International Student Program Update – Laura Schwertfeger

A presentation was given to highlight some information and trends about students and families participating in the International program and why. Information was shared and discussion ensued about the benefits of the ISP program for Sooke students as well as students abroad.

6. **REVIEW OF POLICIES/REGULATIONS**

a. Draft Revised Policy and Regulations C-114 “Sanctuary Schools” – D’Arcy Deacon

D’Arcy Deacon brought forward the revised Policy and Regulations after a significant amount of feedback was received during the Notice of Motion period. Discussion ensued and consensus was reached that the presented version reflected District partners’ suggestions.

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education for School District #62 (Sooke) give Notice of Motion to draft revised Policy and Regulations C-114 “Sanctuary Schools”.

7. **FOR INFORMATION**

a. Research Project Approval – Paul Block

“Empowering Young Canadians in the Smart Device Era: A Privacy-by-Design Research and Public Engagement Initiative” – Dr. Ajay Shrestha, VIU and Molly Campbell – Research Assistant

The Superintendent spoke about the research project and said this is a chance for students to give feedback about the impact of smart devices on them. It will be a chance for students to have a voice. It is funded by the Privacy Commission. Participation will help inform future policy.

8. **FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

9. **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE:** Adjourned at 7:28pm. Next meeting - Dec. 2, 2025.