



BILL 11: EDUCATION STATUTES
AMENDMENT ACT, 2015

An Overview

Burnaby DPAC

May 25, 2015

STATUS OF BILL 11

- Bill 11: Education Statutes Amendment Act proposes changes to the School Act, Teachers Act and the Independent School Act
- The first reading of the Bill was March 26, passed third reading May 14
- some concerns on process/consultation

- Bill 11 addresses some of the issues and concerns that have been in the forefront over the last couple of years



ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK

- Bill 11 deletes reference to SPCs, achievement contracts and other items specified in the Accountability Framework
- SPCs will no longer exist
- districts will continue to develop school plans - the process has not been clarified
- PACs may advise on any matter pertaining to the school
- SPCs role regarding video cameras and school academies will now be the responsibility of the PAC



CHANGES THE OBLIGATION OF BOARDS TO CONSULT PARENTS

- Boards will no longer be obligated by legislation to consult parents regarding:
 - the allocation of staff and resources in the school;
 - matters contained in the board's achievement contract relating to the school (removed from School Act)
 - educational services and educational programs in the school;
 - school safety, although PACs rather than SPCs now have to be consulted on the installation of video surveillance cameras



STUDENT PRIVACY AND FOIPPA

- Student information is added as a definition meaning "recorded information about an identifiable individual"
- Although the proposed changes are in line with FOIPPA, student privacy and records remain an area of concern for many parents, especially with the introduction of MyEducation BC
- this section allows student information to be shared between government organizations, one example given in committee debate in the house was for children in care, and the need to share information



CHANGE TO MINISTER'S AUTHORITY - BOARD AUTONOMY

There are a number of areas where the Minister's authority has been broadened, including:

- Administrative directives to boards
- authority to designate shared services providers
- management of schools and property are still the responsibility of a board, but are now subject to the orders of the minister



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

There are a number of amendments that would change the autonomy teachers have regarding professional development

Minister's regulations – continuing professional development

36.02 (1) The minister may make regulations for the purposes of this Part and, without restriction, may make regulations as follows:

- (a) establishing categories of continuing education activities;
 - (b) specifying the minimum number of hours of approved continuing education activities that a certificate holder must complete each school year;
 - (c) specifying the minimum number of hours of approved continuing education activities in one or more specified categories of continuing education that a certificate holder must complete each school year;
 - (d) specifying an approved continuing education activity that a certificate holder must complete in a school year;
 - (e) exempting a class of certificate holders from all or part of the requirements for continuing professional development.
- (2) A regulation of the minister under this section may
- (a) make different provisions for different school years and for a class of certificate holders, and
 - (b) establish classes for the purpose of paragraph (a).



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CERTIFICATION

Powers and duties of director of certification – continuing professional development

36.03 The director of certification may do one or more of the following in respect of continuing education activities:

- (a) approve a continuing education activity as an approved continuing education activity;
- (b) establish and administer a process by which a certificate holder may apply to have a continuing education activity approved as an approved continuing education activity;
- (c) establish and administer a process by which a certificate holder may apply for an exemption from or a reduction in the requirements for continuing professional development;
- (d) establish and administer a process by which completion by a certificate holder of the requirements for continuing professional development is verified.



REACTIONS TO BILL 11

- Trustees
- BCTF
- BCCPAC
- Burnaby DPAC



NEXT STEPS REGARDING ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK

- Ministry to meet with Partner groups to establish new accountability framework
- Ministry is willing to communicate directly with DPACs and PACs for input
- “ Consistent with the principle that all education partners are responsible for student learning, the Ministry will co-construct guidelines with provincial education partners, including parents, regarding school district and school planning under the new Accountability Framework. Involvement of parents and community in the development of district and school plans will be an expected part of the planning guidelines.”



FURTHER DISCUSSION FOR DPAC

- What role do Burnaby PACs want in school planning?
- Does DPAC advocate for the inclusion of language obligating boards to consult regarding staff and resource allocation and educational services and programs in provincial policy or regulation?
- Other suggestions?

