

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 42 (MAPLE RIDGE-PITT MEADOWS)
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2008**

Present:

Chair	Mrs. C. Ashlie
Vice Chair	Mrs. K. Ward
Trustees:	Mr. R. Butler
	Mrs. K. Marshall
	Dr. D. Rempel
	Mr. S. Vdovine
Superintendent of Schools	Mr. J.L. Simpson
Secretary Treasurer	Mr. D. Woytowich
Asst. Superintendent	Dr. R. Cranston
Asst. Superintendent	Mrs. J. Unwin
Communications Officer	Mr. S. Nesling
Executive Assistant & Recorder	Mrs. C.J. Jones

A - OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Correspondence & Announcements

3. Ordering of Agenda

P309-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Second: Trustee Butler

“That the agenda be ordered as circulated.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board Chair asked whether anyone present had questions regarding items on the agenda. There were no questions.

B - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1) February 13, 2008

P310-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

"That the Minutes of the February 13, 2008 Public meeting be approved as circulated and amended as follows:

Page 3 – remove bolding on the word "not" in the first paragraph.

Page 4 – second paragraph from the bottom of the page following Motion P295 - remove the word accepted and replace with the word disagreed.

Page 5 – last paragraph, second sentence, replace the word January with December.

Page 10 Public Questions – Add the following:

Mr. Hill asked whether the Board was familiar with the phrase "Libel Chill". The Board said it was not.

Page 11 – first paragraph – remove in its entirety and replace with:

Mrs. Froelich, DPAC Chair, commented that BCCPAC put forward a motion to ensure that parents have the right to speak up and to get legal support."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C – PRESENTATIONS

1. Ms. Zagar – SRTSS Teacher – Proposed Conference re: "Man's Inhumanity to Man: An Exploration of Genocide in the 20th Century"

The Board welcomed Ms. Zagar, SRTSS teacher, and Ms. Hales, Secondary Social Responsibility Facilitator to the meeting.

Ms. Zagar provided an outline of the various topics and speakers for the proposed April 8th – 10th conference.

2. 2008/2009 Budget Input

Mr. Andrew Lenton, a parent and teacher circulated his budget request asking the Board to consider investing in extra-curricular sports programs in the District. He said that sport and other extra-curricular activities teach valuable hidden curriculums, form the soul of any school, and are a valuable addition to the education of our students. Mr. Lenton said that he would like the Board to consider investing \$200,000 for extra-curricular sports programs.

The Board Chair advised Mr. Lenton that the Education Committee is reviewing the District's athletic programs, and his submission will be discussed at the next meeting of the Education Committee.

D – DELEGATIONS

1. Garibaldi Students

Chair Ashlie welcomed Garibaldi Secondary students Kandace Turmel, Genaya Grasby, Nick Damer, and Chenai Austin,,to the meeting.

Mr. Damer, said that the students at Garibaldi Secondary felt that there was a lack of communication with regard to the implementation of the common timetable. He stated that had the District administrators taken the time to ask for student input, the change in the timetable may have been more readily accepted. The students asked questions for clarification and the Superintendent provided information on how the common timetable will work throughout the District.

The students thanked the Board for hearing their concerns and they left the meeting.

E - CHAIR REPORT

- a) Correspondence for Board Action
- b) Board Announcement
- c) Other Matters

- Trustee Access to Information Bylaw*

P311-07/08 Mover: Trustee Ward
 Seconder: Trustee Marshall

“That the Board grant second reading to the Access to Information Bylaw as circulated”.

Trustee Ashlie	Affirmative
Trustee Marshall	Affirmative
Trustee Rempel	Affirmative
Trustee Ward	Affirmative

Trustee Butler	Negative
Trustee Vdovine	Negative

Trustee Vdovine said that the bylaw had not been posted on the website so it was difficult for the public to provide input.

The Board Chair asked whether Trustee Vdovine had contacted the Communications Officer on this matter. Trustee Vdovine said that he had not.

CARRIED

P312-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Seconder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board grant third and final reading to the Access to Information Bylaw as circulated.”

Trustee Butler suggested an amendment to 6.0 of the bylaw.

P313-07/08 Mover: Trustee Butler
 Seconder: Trustee Vdovine

“That the Access to Information Bylaw be amended as follows:

6.0 Trustees must utilize the Agenda Preparation process to request information and/or reports from staff.”

Trustee Ashlie	Affirmative
Trustee Butler	Affirmative
Trustee Marshall	Affirmative
Trustee Rempel	Affirmative
Trustee Ward	Affirmative

Trustee Vdovine	Negative
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The question was called on Motion **P312-07/08** as amended by Motion **P313-07/08**.

Trustee Ashlie	Affirmative
Trustee Marshall	Affirmative
Trustee Rempel	Affirmative
Trustee Ward	Affirmative
Trustee Butler	Negative
Trustee Vdovine	Negative

CARRIED

- School Heritage Archives Policy*

P314-07/08 Mover: Trustee Ward
 Second: Trustee Butler

“That the Board grant second reading to the School Heritage Policy, as circulated”.

Trustee Ward said that the Policy Advisory Committee had asked her to obtain clarification as to what the words “will support school communities” meant in the Guiding Principles.

Following a brief discussion, the Board agreed to table the motion, pending further clarification.

P315-07/08 Mover: Trustee Ward
 Second: Trustee Rempel

“That the Board table Motion **P314-07/08** until the next meeting.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Letter of Support for Substance Misuse Prevention Committee Proposal for Funding

Chair Ashlie stated that the Substance Misuse Prevention Committee is requesting endorsement in the form of a motion and written letter of support in its application to Health Canada for funding. The proposal for use of the funds was outlined in the circulated documents. The Board agreed to lend its support to the group and a letter will be prepared.

P316-07/08 Mover: Trustee Ward
 Second: Trustee Rempel

“That the Board support a partnership agreement for the proposed Substance Misuse Prevention Strategy application to Health Canada for funding.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Supreme Court Decision

The Board Chair said that as requested at the last meeting, a copy of the recent Supreme Court Decision regarding the disqualification of a trustee was circulated for public information.

- Agenda Preparation for March 26th Meeting

Chair Ashlie advised that the beginning of March agenda preparation meeting occurs during Spring Break, and she proposed that the meeting take place on Friday, March 14th prior to the Break. Board packages will then be available for distribution on March 18th.

The Vice Chair asked whether this was a convenient time to bring forward a suggestion to change the agenda preparation meetings from the Wednesday of the week prior to the Board meeting, to the Monday before a Board meeting. She felt that this change would provide staff with more time to prepare reports.

It was agreed that the item will be brought forward for further discussion at the next meeting.

F - DEFERRED ITEMS

G - TRUSTEE MOTIONS

H - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

1. Decision Items
 - a) Superintendent of Schools
 - b) Assistant Superintendents
 - c) Secretary Treasurer

2. Information Items
 - a) Superintendent of Schools
 - Good News Items

P317-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board receive the following “good news” items:

- the unveiling of the new Vision, Mission, and Core Values Statements.

- the plans to involve school teams in discussions as to how the statements appear in action;
- as a result of Whonnock Elementary's participation with the Hawn Foundation and Mindful Education, Whonnock staff and students will be involved in a training segment by the Foundation on social responsibility;
- the planning by secondary students across the District of a secondary literacy celebration for the week of April 21st, 2008;
- the Ridge Meadows Educational Foundation annual dinner will take place this Friday, and ticket sales have doubled over last year;
- the excellent participation of PMSS students at the recent Job fair interviews event;
- the Fashion show at MRSS which takes place this evening, all proceeds will be donated to a student who is battling an illness;
- employee participation in wearing pink today, in support of the Ministry directive against bullying;
- the Corporation of the District of Maple Ridge Sheila Nickols Community Heritage Commission Award to the District for its community history and heritage teaching;
- the unveiling of a community carving project, a part of the Spirit of the Wood festival. 574 Aboriginal Education students participated and the carving is now on permanent display at the public library.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b) Assistant Superintendents

- Common Timetable Update

P318-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Second: Trustee Martshall

"That the Board receive the Assistant Superintendent's Update Report on a Common Timetable, for information."

Assistant Superintendent Jan Unwin outlined the decisions made to move to a coordinated timetable. A full report will be given to the Board at the next meeting.

Ms. Unwin stated that the teachers have lodged a grievance on the matter, and have decided not to continue as members of the committee involved in the implementation of the new timetable.

The Superintendent stated that he could not see anything to halt the implementation of the common timetable. He said that a number of opportunities for input to the changes were provided for all involved.

Ms. Unwin said that another information meeting on the common timetable could be arranged. Trustee Ward urged staff to have another meeting to share the information with all concerned.

The Superintendent said that the MRTA's third step grievance has been denied, and the District will be moving ahead with the common timetable changes.

Trustee Vdovine said that he was disappointed that the Board did not have a good working relationship with the MRTA Executive.

The Board Chair said that this is an operational decision, due diligence has been followed, and it's unfortunate that the Union does not wish to be involved. The Board has not been involved in this operational decision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- French Immersion Program Update

P319-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Seconder: Trustee Butler

"That the Board receive the French Immersion Program Update, for information."

Ms. Rowen, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, outlined the results of her meeting with Mr. Osborne, who has been retained to carry out the French Immersion Capacity review. She said she will continue to provide regular updates for Board information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Expanding the Cyber-School Program

P320-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Seconder: Trustee Ward

"That the Board receive the Assistant Superintendent's "Expanding the Cyber-School Program" Report, for information."

Assistant Superintendent Jan Unwin reported that this is an expansion of the Keeping Kids in Schools initiative, and the intent is to offer another option for students who want a different way of learning.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- c) Secretary Treasurer

I - COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Committee-of-the-Whole
2. Committees & Advisory Committee Reports
 - a) Education Committee
 - b) Human Resources Committee
 - c) Finance Committee
 - d) Policy Advisory Committee

P321-07/08 Mover: Trustee Ward
 Secunder: Trustee Rempel

“That the Board receive the recommendations brought forward by the Policy/Procedure Advisory Committee”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Policy IM – Accreditation – Internal & External Teams

P322-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Butler

“That the Board approve the deletion of Policy IM – Accreditation – Internal and External Teams, dated 2001 from the Policy Manual.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Policy EEAE – Student Transportation – Private, District Owned, and Leased Vehicles

P323-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Butler

“That the Board delete the following policies from the current School District 42 Policy Manual:

Policy EEAE – Student Transportation – Private, District Owned, and Leased Vehicles
 Policy IICC – School Volunteers.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- School Volunteers Procedure

P324-07/08 Mover: Trustee Butler
 Secunder: Trustee Rempel

“That the Board receive the procedure entitled School Volunteers (including volunteer drivers), for information.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- School Volunteers Policy

P325-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board grant first reading to the policy entitled School Volunteers.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Policy JN – Student Fees and Charges

P326-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Butler

“That the Board approve deletion of Policy JN – Student Fees and Charges, dated 1997.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Student Fees and Charges Procedure

P327-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Marshall

“That the Board receive the Procedure entitled Student Fees and Charges, for information.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Policy IGAA – Learning Options

P328-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board delete Policy IGAA – Learning Options, dated 2004.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Proposing Program Options Procedure

P329-07/08 Mover: Trustee Butler
 Secunder: Trustee Rempel

“That the Board receive the procedure entitled Proposing Program Options, for information.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- e) Education Advisory Committee
- f) Aboriginal Education Committee

P330-07/08 Mover: Trustee Ward
 Secunder: Trustee Butler

“That the Board receive the Aboriginal Education Committee Notes dated February 18, 2008, for information.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- g) French Immersion Advisory Committee
- h) Anti-Vandalism Advisory Committee
- i) District Student Advisory Committee

J - QUESTION PERIOD

1. Trustee Questions

Trustee Vdovine asked staff if there was a way in which parents could be informed that they have the opportunity to appeal a school based decision.

The Superintendent said that all Principals are aware of the appeal process and will continue to ensure parents are advised that it is in place. Ms. Unwin said that this issue was discussed at a Deputy Minister’s meeting last week. She suggested that as a result of these discussions, the District needs to ensure that all of its appeal policies and procedures are clear and air tight.

The Vice Chair stated that at a recent meeting with the Secretary Treasurer and Superintendents of Achievement, an appeal process was discussed, and the Ministry is working on amendments.

2. Public Questions

A home schooling mother said that she would not put any of her children in the cyber-school program but she commended the District for moving forward in this regard. She said that she would like to make a presentation to the Board sometime in the future on home schooling.

Ms. Carr asked Assistant Superintendent Jan Unwin whether the District had considered combining the lap top program with the cyber-school program. Ms. Unwin said that staff is open to all suggestions and this would indeed be a good combination.

Mr. Hill asked what steps the Board had taken with respect to the Appeal Process.

Chair Ashlie advised Mr. Hill that the Board had submitted a motion to the BCSTA suggesting that appeals be directed through the Minister.

Mrs. Wagner stated that the Board may not be aware that appeals are not decided upon by staff. She said there appears to be a lot of misinformation on this.

Chair Ashlie advised that it is the Board's position that all appeals should be directed to the Minister of Education, not to staff.

3. DPAC Questions

Mrs. Froelich, DPAC Chair, advised that the next DPAC meeting will be held on Monday, March 3rd, 7:00 p.m. at Harry Hooge Elementary. . She also asked whether the common timetable will be in place for September.

The Superintendent said that the final draft is not yet complete. However, it is the District's intention to have it in place for September.

Mrs. Froelich advised that BCCPAC will, in the near future, be making a presentation to DPAC on student appeals.

4. Employee Group Questions

Mr. Serra, MRTA representative, said that he would like to clarify some of the comments that have been made about the common timetable. He explained that when the common timetable was presented to the MRTA, teachers were directed to participate on the committee to review the process. It was the members of the committee who came to the MRTA Executive to suggest that its MRTA members not continue to participate in the process.

K- TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. External Representative Reports

- BCSTA Provincial Council

P331-07/08 Mover: Trustee Ward
 Secunder: Trustee Butler

“That the Board receive the BCSTA Provincial council Meeting Notes, for information.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Board Liaison Representative Reports

- Trustee Ward provided reports on the following meetings she attended:

DSAC – discussions concerned the Core Project 2008 – “Think Globally, Act Locally” event which will take place on April 2nd 8:30 – 2:30 at the Greg Moore Youth Centre.

Social Wellness – plans for a Trivia night on Saturday, April 19th at MRSS. Tickets are \$10.00 each and can be obtained from the MRTA office prior to the cut-off date of April 11th.

The Social Wellness committee is also planning an “Amazing Race” event in September. More details will be provided as plans progress. The Committee also hosted a scrapbooking evening on February 22nd. Twenty two people attended and a \$100 was raised to be donated to Angie, a student who is fighting cancer. Trustee Ward said that this event was very popular and will likely occur several times a year.

- Trustee Marshall also reported that she attended the recent DSAC meeting, at which the students enthusiastically agreed to assist in making the table centre pieces for the upcoming Ridge Meadows Education Foundation dinner.
- Trustee Rempel advised that tickets are still available for the RMEF event this Friday. He said that District students will be showcased throughout the evening.

- The Board Chair said that she had been contacted by Mr. Rick Hammer, trainer for the dragon boat race last year, who has started to organize the event for this year. She said she hoped SD42 could put a team together for the boat race, and the trivia night.

3. Other Trustee Reports

L - OTHER BUSINESS

M - ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Chair

Secretary Treasurer