

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 42 (MAPLE RIDGE-PITT MEADOWS)
WEDNESDAY MARCH 26, 2008**

Present:

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

Absent:	Assistant Superintendent	Dr. R. Cranston
	Trustee:	Mr. R. Butler

A - OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order

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

2. Correspondence & Announcements

P354-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Second: Trustee Ward

“That correspondence addressed to the Board be received for information.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Ordering of Agenda

P355-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Seconder: Trustee Ward

“That the agenda be ordered as circulated and amended as follows:

Add:

E – Correspondence from the Minister of Education re: 15 Seater Vans

E – Correspondence from the Maple Ridge Montessori Society

G – Notice of Motion – Trustee Vdovine.”

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) March 12, 2008

P356-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Seconder: Trustee Marshall

“That the Minutes of the March 12, 2008 Public meeting be approved as circulated.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C – PRESENTATIONS

1. Lap Top Project – Mr. Rory Payment, Coordinator

Mr. Payment provided an overview of the Lap Top Project initiative, and the benefits it provides to students in improved literacy skills. Students Kaitlin Farkas and Brodie Turner demonstrated their abilities, and told the Board how much they had improved with their writing and organizational skills.

Mr. Payment said that the program is in its third year, with student confidence, responsibility and academic achievement greatly improved.

The Board thanked Mr. Payment and students Kaitlin and Brodie for their informative presentation and the Board Chair wished the students continued success as they move into grade 8.

D – DELEGATIONS

E - CHAIR REPORT

a) Correspondence for Board Action

- Correspondence from the Maple Ridge Montessori Society

The Board asked whether the Maple Ridge Montessori Society was asking for a further \$3,000, as it was unclear in its letter.

The Secretary Treasurer advised that there has been a one time payment of \$3,000 by the Board to cover insurance for the Society's school materials.

Clarification will be obtained and a report will be brought forward to the next meeting.

- Correspondence from the Minister of Education re: 15 Seater Vans

Chair Ashlie advised that the correspondence arrived after the last Board meeting, and the Ministry had already had discussion with staff as reported by the Assistant Superintendent at the last meeting.

b) Board Announcement

The Board Chair announced the following events for information.

- 25 Year Recognition Dinner – May 1 @ Garibaldi, 6:15 p.m.
- Graduation Dates
- June 6 Garibaldi – 2:00 p.m. @ Planet Ice
- June 7 Westview – 9:00 a.m. @ Planet Ice
- June 7 SRTSS – 10:00 a.m. @ SRTSS
- June 13 THSS – 9:00 a.m. @ THSS
- June 13 PMSS – 2:30 p.m. @ Planet Ice
- June 14 MRSS – 9:00 a.m. @ Planet Ice
- June 19 Community Education – 7:00 p.m. the ACT
- Retirement Tea – June 17 @ 3:30 p.m. Garibaldi Teaching Kitchen

Trustee Marshall said that it is unfortunate that the 25 Year Recognition dinner is scheduled the same day as the Maple Ridge Community Foundation dinner.

The Executive Assistant was asked to determine whether the date could be changed owing to the conflict, to enable all trustees to attend the 25 year recognition dinner.

- c) Other Matters

F - DEFERRED ITEMS

G - TRUSTEE MOTIONS

1. Notice of Motion – Trustee Vdovine

Trustee Vdovine stated that he had mentioned a few meetings ago that he would look into the feasibility of implementing student bus passes. He said that he will be bringing a motion forward for Board review at the next meeting.

1. Policy – Process for Determining Trustee Remuneration

P357-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board receive a draft process for determining Trustee Remuneration Policy.”

Trustee Vdovine said that the background contained in his report is clear. It is aimed at providing a specific process for determining trustee remuneration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P358-07/08 Mover: Trustee Vdovine
 Secunder: Trustee Rempel

“That the Board grant first reading to the proposed process for determining Trustee Remuneration Policy.”

Vice Chair Ward asked the Secretary Treasurer whether he was aware of any employee group determining remuneration for its employer.

The Secretary Treasurer advised that he was not aware of any employee organization that determined employer remuneration.

Trustee Marshall said that there are 60 school districts in the province. She said that she doubted that the process outlined by Trustee Vdovine would work, and that the BCSTA structure has worked well for this District for some time.

Chair Ashlie said that Trustee Vdovine should have followed process to enable the Board to first have a discussion on the issue. The committee of educational partners and community members could draw from the BCSTA provincial structure as a starting point for discussion, and she also suggested that the Chair of the Committee should be selected by the Committee.

Trustee Vdovine said that the Board is never going to lose its authority over the final say on the remuneration it sets. It would be the work of the committee to determine a figure for consideration. He urged the Board not to remove the employee groups from the committee structure, and noted that the timelines are important if something is to be in place before the next election.

Chair Ashlie said that the first draft of any policy should come to the whole Board for discussion, which is the traditional process.

Trustee Vdovine said that he would like to delegate the committee structure to the Secretary Treasurer.

P359-07/08 Mover: Trustee Ward
 Secunder: Trustee Rempel

“That the Board amend Motion **P358-07/08** by removing the Education partners from the committee structure.”

Chair Ashlie suggested that the Process could be put into a Bylaw and passed in all three readings at one meeting.

P360-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Vdovine

“That the Board table Motion **P358-07/08** as amended by **P359-07/08**, and direct the Secretary Treasurer to gather all information available for the committee to commence its work on the determining the process for trustee remuneration, and to bring forward a draft bylaw based on the information for Board consideration.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Section 11 Appeals

P361-07/08 Mover: Trustee Ward
 Secunder: Trustee Marshall

“That the Board receive the report on Section 11 Appeals.”

Vice Chair Ward said that she, and Assistant Superintendent Jan Unwin attended the DPAC meeting at which the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils gave a presentation on the Appeal Process. She said it was a very good presentation. It was unfortunate that only one parent attended, but it was otherwise well attended by the partner groups. The presentation highlighted the need to revise the policy on Appeals with language acceptable and understandable to all users. She said it was important that the Board look at its Suspension Policy and the principal of “Keeping Kids in Schools” should be represented on the appeal committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P362-07/08 Mover: Trustee Marshall
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board establish a committee of one representative from each partner group to work with senior staff and Trustees to develop the necessary Bylaw, Policy and Procedures to enact the new requirements for Section 11 Appeals.”

Trustee Vdovine suggested that the number of parent representatives should be increased.

The Vice Chair stated that the parents are represented by DPAC and its representative will report out to all parents.

The committee will be established as soon as possible.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

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

c) Secretary Treasurer

- Capital Project Agreement Bylaw No. 114085

P363-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Marshall

“That pursuant to Part E, Bylaws and Resolutions, Section 3.01 subsections c) and d), the Board advance the Capital Project Bylaw No. 114085 through to final stages in one meeting (March 12, 2008)”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P364-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board grant first reading to approve Capital Project Agreement Bylaw No. 114085 covering– Garibaldi Secondary School Addition and Renovation to increase Capacity from 875 to 1050”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P365-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Marshall

“That the Board grant second reading to approve Capital Project Agreement Bylaw No. 114085 covering– Garibaldi Secondary School Addition and Renovation to increase Capacity from 875 to 1050”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P366-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board grant third and final reading to approve Capital Project Agreement Bylaw No. 114085 covering– Garibaldi Secondary School Addition and Renovation to increase Capacity from 875 to 1050”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Mileage Rate Increase

P367-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board receive the report on mileage reimbursement”.

The Secretary Treasurer explained that the current mileage rate for all staff, with the exception of teachers is at 0.47 cents per Km. The reimbursement rate for teachers was negotiated into its current Collective Agreement at 0.48 cents per Km. The proposed increase to .048 cents per Km will bring the remaining staff in line with the current teacher rate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P368-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board approve an increase in the reimbursement rate for mileage to \$0.48/km for all staff retroactive to July 1, 2007”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P369-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Marshall

“That the Board align previous mileage reimbursement rates with those established in the Teachers”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Driver Training – RMC Program

P370-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board approve the opening of the Ridge Meadows Driving Academy.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Information Items

a) Superintendent of Schools

- Good News Items

P371-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

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

- a request for funds to assist with the Genocide Conference “Man’s Inhumanity to Man: An exploration of Genocide in the 20th Century, being planned by Ms. Zagar, an SRTSS teacher, has been approved by the local Maple Ridge Rotary Club;
- Board members are invited to attend the District Student Advisory COR Project “Thinking Globally – Acting locally” event on April 2nd”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b) Assistant Superintendents

c) Secretary Treasurer

- Summary of Legal Opinion

P372-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board receive the attached legal opinion summary, for information.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Ministry of Education 2008/2009 Budget Report

P373-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board receive the Ministry of Education 2008/2009 Budget Report, for information.”

The Secretary Treasurer reported on the Ministry of Education’s 2008/09 budget.

He highlighted the changes, and the BC School District Secretary Treasurers’ Association position on the proposed changes to the salary differential funding and possible use for harmonization of salary grids.

Chair Ashlie asked the Secretary Treasurer to provide a report on the BCSDSTA position on the Ministry Budget changes for the next meeting if possible.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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
 - School Volunteer Policy

P374-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P375-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board grant third and final reading to the policy entitled School Volunteers.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- e) Education Advisory Committee
- f) Aboriginal Education Committee
- g) French Immersion Advisory Committee
- h) Anti-Vandalism Advisory Committee
- i) District Student Advisory Committee

J - QUESTION PERIOD

1. Trustee Questions
2. Public Questions
3. DPAC Questions
4. Employee Group Questions

K- TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. External Representative Reports

Trustee Marshall announced that the Municipal Advisory & Accessibility committee may invite the Board to participate in a simulation exercise it is planning to take place on May26th. She said she would advise the Board further when she had more details. Another event sponsored by Rick Hansen's Wheels in Motion is scheduled for Sunday, June 8th at Zellers parking lot. Registration for a team of 5 people would be \$1,000. She said she was hoping to get a District team together. More details will be provided when they become available.

Chair Ashlie reminded the Board that in 2009 the Community will be hosting the disabled games and the Joint Leisure Services Commission is looking to form a committee of volunteers to assist in the preparation.

2. Board Liaison Representative Reports

3. Other Trustee Reports

L - OTHER BUSINESS**M - ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Chair

Secretary Treasurer