

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 42 (MAPLE RIDGE-PITT MEADOWS)
WEDNESDAY MAY 28, 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

P448-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secoder: Trustee Butler

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Ordering of Agenda

P449-07/08 Mover: Trustee
 Secunder: Trustee

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

Add:

H1(b) Board/Authority Authorized Courses.”

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) May 14, 2008

P450-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Butler

“That the Minutes of the May 14, 2008 Public meeting be approved as circulated and amended as follows:

Page 8 – Voting on Motions **P445-07/08** and **P446-07/08** should be shown as follows:

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C – PRESENTATIONS

1. Secondary Initiatives – Ms. Sue Schleppe, Ms. Anne Hales, and Ms. Amber Huget, Facilitators.

The Secondary Facilitators highlighted their activities over the past year, which included workshops, networking, teacher mentoring, literacy initiatives, student conferences, curriculum implementation, special projects, and implementation of BCeSIS, in addition to their day-to-day support for district teachers.

Ms. Rowen, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, thanked the facilitators for their enthusiasm in working with the students and teachers in the District.

Chair Ashlie thanked the presenters for their informative presentation and they left the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

D – DELEGATIONS

E - CHAIR REPORT

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

F - DEFERRED ITEMS

G - TRUSTEE MOTIONS

1. Reducing Carbon Footprint – Trustee Ashlie

P451-07/08 Mover: Trustee Butler
 Secunder: Trustee Rempel

“That staff provide a report regarding the existing practices within the District concerning eco-friendly choices. Further, the Board give consideration to the extent or areas in which it believes that practices/purchases for the District should fall into the category of eco-friendly/bio-degradable products, and where this can be improved upon. Amend to add (cost implementation of such also provided)

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the current provincial government’s goal for government, and public sector organizations, is to be carbon neutral by 2010. Penalties will apply to school districts if the initiative is not met. He outlined areas in which the government will seek to become carbon neutral.

With reference to Districts establishing committees to deal with this issue, Trustee Ward inquired as to the Committee structure. The Secretary Treasurer stated that maintenance personnel will most certainly be involved, a Board member, and whoever else the Board felt should be included.

Discussion occurred. Trustee Vdovine expressed his disappointment with the government and its direction. He said he did not feel the government understood the depth of the problem based on the initiatives it is planning to implement.

P452-07/08 Mover: Trustee Ward
 Secunder: Trustee Butler

“That Motion **P451-07/08** be amended to read as follows:

“That staff provide a report regarding the existing practices within the District concerning eco-friendly choices. Further, the Board give consideration to the extent or areas in which it believes that practices/purchases for the District should fall into the category of eco-friendly/bio-degradable products, and where this can be improved upon, cost implementation of such also to be provided.”

Chair Ashlie said that once the District starts to explore the issue of eco-friendly choices, she would expect it would become “green”. She advised that the Nutrition Committee and School Chef’s Association are already discussing changes to become more environmentally friendly.

The question was called on Motion **P451-007/08** as amended by **P452-07/08** – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

1. Decision Items
 - a) Superintendent of Schools
 - b) Assistant Superintendents
 - Maintaining a Local School Calendar

P453-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Butler

“That the Board approve the Local School Calendar Proposals presented on April 9, 2008 for approval.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- School Completion Certificate Requirements

P454-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Marshall

“That the Board approve the use of the new course codes, including the generic course codes as part of the LD courses for use in 2008/2009.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Board/Authority Authorized Course

P455-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secoder: Trustee Butler

“That the Baord approve Principles of Social Interaction” (8-12) proposed by Ken Arkell, District Facilitator, Student Support Services, as a BAA Course.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P456-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secoder: Trustee Butler

“That the Board approve “BA DigiPen Academy – 12A (YDPA-12)” proposed by Grant Frend, Vice Principal at Garibaldi Secondary School, as a BAA course.”

CARRIED UANIMOUSLY

c) Secretary Treasurer

- Temporary Borrowing – Operating

P457-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secoder: Trustee Butler

“That the Board approve the following borrowing resolution:

WHEREAS Section 139 of the School Act provides that a Board may, by resolution, with the approval of the Minister, borrow from time to time for a period not exceeding six months for purposes other than capital expenditures, by way of a temporary loan, such sums as the Board may deem necessary to meet current operating and debt services expenditures:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of Section 139 of the School Act, the Board of School Trustees of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows), authorize the Secretary Treasurer to request the approval of the Minister of Education for the borrowing of an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 to meet current operating and debt services expenditures, but all money so borrowed shall be repaid not later than the 31st day of October 2008”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Information Items

a) Superintendent of Schools

- International Education Enrolment #s & Projected Dollars

P458-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board receive the Superintendent’s report on International Education Enrolment Numbers and Projected Dollars, for information.”

The Superintendent reported that as of April, 354 international students had registered for the 2008-2009 school year. About 40-50 more students are expected to register prior to September. He said that teachers are staffed to accommodate 495 international students.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Good News Items

P459-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Butler

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

- Maple Ridge Secondary School students taught outdoor survival skills at UBC Research Forest;
- the wonderful stories compiled in a Memory Journal by MRSS exchange students, outlining their experience in Germany;
- the ethical decision making workshop for students at Highland Park ;
- Congratulations to staff who celebrated their 25 years of service to the District at a recognition dinner;
- the addition of eight more schools in the “Fruit & Veggie” program;
- the recognition of Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary school and District maintenance staff who were nominated and received an award from the Municipal Advisory on Accessibility Committee, for their work on behalf of special needs students;
- the positive influence resulting from the Esteem Team visits to schools;
- the successful Grade 7 visits to District secondary schools;
- the participation of Grade 10 students in transition and mock job interviews.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- French Immersion Program Update

P460-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Butler

“That the Board receive the Superintendent’s update report on the French Immersion Program at Riverside.”

Assistant Superintendent Randy Cranston advised that staff met on May 22nd with the kindergarten French Immersion parents at Riverside to discuss options for 2008. A further meeting is scheduled with other French Immersion parents on June 4th, and a report will be provided to the Board following that meeting.

The Board Chair said that it was important that notes be taken at the June 4th meeting. Dr. Cranston said that he would make arrangements with the secretarial staff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b) Assistant Superintendents

- School Timetable Update

P461-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Butler

“That the Board receive the Assistant Superintendent’s School Timetable Update Report, for information.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c) Secretary Treasurer

- Playground Equipment

P462-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Secunder: Trustee Marshall

“That the Board receives the report on Purchasing of playground equipment and refunds of taxes, for information.”

The Board referred to an e-mail received from Ms. K. Georgi, who was not able to attend the meeting this evening, outlining her experience as a PAC member fundraising for playground equipment. Discussion ensued on the effort that PAC’s have to put out for the purchases of playground equipment.

Board members discussed ways of assisting the PAC's in the process, and suggested that the board should, once again, lobby government to consider making School Districts tax exempt.

Chair Ashlie said that it would be a good idea to sit down with all PAC's to discuss this issue to see if anything could be done collectively. She suggested that the District check with BCSTA to see what it has done in this area, the feasibility of using RMEF funding, and to look at setting funds aside for schools needing assistance with playground purchase. A report will come forward to the next meeting for further consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Draft Travel Expense Policy

P463-07/08 Mover: Trustee Butler
 Seconder: Trustee Ward

“That the Board receive the revised Draft Travel Expense Policy for consideration.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P464-07/08 Mover: Trustee Rempel
 Seconder: Trustee Butler

“That the Board forward the draft policy to the policy committee for review prior to circulation and final approval.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 2008-2009 Budget Update

P465-07/08 Mover: Trustee Ward
 Seconder: Trustee Rempel

“That the Board receive the 2008/2009 Budget Update, for information.”

The Secretary Treasurer highlighted the revenue and expenditures contained in the 2008-2009 preliminary budget which is balanced at \$124 million dollars. He explained that when there is a province wide enrolment decline, as is the case this year, the government has always increased the base funding rate. It did not do so this year. The District's expenditures will be reduced by \$1.2 million dollars. As a result, a reduction in 15 full time equivalent (FTE) teaching positions is expected.

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

Board members were reminded that the 1st Annual Aboriginal Education Achievement Awards Ceremony will take place on May 29th at 5:30 p.m., at THSS.

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

J - QUESTION PERIOD

1. Trustee Questions
2. Public Questions

Ms. MacVeigh, said that the budget shows an interest amount of \$800,000. She asked what amount the District has invested to earn this type of interest.

The Secretary Treasurer stated that the District has many investments which earn interest for the District.

3. DPAC Questions
4. Employee Group Questions

K- TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. External Representative Reports

Trustee Rempel reminded the Board that next Wednesday, the Tzu Chi Foundation will hold a bursary celebration event at Yennadon Elementary. He said that Tzu Chi has provided \$3 million dollars to victims of the recent earthquake in China, and he encouraged the District to participate in this worthwhile cause.

2. Board Liaison Representative Reports
3. Other Trustee Reports

L - OTHER BUSINESS

M - ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Chair

Secretary Treasurer