

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

Wednesday, January 28, 2009 (6:00 PM)

The Meeting of the Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows) was called to order by

ROLL CALL

UPON THE ROLL BEING CALLED, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Board Chair – Kathie Ward

Vice Chair – Ken Clarkson

Trustee – Susan Carr

Trustee – Mike Huber

Trustee – Eleanor Palis

Trustee – Dr. Dave Rempel

Trustee – Stepan Vdovine

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Superintendent – John Simpson

Deputy Superintendent – Jan Unwin

Secretary Treasurer – Don Woytowich

Communications Officer – Seamus Nesling

Executive Assistant – Tina Fuchs

A - OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. Ordering of Agenda

The following amendments were made:

- Added to CEO Decision item – Superintendent, “Catchment Update”, moved from Closed
- Added to CEO Decision items - Secretary Treasurer, “Increase to Capital Budget”

ORIGINAL - Motion P237 - 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Agenda be ordered as amended'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

3. Correspondence

ORIGINAL - Motion P238 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Eleanor Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive any correspondence'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

- Letter from the "School's Institute"

ORIGINAL - Motion P239 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the correspondence from the School's Institute for information'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 2 Nay: 5. The motion FAILED. 2 - 5

NEW - Motion P240 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the NEW motion 'That the Board add the correspondence from the "School's Institute" to the Chair Report'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 0 Nay: 7. The motion FAILED. 0 - 7

NEW - Motion P241 – 08/09

Member (Ken Clarkson) Moved, Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) seconded to approve the NEW motion 'That the Board move all the correspondence to the Chair Report.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

B - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. January 14, 2009 Public Meeting Minutes

RECOMMENDATION: That the Minutes of the January 14, 2009 Public meeting minutes be approved with amendments.

Amendments included:

- Under DPAC Questions, "*Cathy Froelich*" should be "*Kathy Froelich*"
- Under the Chair Report, the motion regarding tracking "*Board Trustee Meeting Attendance*" – was not accurately captured – it should read "*that staff explore options for recording attendance at meetings*"

C – PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

D - DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

E - CHAIR REPORT

1. Letter asking for support of the McDonalds' Funzone Children's Festival
 - The Chair advised that the board has provided services in kind to the McDonald's Funzone in previous years. A lot of students volunteer for it and on average they put in 3 or 4 days to help out and the Chair wanted to emphasize the importance of this.
 - Trustee Vdovine explained the he doesn't necessarily feel that it is appropriate to support without going through more of a process, rather than the Board simply deciding yes or no. He thinks it should be evaluated and that it is not particularly a responsible way of spending the public's money....so he will oppose to the Motion to support it.

NEW - Motion P242 – 08/09

Member (Ken Clarkson) Moved, Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) seconded to approve the NEW motion 'Motion to support McDonald's funding as requested.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 6 Nay: 1. The motion CARRIED. 6 - 1

2. Letter from the School's Institute
 - Trustee Vdovine advised that the letter from the School's Institute had been sent to the Superintendent as well as to the Board Chair, and that he thinks it's appropriate for the Superintendent to send a response back. The letter was regarding the availability of a District Key Information binder that is a portable district information system on student achievement and how they would recommend it for new members of the Board.

RECOMMENDATION: "Board Direction for Staff to respond to the School Institute's letter as seen appropriate."
3. Letter received from Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary
 - The letter was an invitation for the Board to host one of its upcoming meetings at the school and they would in turn provide a complimentary dinner compliments of their VCC Culinary Arts program as well as an opportunity to tour the school prior to the meeting.
 - Trustee Vdovine expressed that he feels this would be a great way to utilize school facilities as well as give opportunities to people in the community to be able to come out and see the Board. He believes that it should be considered.
 - Trustee Rempel agreed by saying he would support it as a way to communicate to the public as well as a way to recognize staff, programs, and see how schools have a way of doing things. He thinks that if it can be made to work, it would be a good idea.
 - Trustee Clarkson agreed as well.

- The Chair advised that the Board has done an afternoon meeting at SRT in the past, so the logistics could be worked out with staff in order to plan and prepare to do this again. She also felt that it would be a great opportunity for all of the Board members.

RECOMMENDATION: “That the Board Direct staff to explore options to utilize high schools for upcoming Board meetings and bring the information back to the next Board meeting.”

4. Letter Regarding Party Buses

- A follow-up letter regarding Party Buses was sent to the Chair, from the Ministry of Public Safety and the Solicitor General. The letter was to encourage the Board to contact the RCMP with their concerns about cracking down on Party Buses and underage drinking. The letter also advised that they had forwarded the Board’s previous letter regarding this, to the Ministry of Transportation and Public Infrastructure as well.
- Trustee Vdovine expressed his astonishment in seeing the Solicitor General writing back and suggesting us to contact our local RCMP regarding the matter. He felt that the letter was condescending in its tone, and did not see why it had been copied to five other ministers as well as to both the MLAs. He couldn’t believe the waste of paper. He doesn’t feel that anymore paper should be wasted on this subject.

5. Historical Committee

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board direct staff to add “Historical Committee” to the list of committees to be reported on at both the Closed and Public meetings.

- The Chair explained the rationale and explained that the Historical Committee was started to help schools preserve their history and the committee only meets on an "as needed" basis. Therefore, there is merit to having it on the list of committees and reported on "as needed.”
- The Communications Officer – Seamus Nesling advised that the Committee met a lot in the first year, but now that the schools know what they are to be doing, there aren't as many meetings. He also said that there will be news to report back to the Board on a fairly regular basis however, and that he would be happy to report on it.
- Trustee Vdovine thought that the Motion should be amended so that the Committee would only be reported on a Public meetings and not Closed. The Secretary Treasurer explained that it is just the Board’s practice to list all committees on both of the agendas.

G - TRUSTEE MOTIONS

1. Trustee Vdovine's Motion regarding the Boardroom Sound System

ORIGINAL - Motion P243 – 08/09

Member (Susan Carr) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive Trustee Vdovine's Motion regarding the Boardroom's Sound System.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

- Trustee Vdovine felt that the topic didn't require much discussion, but that sound issues in the boardroom have been an issue for awhile. He realizes that cost may be a concern, but that the options should be looked into.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board Direct staff to explore options regarding the sound system and bring back possible options and costs involved, to the Board.

- Trustee Rempel expressed that he feels the room is size of a typical classroom and that sound should not be an issue. He feels that it is more so a listening issue and a matter of projecting voices effectively. He thinks that it would be a waste of staff time & money to pursue this.
- Trustee Carr agreed with Trustee Rempel.
- The Chair also agreed and explained that it had come up several times before but that the Board didn't vote in favour of it then. She feels that if the Board learns to project their voices effectively, then that would solve the problem.
- Trustee Vdovine explained that the estimated figure for cost was brought up in the past and that it was only an estimate and it did not involve a lot of work on behalf of staff. He said that looking into it does not necessarily mean a commitment to getting a new system. He also feels that it is critical for public to hear and doesn't understand why the Board put a considerable amount of money into the new ESB system and we are having considerable problems with it, yet the Board won't even look into possibly getting a new sound system
- Trustee Rempel reiterated that Staff's time is precious.
- Trustee Huber addressed that if the system was looked into in the past, it should not be an issue to bring back the same cost information again. The Secretary Treasurer stated that a new system in deed had been looked into before and that it was estimated to cost around \$10,000 - \$15,000 and that the information is still available and it could therefore easily be brought to the next Board meeting.

ORIGINAL - Motion P244 – 08/09

Member (Eleanor Palis) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board direct Staff to bring back cost estimates for a new sound system on Feb. 25, as per motion.....carried 4-3 .'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 3. The motion (). 4 -

H – CEO DECISION ITEMS - SUPERINTENDENT

1. Catchment Review

ORIGINAL - Motion P245 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Eleanor Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the Superintendent's update on the Catchment Review.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

- The Catchment Review updated was moved from the Closed meeting prior and added here under CEO DECISION ITEMS - Superintendent.
- The Superintendent explained that after a review of demographics, it was suggested that a particular peninsula of land be moved into the Thomas Haney Catchment area. It is recommended that the Thomas Haney Catchment area be adjusted. The feedback received is an endorsement of the recommendation.

ORIGINAL - Motion P246

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the recommended changes to the Thomas Haney Catchment Area.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 6 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 6 - 0 (Trustee Palis was out of the room).

H - CEO DECISION ITEMS- DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT

1. Integrated Arts Academy

- This proposal has been through the Proposing Program Options procedures and has also been reviewed by the Education Committee

ORIGINAL - Motion P247 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Eleanor Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the proposal for an Integrated Arts Academy at Garibaldi Secondary'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

- The Deputy Superintendent explained that the proposal had already gone through the Education Committee and that they have all the details. She also said that sustainability had already been addressed and that the hardship policy would be considered as necessary so that any student interested would have the opportunity. She introduced the teachers from the Academy to the Board and also noted that the District is up front in terms of the number of academies that we have. Students will get appropriate accreditation for the courses.
- Trustee Carr expressed that she would like to see information regarding the Hardship Policy made more available to students so that they won't miss out on any opportunities if they don't think their parents have enough money for them to join.

- Trustee Rempel advised that he would like to see the academy tied into the ACT facilities downtown.

ORIGINAL - Motion P248 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the Integrated Arts Academy at Garibaldi Secondary School.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

2. BCIT Automotive Partnership Program at Garibaldi

ORIGINAL - Motion P249 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the BCIT Partnership Proposal for Garibaldi Secondary School'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

- The Deputy Superintendent advised that this proposal has been through the Proposing Program Options procedures and has also been reviewed by the Education Committee. She explained that a partnership is different than an academy because they work a little differently.
- The Chair expressed concerns about the funding for the shop but was reassured that there had been an audit from BCIT and everything is in order and there will not likely be any cost and if there were, it would be minimal.
- It was also explained that programs filling up quickly is always a challenge with all programs, but that last year there had been a waitlist and they were able to get some of the students from waitlist in. It was explained that students have to apply by a deadline and it is first come, first serve. After the deadlines, they will look at the student's requirements and assess which students are more likely to be successful and then they would select accordingly.
- Trustee Vdovine asked if a student is outside of the District, if there are provisions for siblings that apply? To which the Deputy Superintended explained that there are provisions for acceptance criteria into a school, but not for a program.

ORIGINAL - Motion P250 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Eleanor Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the BCIT Automotive Partnership program at Garibaldi Secondary School.'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

3. BAA Yoga Fit 11

ORIGINAL - Motion P251 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Mike Huber) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board Receive BAA Yoga Fit 11 for Thomas Haney Secondary School'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

- The Deputy Superintendent again explained that the BAA course had already been reviewed by the Education Committee.

- Trustee Carr asked if this course gets so popular, if it could be carried over to other schools and become an academy.
- The Deputy Superintendent explained that this is a Board-authorized course, which is different than an academy and that students can go to other schools for courses if they are not offered at their own school and that the course could be taught at another school by another teacher if there was enough demand for it.

ORIGINAL - Motion P252 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve BAA Yoga Fit 11 .'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

4. BAA Photography/Graphic Design 12

ORIGINAL - Motion P253 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Mike Huber) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board Receive BAA Photography/Graphic Design 12'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

- It was advised again that this BAA course had been reviewed by the Education Committee.
- The Deputy Superintendent apologized for the Board being so inundated right now with course but went on to explain that course planning is coming up so it's important to get them into the system for kids to be able to select them.

ORIGINAL - Motion P254 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the BAA Photography/Graphic Design 12 course'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

H - CEO DECISION ITEMS - SECRETARY TREASURER

1. Memorandum of Understanding - Energy Projects with Terasen Gas

- The Secretary Treasurer explained that the District has entered into discussions with Terasen Gas regarding upgrades to mechanical systems in our schools that would allow us to move towards compliance with the new Carbon Foot Print legislation. The MOU considers all schools with an emphasis currently on Thomas Haney Secondary and Garibaldi Secondary. Funding for the most part is to come from savings on energy consumption. These projects will also significantly reduce our carbon tax which will be payable in 2011. This MOU does not commit the District to any project, just to the preparation for each project which will be approved prior to beginning.
- He also explained that we have been working with Terasen gas for quite some time to look at ways to work in partnership with them in geo-thermal and other energy conservation

technologies. We were first school District that they approached to work with under an MOU. Thomas Haney and Garibaldi are being considered for geo-thermal technology in order to meet carbon footprint targets. The geo-thermal units would be completely owned and operated by Terasen, all we are buying is the natural gas/heating. Terasen would be paid back on the savings that they will achieve. If feasible and if we wish to put in place, each and every one of the contracts will come to the board for approval. We have also spoken to the Ministry and they are pleased, and it's a great way to achieve results, with no considerable cost. It will save us on taxes due in 2011. We've also spoke to other school districts and they are starting to talk to Terasen about this as well. This initiative is potentially very beneficial to us.

ORIGINAL - Motion P255 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the Secretary Treasurer's MOU with Terasen Gas regarding upgrades and retrofits to mechanical systems'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

2. Budget Relocation

ORIGINAL - Motion P256 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Stepan Vdovine) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the Secretary Treasurer's report on budget relocation'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

- The Secretary Treasurer explained that IT needs to purchase a new electronic storage device. They have run out of storage and in order for the District's computer systems to continue to function, a new storage device is needed immediately. In order to do this, he needs to move operating funds into the local capital, in order to buy it. The District does have the money to use for this because we had some equipment that had been budgeted for. Board approval is required however, in order to transfer the money. The Secretary Treasurer also reassured that nothing else from the budget will get left off, this is just a matter of moving this into higher priority. He also advised that Ministry approval is not required for local capital.

ORIGINAL - Motion P257 – 08/09

Member (Dr. Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Eleanor Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the Secretary Treasurer's request for budget reallocation'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion CARRIED. 7 - 0

H - CEO INFORMATION ITEMS - SUPERINTENDENT

1. FSA Update/Letter to Parents

- The Superintendent advised that news continues to break regularly as to what is going on in the province regarding FSA. At the last board meeting, the Board approved endorsing a letter to be sent to parents. We recognize and respect everyone's opinions on it, but we also realize our duties. We are keeping in contact with MRTA as it progresses and as steps are taken. The letter was sent out to parents, advising them that if they don't want their children to write, they are to keep them at home. There was a letter from the MRTA office sent out to parents as well, many

parents and trustees will have seen that. I am meeting with Principals on weekly basis to see how things are proceeding and to give direction on how to respond. He will be calling the MRTA office to advise on events as they unfold at the Principals' meeting tomorrow. The information will also be forwarded to the Trustees. At this point in time, no ruling has been made. The Superintendent also advised that he did not expect anything to unfold the following day at the Principals' meeting.

2. Communications Update

- This item was also moved from the Closed meeting that took place prior.
- Communications Officer Seamus Nesling spoke to this item on the Superintendent's behalf. He asked if there were any questions and there were none. He then advised that he will do a Communications Update at the Public Board meeting every month just to keep everyone up to date on what he's doing. The main thing right now is unrolling the website. One great new feature is to be able to enroll for events such as the upcoming Pro D Day – this is a simple function but it is a great new tool. There were about 20 comments regarding on feedback that was received on the new website. Most of the comments were valuable input. The website is also now hooked up to Google analytics, which can track which pages people are going to, how are they getting to them. This way we can make fine tunings based on how people are using the site.

3. School Community Connections

- The Superintendent advised that there is another round of money available. There are now community gardens at Glenwood and Blue Mountain and there are 2 other schools interested. Laurie Meston will be taking the lead on this.

4. Good News Items

- The Superintendent enjoyed Monday night's DPAC dinner & evening. True Colours was the topic, there was an excellent facilitator, and it featured personality profiles with parents and kids. It was a lot of fun and was very good team-building – a very enjoyable event.
- The Deputy Superintendent expressed her appreciation around all the people working with kids in the district. She also advised that there is a new SFU diploma for a 2 year program. As well as that there were 280 teachers that attended Professional Development. And finally that a Teacher Leadership Series has started. On Monday night was the first of series and 60 teachers got together – it is a group of keen educators working together.
- The Secretary Treasurer reminded everyone about the RMEF event that is less than month away. It is taking place on February 27th. It is going to be one of the best and students will be preparing a gourmet meal. It is \$60 ticket and is going to be very good event. Everyone should come out and show their support as you will be very pleased.
- Trustee Carr wanted to mention that her and Trustee Palis attended a monthly assembly at Golden Ears Elementary and also got a guided tour of the school.

- Trustee Huber wanted to mention that on Saturday he attended a kick off lunch for the 2009 Disability Games. The success of all Disability Games across Canada is greatly due to the partnership with the media. It's a great learning experience for our kids and for the whole community. They had great speakers there as well.
- The Board Chair advised that the School Community Connections is having a 2nd intake based on the 2008 application to the program. The School District is receiving \$7300 for the community garden project.

H – CEO INFORMATION ITEMS – DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT

There were none.

H - CEO INFORMATION ITEMS - SECRETARY TREASURER

1. Energy Manager
 - The Secretary Treasurer advised that the District has been in discussions with BC Hydro regarding the hiring of an Energy Manager that would assist in the reduction of energy use. Reductions in the use of electricity will aid in the reduction of our carbon emissions and the carbon tax. BC Hydro will fund the entire cost of this position.
 - The Secretary Treasurer explained that some time ago, the Superintendent, Board Chair, Director of Operations, and the Secretary Treasurer worked through an extensive workshop with BC Hydro. They learned what we need to do better on and as result of workshop, BC Hydro came back to us and presented what they think we need to do. This job proposal as well as programs for the staff and the students will help us control the consumption of energy in our district. BC Hydro has taken it forward to their people and are working with 12 or 13 other districts, and then we will bring it to the Board. BC Hydro is buying expensive power and selling it at a cheaper rate. Doing upgrading and building dams is much cheaper for them if they can find ways to save energy. The term of the job has not been determined yet, that is still part of the negotiations, this is just a draft. The Agreement will not be signed until we can agree on a job description, but we would like to see a minimum of a 5 year term.

I – COMMITTEE BUSINESS – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

There were no reports.

I - COMMITTEE BUSINESS - COMMITTEE & ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Education Committee
2. Aboriginal Education Committee

3. Human Resources Committee
4. Inclusive Education Committee

5. Finance Committee

6. Anti-Vandalism Committee

7. Policy Advisory Committee

8. Communications Advisory

9. French Immersion Advisory

10. District Student Advisory

- The Board Chair advised that DSAC is participating in the KIVA program again this year. KIVA is about lending money to poor entrepreneurs around the world.
- Also, this year DSAC is investigating implementing ME TO WE into this year's COR Project. ME TO WE inspire young people to develop as socially conscious global citizens and become agents of change for their peers around the world. You can Google ME TO WE to get more information.
- Trustee Rempel wanted to mention the shelter boxes initiative. It houses the accommodation for 10 families and if it all works out, in April DSAC along with a lot of partners such as Rotary, will have 10 shelter boxes set up in the downtown area and they will be spreading awareness.

11. Social Wellness Committee

12. Nutrition Committee

J - QUESTION PERIOD

1. Trustee Questions

2. Staff Questions

3. Employee Group Questions

- Drusilla Wilson from the MRTA asked if the Board is aware of the fact that there is funding. Also, given discussion about the District becoming more energy efficient, she wanted to point out all the paper that is used for in printing the agendas for the Board meetings. She asked the Board to look into other ways rather than using all that paper. Suggestions might be to have stations for participants' laptops in order to make it paperless.
- CUPE asked whether their jobs are at risk. To which the Secretary Treasurer advised that there are actually opportunities to give guys more jobs to be done, so there are absolutely no jobs that are in jeopardy.

4. DPAC Questions

- Just a reminder to Trustees that there will be no February meeting, but in lieu of that there will be a meeting next Monday.

5. Public Questions

- Wanted to thank Trustee Vdovine for bringing up the motion regarding the new sound system - in the past it really is hard to hear. She doesn't want unnecessary money spent but the sound definitely needs to be looked into.

K - TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. Ridge Meadows Education Foundation

2. Joint Leisure Services

3. Social Planning Advisory

4. Municipal Advisory & Accessibility

5. Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council

- Trustee Rempel advised that on Monday there had been a monthly meeting. He wanted to mention 3 things: 1) that there is a new Executive Director Lindy Sisson, 2) that the Celebration of Arts will be on April 20-26 and will extensively involve students – he's hoping to have more details for next board meeting, and 3) he wants to express his supports for what Garabaldi is doing - if they involve the ACT with their new Integrated Arts Academy, that would be a really good thing.

6. BCSTA Provincial Council

- The Board Chair advised that for the next Board meeting, there will be BCSTA Provincial Council motions to work through.

7. District Parent Advisory Council

- The event at Thomas Haney on Monday night was awesome, thanks to supporters and people who put it on, and kudos to the students!

8. Tzu Chi Foundation

9. Youth Society Committee

10. External Representative Reports

- BCPSEA – Trustee Palis advised that she, along with the Board Chair and Secretary Treasurer, attended the BCPSEA conference and AGM that took place Jan. 22-24.

The outcomes of the elections that took place were:

Chair – Ron Christensen, Trustee SD6 Rocky Mountain

Vice Chair – Alan Chell, Trustee SD19 Revelstoke

Board of Directors – Ken Denike SD39, Silvia Dyck SD33, Mel Joy SD8, Mickey Kinakin SD20, Michel Saab SD83, Marika Townshend SD63, Pete Williams SD64, & Sheryl Yaremco SD54.

There was good experienced representation from across the province.

A resolution was brought forward and an amendment was passed:

“That BCPSEA ask the Ministry of Education to consider provincial guidelines for Board of Education policies regarding “Freedom of Expression by Teachers”, as determined by Arbitrator John Kinzie in his arbitration award dated May 2, 2008.” The amendment was to the first line, that “BCPSEA PREPARE guidelines”, the amendment was passed.

- The Board Chair brought in 2 books from BCPSEA for Trustees to reference if they like.
- Trustee Rempel thanked Trustee Palis for the written report. To which the Board Chair responded by saying that it is in the bylaws that Trustees submit written reports.

11. Board Liaison Representative Reports

12. Other Trustee Reports

L – OTHER BUSINESS

M - ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Chair

Secretary Treasurer