



**PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**
Wednesday, May 12, 2010 (6:00 PM)
DEO Board Room

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Board Chair – Ken Clarkson
Vice Chair – Eleanor Palis
Trustee – Susan Carr
Trustee – Mike Huber
Trustee – Dave Rempel
Trustee – Stepan Vdovine

STAFF:

Superintendent – Jan Unwin
Secretary Treasurer – Wayne Jefferson
Deputy Superintendent – David Vandergugten
Communications Officer – Seamus Nesling
Executive Assistant – Tracy Smith

ABSENT:

Trustee – Kathie Ward

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order

The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

2. Correspondence

3. Ordering of Agenda

Added:

- Advocacy Committee Report - Trustee Vdovine

ORIGINAL - Motion P318 – 09/10

Member (Trustee Rempel) Moved, Member (Trustee Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the Board order the agenda as amended.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was:

Aye: 6 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. April 28, 2010 Public Meeting Minutes

ORIGINAL - Motion P319 – 09/10

Member (Trustee Rempel) Moved, Member (Trustee Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the minutes of the April 28, 2010 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 6 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. PRESENTATIONS

Envision Financial

Introduction of Stewart Sonne, Director of Secondary and Adult Education who provided an overview of last year's achievement contract. The loss of students prior to last year was an average of 200 kids between September 1st to May 30th; 2009: 34; 2010: 36.

Director Sonne introduced Steve Wiebe who has taken over the partnership with Envision Financial group - one of our strongest partnerships, Phil Brekkaas (ARC) and Ramona L. Elke (GSS), (Josh Carriss-WSS was absent), gave presentations outlining programs and resources for youth at risk made possible with the generous financial support of Envision. Youth at risk primarily consists of boys and with the support Envision has provided, educators have been "Helping wounded boys become proud young men". Programs include canoe safety, courtyard garden transformation (WSS), aboriginal carvings, button blankets, the building of portable chicken houses and a full-size home (ARC) only to name a few. All programs have fostered camaraderie, self awareness, confidence and have offered both emotional and social support.

Lois Wilkinson, Education Chair of Envision, presented a cheque in the amount of \$10K to Superintendent Unwin and Steve Wiebe, Vice-Principal of GSS, and was pleased to state that although Envision supports all school districts, Maple Ridge School District is the first whereby they offer their financial support at the secondary level. All other school districts are elementary based.

D. DELEGATIONS

E. CHAIR REPORT

F. DEFERRED ITEMS

G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS

H. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

1. Decision Items

- a) Superintendent of Schools
- b) Deputy Superintendent
- c) Secretary Treasurer

Draft Policy Structure – Second and Final Reading

The Secretary Treasurer spoke to the Policy Structure reiterating currency and relevancy. The existing policies will remain on the website as standing policies and as each new policy is posted, old and new will co-exist. Discussion ensued around the actual Policy Committee.

Trustee Carr suggested that perhaps the Committee could be formed and conducted during Board Work Day. Trustee Rempel recommended that the committee should include more than just Trustees.

ORIGINAL - Motion P320 – 09/10

Member (Trustee Rempel) Moved, Member (Trustee Carr) seconded to approve 'THAT the Board approve the Policy Structure as per the attached draft document and direct the Secretary Treasurer to begin the implementation plan approved as read a second time and final reading.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was Aye: 6 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Third Quarter Financial Statements

The Secretary Treasurer spoke to the Third Quarter Financial statements. The District is currently projecting an approximate \$2.4 million leftover amount gained from conservative rollovers to be used this year and next. Accordingly, the District envisions that it will be able to meet a balanced budget this year and retain somewhat of an emergency fund. The Chair opened the floor to questions.

ORIGINAL - Motion P321 – 09/10

Member (Trustee Rempel) Moved, Member (Trustee Carr) seconded to approve 'THAT the Board receive the Secretary Treasurer's Third Quarter Financial Statements for information.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was Aye: 6 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Information Items

- a) Superintendent of Schools
- b) Deputy Superintendent
- c) Secretary Treasurer

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Advocacy Committee

Trustee Vdovine spoke to the draft Budget Letters to Staff and Parents as agreed to and brought forward by the Advocacy Committee which requests Board approval. The Chair opened the floor to questions.

Trustee Palis commented that the date contained the second to last paragraph be amended from "middle of May" to "middle of June". All agreed.

MOTION – P322 09/10

Member (Trustee Vdovine) Moved, Member (Trustee Carr) seconded 'THAT the Board approve the Budget letters to staff and parents.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was Aye: 6 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Vdovine further reported that the Committee met last week and invited anyone who is interested to attend the meetings are welcome to do so as it is open to the public. During the past several meetings the Committee has been conducting a review of the past school year and the Committee's accomplishments. An official report will be provided by the end of the year and determination will be made as to the continuance of such Committee. The Chair opened the floor to questions.

District Student Advisory Committee

Trustees Carr and Palis were invited to attend the DSAC executive meeting on May 11th to observe what the group has planned and to interact with students.

Trustee Carr commented how impressed she was with the kids and how many wonderful young up and coming leaders are among our community. Acknowledgement was provided to Darren Rowel and Dennis Tjernagel for the good work they are doing in supporting the students.

Aboriginal Education Committee

Trustee Carr attended the last meeting on May 3rd and reminded everyone of the upcoming awards ceremony on June 1st.

J. QUESTION PERIOD

Advocacy Committee Question A member of the public commented on the late notice of handouts regarding the budget letters. The member of the public inquired into the number of Trustees sitting on the Committee. Chair Clarkson responded stating that there are three official Trustees on the Committee. Trustee Vdovine spoke specifically to the makeup of the Committee: Trustees (3); and a representative from each partner group. Trustee Vdovine referred to his earlier report this evening, wherein he stated everyone is welcome.

Trustee expense comment A member of the public commented that it appeared in 2009, one of the Trustees over spent on budget. The Chair reiterated that in 2009, the Trustee's reports were not as broken down as they are with the new Trustee Budget reports and that each Trustee in 2009, drew from a 'pool' of funds. Accordingly, there were no over expenditures. The new Trustee budget is designed for transparency and to hold each Trustee accountable.

Employee Group Question

George Serra inquired into budget items and asked when management intends to meet with partner groups. The Chair confirmed the meeting date being June 2, 2010 at 9:00 am.

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Tzu Chi Foundation

Trustee Rempel reported that the bursary celebration dates have changed from May 20, 2010 to October, 2010.

District Parent Advisory Committee

Trustees Carr and Palis attended the last regular meeting of DPAC. The next meeting in June will be for focusing on the executive elections and encouraged others to attend.

Good News Items.

Trustee Rempel attended the Lisa Sepp, (payroll staff member), fundraiser and speaks well of the employees who offer continued support of fellow employees.

Trustee Carr reported on her experience with Chef Trevor Randle's (MRSS) Chowder Contest. Schools from as far away as Richmond and Sardis were in attendance.

Trustees Carr, Palis and Clarkson attended Joseph at The Act put on by Highland Park- all ages of elementary students participated.

Trustees Rempel, Clarkson and Huber attended the RMEF Gala and commented it was nice to see so many attending and spoke to the level of talents / entertainment by the kids. Rick Tippe spoke directly to the students about their dreams and showing his appreciation of nurturing from the community.

L. OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

ORIGINAL - Motion P323 – 09/10

Member (Trustee Rempel) Moved, Member (Trustee Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the Board adjourn the meeting.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 6 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Chair

Secretary Treasurer