



**PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
*Wednesday, June 9, 2010 (6:00 PM)*  
**DEO Board Room**

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**IN ATTENDANCE:**

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

STAFF:

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

**A. OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order

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

2. Correspondence

CUPE BC  
BC Coalition for School Libraries

3. Ordering of Agenda

**Additions:**

- Chair Report - Board Work Day
- Chair Report - Secretary Treasurer Contract
- Trustee Motion – Trustee Vdovine: Co-governance model - Vancouver School Board
- Member of the Public - Questions re Budget.

Gladys Hewson, Executive of CUPE, thanked the Board for all of their hard work on the budget and for including the partner groups as part of the process. “Although it is sad to lose support staff, it could have been much worse”.

George Serra, Executive of MRTA, thanked the Board for the partner group inclusion to which the MRTA feels it has played a larger part of the process than ever before. Mr. Serra thanked the Board for continuing to head into the right direction.

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**ORIGINAL - Motion P334 – 09/10**

Member (Trustee Rempel) Moved, Member (Trustee Carr) 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: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. May 26, 2010 Public Meeting Minutes

**ORIGINAL - Motion P335 – 09/10**

Member (Trustee Rempel) Moved, Member (Trustee Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the minutes of the May 26, 2010 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

SmART Kits: Lindy Sisson, Executive Director - Presentation

Guests: Lindy Sisson, Executive Director  
Roger Welch, President, Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Arts Council  
Kjaer Pedersen, Artist in Residence

The Board welcomed Lindy Sisson, Roger Welch and Kjaer Petersen who provided an overview of the School District No. 42 exhibit currently on display at the Art Gallery. The display consists of student work derived from the smART kits provided to teachers who can sign them out gaining creative ideas for their students.

Lindy Sisson. Provided a handout outlining programs for upcoming events/productions and described the many ways in which they hope to continue partnering with SD42 and stressed the importance of 'Arts' field trips in relation to other subjects such as Science and hopes the District will embrace the programs. The more the two entities can work together the better, and encouraged the Board not to cut arts programs in this District and would be happy to work with the Board in defending programs.

The Arts Council offers an 'Educational Arts' program that brings professional artists into classrooms to assist with developing specialized art programs.

Kjaer Petersen. Visual Artist teacher for 30 years prior to retirement and has taught grades 1 through to adults which has afforded her extensive experience. Ms. Petersen appreciates the support of community and is looking forward to creating a mural with students in the Maple Ridge Leisure Centre (as she did in the Mission Rec. Centre). She further is attempting to get students to participate in the Empty Bowl program where the public pays for a bowl which they get to keep and money raised will be returned to the community.

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Roger Welch. Confirmed the Arts Council has been partners with the Board of Education for many years. Mr. Welch was pleased to report that they have had four scholarships which have doubled from \$500 to \$1,000 each and is pleased to have members at each of the graduations making presentations of such awards.

#### **D. DELEGATIONS**

#### **E. CHAIR REPORT**

Chair Clarkson and Superintendent Unwin announced that an agreement had been reached with Secretary Treasurer, Wayne Jefferson, extending his contract into October, 2012. He had been originally hired in May 2009 on a 12 month contract. The Chair and Superintendent noted that Secretary Treasurer Jefferson's extensive financial management experience in the educational sector would provide stability and put the District in a strong position to deal with its financial pressures.

The Chair reported the next Board Work Day will be June 23, 2010.

#### **F. DEFERRED ITEMS**

#### **G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS**

Trustee Vdovine commented on the Comptroller General's report from last week regarding the Vancouver School Board and proposed a motion calling on the Minister of Education to ensure that any review of the current co-governance model be conducted by an independent panel to which discussion ensued. Suggestions were made to wait until such time that the BCSTA makes their report.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion P336 – 09/10 - TABLED**

Member (Trustee Vdovine) Moved, Member (Trustee Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the Board urge the Minister of Education to ensure that any review of current co-governance model as recommended by the Comptroller General in the recent Vancouver School Board report, be conducted by an independent panel, similar to the recent Elections Financing Task Force, with a mandate that ensures time for adequate input from the public and education partners.'

#### **ORIGINAL – Motion P337 – 09/10**

Member (Trustee Carr) Moved, Member (Trustee Ward) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the Board table ORIGINAL – Motion P336 – 09/10 until the next meeting where the Board is better equipped with information to make an informed decision.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 6 Nay: 1 (Trustee Vdovine).

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

##### **1. Decision Items**

- a) Superintendent of Schools
- b) Deputy Superintendent

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Local School Calendar 2010/11

The calendars will be posted on the website to allow parents to have access to all school schedules and Professional Development days.

**ORIGINAL - Motion P338 – 09/10**

Member (Trustee Rempel) Moved, Member (Trustee Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the Board receive the Elementary School Calendars and Secondary School Calendars for 2010 - 2011, for information.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

c) Secretary Treasurer

Preliminary Annual Budget Bylaw No. 1 (Teachers)

The Board Chair read the Budget Balancing Challenges report and opened the floor to questions.

Trustee Vdovine commented on how overall, the budget and process has changed from past years and acknowledges there have been defects in the public opinion and the responsibility lies with the Board not staff.

Despite former discussions at meetings and presentations, Trustee Ward seeks further clarification as to whether or not the Board has contravened its own Budget Process Policy. As such, will not be voting on the first readings as she needs more time and clarity.

Discussion ensued regarding Reading Racers. The Board is supportive of the program and seeks to find a way to continue with the program. French is funded completely different. Deputy Superintendent Vandergugten reported that due to the lack of Ministry funding, (literacy grants have disappeared), the program has been cut in half. Ridge Meadows Education Fund provides further support.

Trustee Ward questioned Schedule A2 discrepancy of 'miscellaneous' \$100K between 2009/2010 and 2010/2011. The Secretary Treasurer will research and provide an answer to the Board.

Trustee Huber expressed the Board often struggles with questions and queries with the process and has no problem in engaging with partner groups as long as they come with meaningful questions to avoid tedious process work and acknowledged as the Board goes through the process and engages partners, dialogues will become more clarified as to the angle and process.

Chair Clarkson passed the gavel to Vice-Chair Palis and he and Trustee Huber exited the meeting due to conflicts of interest at 6:55 pm.

**ORIGINAL – Motion P339 – 09/10**

Member (Trustee Vdovine) Moved, Member (Trustee Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2010/2011 Preliminary Annual Budget Bylaw No. 1 (Teachers) be approved as read a **first time.**' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 3 Nay: 0. (Trustees Ward and Rempel abstained)

**The motion CARRIED.**

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Chair Clarkson and Trustee Huber joined the meeting 7:02 pm. Vice-Chair Palis returned the gavel to Chair Clarkson.

Trustee Vdovine questioned fellow Trustees Ward and Rempel on the vague nature of their abstinence of voting as it there have been many substantial discussions and was not sure what their concerns are.

Discussion ensued regarding Trustees Ward and Rempel's abstinence from voting.

**ORIGINAL – Motion P340 – 09/10**

Member (Trustee Carr) Moved, Member (Trustee Palis) seconded the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2010/2011 Preliminary Annual Budget Bylaw No. 2 (Unionized Support Staff) be approved as read a **first** time. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 3 Nay: 0. (Trustees Ward and Rempel abstained)

**The motion CARRIED.**

**ORIGINAL – Motion P341 – 09/10**

Member (Trustee Carr) Moved, Member (Trustee Palis) seconded the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2010/2011 Preliminary Annual Budget Bylaw No. 3 (Other) be approved as read a **first** time. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 3 Nay: 0. (Trustees Ward and Rempel abstained)

**The motion CARRIED.**

**2. Information Items**

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

**H. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**I. QUESTION PERIOD**

Trustee Questions

Staff Questions

Public Questions

A member of the public inquired into the Budget Process Bylaw confirming that after contacting the Ministry in questioning the District's summarative format confirmed the Secretary Treasurer is correct in the format to which SD42 will be filing but still raised questions with respect to Trustee expenses. Chair Clarkson stated he would gather the information she is requesting and would contact her.

DPAC Questions

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Employee Group Question:

MRTA Executive, George Serra, asked if partner groups will be part of the process regarding calendar to which the Superintendent confirmed that the partner groups will be part of the process and much of the fall will be spent reviewing the calendar ensuring SD42 is heading into a 21<sup>st</sup> century – educational perspective.

**J. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

Maple Ridge Arts Council. Trustee Rempel reported on the meeting held Monday. Executive Director, Lindy Sisson, gave a visual presentation. There were positive reports on fundraising/scholarships and the Council is researching literary scholarships. Mike Murray's retirement is June 24, 2010, and hoped other Trustees will attend. Next meeting is June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Tzu Chi Foundation. Trustee Rempel reported the foundation has allocated \$10K to kids and activities and reminded everyone of the bursary celebration taking place on October 7<sup>th</sup> at Hammond Elementary at 3:30 pm.

District Parent Advisory. Trustee Ward reported they held their final meeting of the year. Michelle Neale and Todd Hill will be returning. DPAC is looking into branding themselves in early September/October and PACS will be getting more information in due course. There will be an appreciation event in November where they will pay tribute to Drusilla Wilson who is leaving MRTA and congratulating George Serra for his new appointment. There will also be a tribute to Katherine Wagner who should be noted as to how many years she has been involved with DPAC.

Aboriginal Education. Trustees attended the awards ceremony on June 1<sup>st</sup> and thought it was a heartfelt wonderfully organized event.

Good News. Trustee Carr reported that many Trustees and senior staff attended community farewell events held Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at both Riverside and Mr. Crescent. Both events, although very different, were extremely well done with strong representation from the community. The parents and staff did an enormous amount of work in putting the events together ending in tremendous success.

35 Year Recognition Event. Chair Clarkson and Superintendent Unwin attended the 35 year recognition event where 16 members were recognized for their hard work and dedication to SD42.

Trustee Carr reminded everyone to please be careful out there with all the graduation celebrations out there. Have fun ~ be careful.

**K. OTHER BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**ORIGINAL - Motion P342 – 09/10**

Member (Trustee Rempel) Moved, Member (Trustee Ward) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the Board adjourn the meeting.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.

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Chair

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Secretary Treasurer