



**PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Wednesday, October 13, 2010 (6:00 PM)
DEO Board Room**

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Board Chair – Ken Clarkson
Vice Chair – Eleanor Palis
Trustee – Susan Carr
Trustee – Stepan Vdovine
Trustee – Kathie Ward

STAFF:

Acting Superintendent – Stewart Sonne
Secretary Treasurer – Wayne Jefferson
Communications Officer – Seamus Nesling
Executive Assistant – Tracy Smith

ABSENT:

Trustee Mike Huber
Trustee Dave Rempel
Superintendent Jan Unwin

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

Call to Order

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

1. Correspondence
2. Ordering of Agenda

Additions:

Add District of Maple Ridge to Correspondence

Moved: Trustee Palis

Seconded: Trustee Vdovine

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

CARRIED.

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. September 29, 2010 Public Meeting Minutes

Moved: Trustee Palis

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Minutes of the September 29, 2010 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED.

C. PRESENTATIONS

2010 Achievement Contract Highlights. Laurie Meston, Director of Instruction, Elementary and Early Learning/Deputy Superintendent.

Director Meston provided a power point presentation and provided handouts of slides. The presentation is available on the School District's website. Director Meston pointed out the goals of developing intervention programs using community link money to develop a program for students who are not attending school. The development is inclusive of universal strategies.

Our District average is above the Provincial average because we have alternative education for our students and will continue to have discussions seeing what more we can do to engage students.

Preliminary All-Day Kindergarten Update. Laurie Meston, Director of Instruction, Elementary and Early Learning/Deputy Superintendent.

In follow-up to the Public September 29th Board Meeting, Director Meston referred to the handout enclosed with the Agenda indicating a more thorough report will be provided in March, 2011. The District is close to projected enrollment; has reviewed positive feedback received from educators and Principals; reduced class sizes; and allowing two weeks for gradual entry allowing students to acclimatize to school. Overall, all-day Kindergarten has proven to be a positive experience.

The Chair opened the floor to questions.

Moved: Trustee Palis

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board receive the Preliminary All-Day Kindergarten Update for information.

CARRIED

D. DELEGATIONS

E. CHAIR REPORT

Annual Work Plan

The Chair referred to the Annual Work Plan enclosed with the Agenda package outlining the ongoing work of Trustees conducted throughout the year.

The Chair has recently attended events including a successful annual Arts Council luncheon and the Garibaldi Secondary School official grand opening which involved choir, Social Studies, grade 8 and student government students.

Moved: Trustee Carr

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Board receive the Chair Report for information.

CARRIED

F. DEFERRED ITEMS

G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

1. Decision Items

- a) Superintendent of Schools
- b) Deputy Superintendent

Bill 33 Extension

Acting Superintendent Sonne referred to the Agenda package enclosure indicating the consultation process at the school level continues throughout the year as students enroll or as timetables change. Meetings continue between the MRTA Executive and District Staff to review requests for improving learning environments.

Moved: Trustee Palis

Seconded: Trustee Vdovine

THAT the Board accept the Bill 33 Report as it stands at this moment and await the final report on October 27, 2010.

c) Secretary Treasurer

2. Information Items

a) Superintendent of Schools

b) Deputy Superintendent

Enrollment Report

Acting Superintendent Sonne referred to the Agenda package enclosures and handed out a supplementary page reviewing the 2009/10 enrollments comparing “headcount” with “funded enrollment”. Compliments were given to Norma Mason, Computer Software Coordinator, who does an enormous amount of work with respect to enrollment issues and in providing enrollment information.

At the secondary level, students are funded by courses. This year, there is a strong focus on enrolling students in the greatest amount of courses students are interested in.

The significant difference between headcount between 2009 and 2010 is due largely in part to varied opportunities within our District to which more work is being done. New discovery this year: ‘head count’ is inclusive of cross-enrolled students however, does not affect funding. The District is cautiously optimistic it is on the ‘plus side’: it is up from what projections were (solid) but down overall.

Moved: Trustee Palis

Seconded: Trustee Vdovine

THAT the Board accept the Deputy Superintendent’s Enrollment Report for information.

CARRIED

c) Secretary Treasurer

H. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Aboriginal Education Committee. Trustee Carr referred to the report attached to the Agenda.

I. QUESTION PERIOD

Trustee Carr commented on an email received regarding new legislation affecting the School Act and video surveillance suggesting the District add it to the ongoing list to which the Secretary Treasurer confirmed it will form part of the policy review in terms of currency and relevancy.

A member of the public inquired into the whereabouts of the 2009/10 cost centres thanking the Chair for his email correspondence. As the current Chair was unable to comment on past practice, the question was directed to Trustee Ward as past Chair and was responded to by Trustee Ward stating she would provide a copy if available.

A member of the public inquired into the comments made earlier regarding secondary enrollment and funding per course. Acting Superintendent Sonne confirmed each student has individual choice. Students will not be forced to take courses they are disinterested in.

J. TRUSTEE REPORTS

BCSTA Provincial Council. Trustee Ward referred to the information provided in the Agenda.

The BCSTA Provincial Council meeting is taking place on October 23, 2010. The Board spoke to the items attached to the Agenda providing feedback and debating as to whether issues are viewed to be emergent.

Moved: Trustee Ward

Seconded: Trustee Vdovine

THAT the Board receive the Provincial Councillor's update on the BCSTA Provincial Council for information.

THAT the Board provide direction to the Provincial Councillor to vote accordingly on the upcoming BCSTA Provincial Council meeting to and the Agenda items 7.1 to 7.6.

CARRIED.

District Parent Advisory Council. Trustee Carr referred to the report attached to the Agenda.

Tzu Chi Foundation. Trustee Carr attended the successful event which recognizes all students in the District who take part and get assistance from the Foundation stating the District is lucky to have such partnerships.

K. OTHER BUSINESS

BCSTA Fraser Valley Branch takes place tomorrow evening. Trustee Ward will update the Board as to the joint branch conference in due course.

Pitt Meadows Field opening is taking place Saturday, October 16, 2010.

Riverside Centre grand opening is taking place on October 21, 2010 and is open to all community members.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Trustee Vdovine

Seconded: Trustee Ward

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

CARRIED.

Ken Clarkson, Chair

Wayne Jefferson, Secretary Treasurer