



**PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Wednesday, October 27, 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 – Stewart Sonne
Communications Officer – Seamus Nesling
Executive Assistant – Tracy Smith

ABSENT:

Trustee Kathie Ward

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

Call to Order

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

1. **Correspondence**

Hon. Minister M. MacDiarmid – Aboriginal Education
Hon. Minister M. MacDiarmid – Co-Governance

2. **Ordering of Agenda**

Additions:

Chair Report - District of Maple Ridge
Chair Report - Meeting with BCSTA and Education Minister
Openings and Celebrations

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

CARRIED.

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. **October 13, 2010 Public Meeting Minutes**

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Minutes of the October 13, 2010 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED.

C. PRESENTATIONS

2010 Achievement Contract Highlights. Stewart Sonne, Director of Secondary and Adult Education/Deputy Superintendent.

Deputy Superintendent Sonne provided a Powerpoint presentation called, "Focus on Engaging the Learner and Diversifying Instruction".

SD42's "Engaging all Learners" has been a leader in the Province offering options to our students. Accordingly, the District often receives requests to present to others.

The complete Achievement Contract is posted to the School District website.

The Chair opened the floor to questions. Variables in grad rates are due to 'snap shots' of grad rates (taken in September), therefore the picture excludes those students still completing projects.

It takes time to change culture. It is believed that our six (6) year grad rate will improve as the District continues to move towards excellence. The District will continue to operate with integrity. It is about the stories of the 1,300 – 1,500 students in this District who do not graduate. The District wants to ensure it is doing everything possible to support graduation. We are one of the only Districts that fosters alternative learning.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Board receive Deputy Superintendent Sonne's Achievement Contract presentation, for information.

CARRIED

D. DELEGATIONS

E. CHAIR REPORT

British Columbia School Trustee Association ("BCSTA")

The Chair attended the BCSTA – Provincial Chair meeting with the Minister of Education on October 22, 2010 and provided an overview. James Gorman spoke on the Ministry's vision of personalized learning and provided statistics for how well the provincial education system is doing in comparison with the rest of the world noting that on most scales, we are in the top five (5) and we are the top performing multicultural jurisdiction. Mr. Gorman expressed concern that 20% of our students are not graduating and this figure has not improved for a number of years. He further reported the Ministry is embarking a journal of self discovery as it explores new forms of schooling and smarter approaches.

Rod Allen of the Ministry of Education, challenged everyone, "What are we going to ask on tests when the kids have Google in their back pockets?"; "If you took a surgeon from 1865 to a surgery today, they would not know what was going on in the room. Yet, if you took a teacher from 1865 to a classroom today, they would be very familiar with it." He further went on to state the Province needs to move from a predominately teacher driven, 3R core curriculum with little choice for students or teachers to a choice elective core with much more emphasis on student initiatives facilitated by teachers and co-planned with parents – a different kind of interface. The current system excludes supportive changes; it is about re-building and transformation and posed the question, "Can we liberate teachers to be in the learning game?"

Openings and Celebrations

Riverside Centre's official opening was well attended and accepted in our community.

The Board of Education hosted the Mayor and Council of the District of Maple Ridge last week to discuss initiatives supporting 21st century learning and agreed working together enhances relationships.

The Pitt Meadows Field opening celebration was successful furthering the enhancement of relationships.

Trustee Carr and the Chair volunteered with the serving of chili at The ACT as part of “Homeless Action Week”. The community lunch, sponsored by Golden Ears Feast and various organizations, served our homeless community.

The 25 year recognition dinner was a success as the District celebrated the tenure of dedicated employees. Congratulations to Chef Randle, his hard-working students, Administrative Assistant, Lena Frennd, and all the team for a successful evening. Other future milestone celebrations include first, tenth, twentieth, thirty-fifth and retirement.

The Chair will be attending a meeting with the Metro Trustee Association on November 3rd regarding a balanced calendar.

Congratulations were expressed to Rick Delorme for achieving a “Community Safety Star” award for his work with the Maple Ridge Fire Department and safety of our community. It was agreed the Board will send a letter congratulating Mr. Delorme.

F. DEFERRED ITEMS

G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS

H. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

1. Decision Items

- a) Superintendent of Schools
- b) Deputy Superintendent

Bill 33 Report

Deputy Superintendent Sonne referred to the report attached to the agenda and thanked George Serra, Susan Croll, Harry Dhillon, and Laurie Meston for all their hard work as a team ensuring the report is complete. The secondary schools struggled with BCeSIS which held up processes in finalizing the report. Deputy Superintendent Sonne commended the personnel work in the field and spoke to George Serra’s concern regarding the timeframe on getting signatures on class sizes. Consultations need to take place to bring awareness to issues including steps needed to be taken to ensure consultations are more meaningful.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board receive and approve the final Bill 33 Report.

CARRIED

- c) Secretary Treasurer

2. Information Items

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

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

J. QUESTION PERIOD

Trustee Huber brought up issues regarding lack of law enforcement around schools pertaining to vehicle speed. The Secretary Treasurer commented the issue forms part of joint responsibility between SD42 and the two City Halls and the RCMP. All groups continue to work together as the students belong to both the School District and community and share joint responsibility.

In follow up to a previous meeting, Trustee Vdovine inquired into email/laptop usage/protocol. The Executive Assistant responded a draft email was sent after the first enquiry and a policy has been written by Director Vandergutten which has been added to the list of policies for review.

A member of the public requested either the Superintendent or Deputy Superintendent Meston to write a response letter to a local newspaper article by Graham Hookey.

A member of the public inquired into cost centres and her prior inquiry of the former Board Chair. Chair Clarkson responded Trustee Ward has confirmed cost centres for 2009/10 do not exist as they were never produced. There are no plans to produce such reports in future or at least not in the form as 2008/09 or 2010/11 as the District is moving to "My Budget File".

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS

L. OTHER BUSINESS

Good news Items

Trustee Carr reported on the successful primary/intermediate cross-country races held this week expressing a big thank you to all involved with the sponsorship and organization. A note to parents and caregivers: please be aware of how you park at these functions!

Trustee Vdovine attended "We Day" in Vancouver. Seven (7) bus loads of students from SD42 attended. Overall, the day was motivational and the students were engaged and inspired with the topics at hand.

Bob Schnider, Principal of Davie Jones Elementary, recently won "The Principals of Music – BC Award", (Coalition of Music, Education and the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra). As recipient, a representative from the VSO will be attending the school to make the presentation. The school will receive \$500 plus 100 VSO tickets for the students.

Trustee Rempel commented on the many community groups and the good work they do. In particular, Rotary. The Esteem Team /Dare to Dream is in process of being created. Rotary provides \$14K in bursaries. More than \$500K has been provided to facilities in the community.

Trustee Carr reminded everyone to keep their eyes and ears open on Halloween for the protection of students and property.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Trustee Rempel

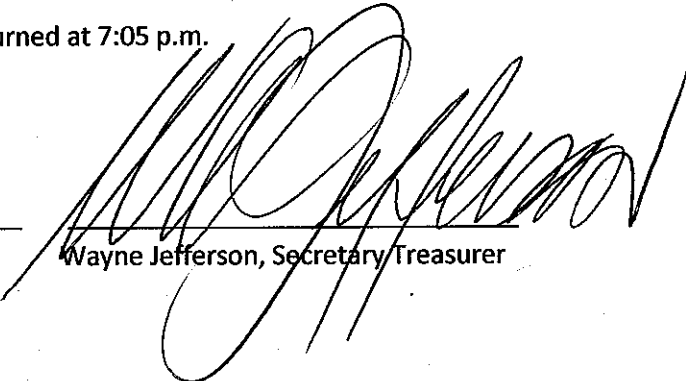
Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

CARRIED.



Ken Clarkson, Chair



Wayne Jefferson, Secretary/Treasurer