



PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Wednesday, March 30, 2011 (6:00 PM)
DEO Board Room

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

STAFF:

Superintendent – Jan Unwin
Assistant Secretary Treasurer – Susanne Instance
Deputy Superintendent – Laurie Meston
Communications/Community Relations – Seamus Nesling
Executive Assistant – Tracy Orobko-Smith

ABSENT:

Vice Chair – Eleanor Palis
Secretary Treasurer – Wayne Jefferson

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

Call to Order

Motion: Trustee Rempel
Seconded: Trustee Ward

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
The Chair welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

1. **Correspondence**
 - George Abbott, Minister - Ministry of Education
 - Samantha Boutet, N.D.
2. **Ordering of Agenda**

Moved: Trustee Rempel
Seconded: Trustee Ward

Additions:

- Correspondence: Sharon Hack
- Chair Report: BCSTA - Meeting with the Minister
- Trustee Motion: Trustee Vdovine
- Superintendent Information Item: Personnel Update

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

CARRIED

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. **March 9, 2011 Public Meeting Minutes**

Moved: Trustee Rempel
Seconded: Trustee Ward

THAT the Minutes of the March 9, 2011 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

C. PRESENTATIONS

District Partnership and Academy Programs – Ron Lancaster, District Coordinator; and Monica Dmytrenko, Chantal Chapman and Braedon Nick, Students.

- *Monica Dmytrenko* - Culinary Arts Program - Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary (“SRT”) who spoke positively about her experiences in school – especially since enrolling in the program – which has helped her overcome personal challenges. Monica proudly states she is “happy finding something she is good at”. The improvement in her attendance reflects her new found passion. The program has rejuvenated her entire school experience. Future goals include Vancouver Community College.
- Mr. Lancaster reminded everyone of the dinner service.
- *Chantal Chapman* - Salon 42 Hairstyling Cosmetology Academy - SRT. Throughout high school, she took courses she was not particularly interested in and has now found a program she *loves*. Future ambitions include becoming a hairdresser for a Milan runway and owning her own salon. She has a great relationship with her instructor and enjoys going to school more than ever. For Salon 42 details and hours of operation, everyone is encouraged to visit the SRT website.
- *Braedon Nick* - Carpentry - Alouette River Campus. Prior to entering the program, he faced school attendance challenges. Braeden credits Stewart Sonne who suggested he look into the program. Braeden is thankful to be in the program and is more motivated to go to school having only missed two days this year. He is proud of his accomplishments and is looking into an apprenticeship citing BC carpenters are highly sought after. He further provided a Powerpoint presentation on his experience at Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

Mr. Lancaster commented on the recently successful Partnership/Academy Information Night held on March 9, 2011 at Thomas Haney Secondary where approximately 200 members of the community attended.

Mr. Lancaster further explained the importance of trades training, apprenticeship training, alternative graduation pathways, engagement with students, values of real life experience, midday transportation options, cross enrollment, credits, and meeting others with like interests. Students graduate from their home school but attend other schools for programs. These opportunities provide a *new way to finish grade 12*. Upon completion, students earn post-secondary certification and/or level 1 apprenticeship certification.

3,000 students have taken these programs in BC schools and current statistics show a projection of 134,000 skilled job vacancies by 2019.

The Metal Fabrication is now partnered with BCIT.

The Board offered compliments and support to Mr. Lancaster, students, staff and the School District as a whole while also speaking to the students congratulating them for following their passions.

The Chair opened the floor to questions:

How do students learn about the noon hour bussing option? Mr. Lancaster responded the School District has been providing an East to West bus service at midday. Students are informed via the website, at the schools and on the applications. The midday bus gets students to the program but after school, students find their own transportation home.

How critical is the transportation? Mr. Lancaster responded it changes year to year. Overall, it boosts the opportunities for students as not all families have someone available during the day to provide transportation.

Mr. Lancaster would like to return to the Board in the near future to speak to two more topics: RCMP Youth Academy and the \$7,000 apprenticeship awards.

D. DELEGATIONS

E. CHAIR REPORT

The Chair spoke to recent correspondence regarding the upcoming BCSTA Annual General Meeting whereby School District No. 42 was not selected to take part in a meeting with the Minister of Education which means this Board, during their term, will not have the chance to meet with the Minister. The Chair opened the floor to questions.

F. DEFERRED ITEMS

G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS

Moved: Trustee Vdovine

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board authorize the Chair to write a letter to the new education Minister congratulating him on his re-appointment to the position, expressing support for his efforts approaching the education portfolio in an inclusive manner, and extending an open invitation for him to visit School District No. 42 to meet with the Board.

CARRIED

H. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

1. Decision Items

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

2. Information Items

- a) Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent announced Alan Millar will be replacing Doug Hoey who is retiring as Principal of Aboriginal Education and knows the District will continue to experience the success everyone's enjoyed under Mr. Hoey's leadership.

- b) Deputy Superintendent
- c) Secretary Treasurer

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Chair Clarkson referred to the Inclusive Education meeting he attended the previous night and provided a handout of information. The meeting is a compassionate venue where parents are able to echo concerns and where heartfelt emotion is felt. The Chair is contemplating recommending the addition of another Trustee to sit on the committee.

The committee is reviewing a proposal for re-constructing it into two entities: one to provide information to parents and the other to be formed and do business along the line of Robert's Rules of Order with the purpose of providing recommendations to the Board of Education.

J. QUESTION PERIOD

Trustee Vdovine spoke to correspondence received from Ms. Boutet regarding WiFi. Ms. Boutet has specifically asked for a response and believes the writer deserves one. The Chair agreed to add the matter to the next agenda preparation meeting.

Trustee Rempel asked if it is still the plan for kids to duck under tables during earthquakes. Superintendent Unwin and Deputy Superintendent Meston are planning to meet with Health and Safety Officer, Judy Dueck, on Friday, April 1st. The earthquake procedures are under review.

A member of the public inquired into the Digipen Academy at Garibaldi Secondary School to which it is confirmed the program is no longer running due to costs. The information will be removed from the School District's website.

A member of the public spoke to the recent popularity of the "Triangle of life". After researching the author, she discovered he is a self-proclaimed earthquake expert from Turkey who provides information that contradicts North American building codes.

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Good News Items.

Trustee Carr attended the Local School Calendar Public Information Meeting held the previous night at Thomas Haney Secondary School where the conversation was "awesome" with many great ideas and engaging, respectful dialogue.

L. OTHER BUSINESS

M. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Trustee Rempel

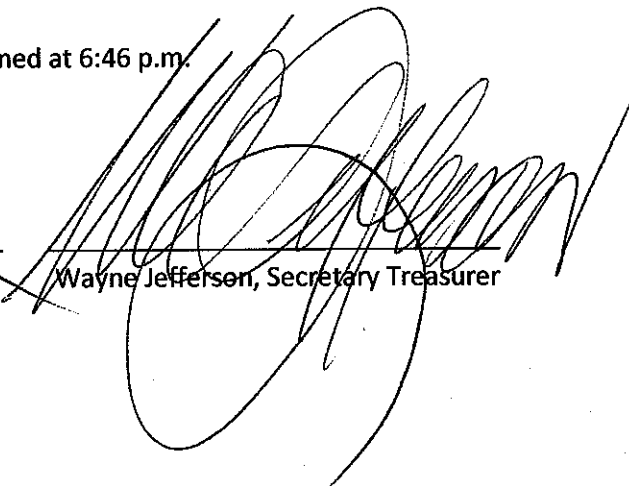
Seconded: Trustee Ward

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

CARRIED



Ken Clarkson, Chair



Wayne Jefferson, Secretary Treasurer