



**PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Wednesday, May 25, 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
Secretary Treasurer – Wayne Jefferson
Deputy Superintendent – David Vandergugten
Assistant Secretary Treasurer – Peter Bullock
Communications/Community Relations – Seamus Nesling
Executive Assistant, Recorder – Tracy Orobko

ABSENT:

Trustee – Eleanor Palis

GUEST:

Director of Facilities – Rick Delorme

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Chair welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

1. **Correspondence**

- Hon. Minister George Abbott – Ministry of Education
- Christian Lavoie, Director – Health Canada
- Elementary Band

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information

CARRIED

2. **Ordering of Agenda**

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

Additions:

Deputy Superintendent Information Item: Distributed Learning Audit

Trustee Question: Health Canada – Trustee Vdovine

Corrections:

Dani Zagar, Global Studies Trip to Africa Presentation – cancelled due to illness

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

CARRIED

The Chair asked the audience if there is anyone else who would like to speak to the Agenda.

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. May 11, 2011 Public Meeting Minutes

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Ward

THAT the Minutes of the May 11, 2011 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

C. PRESENTATIONS

Rory Payment - Laptop Inquiry Project

Rory Payment, Facilitator Information Technology, introduced three students from Alouette Elementary school: Sophia Dobischok, Kevin Tedder and Taylor Selle, who provided a presentation on their inquiry project on learning disabilities. Collectively, they researched their topic, gathered, analyzed and evaluated information assembling all into one final presentation.

Other key points of the inquiry project included:

- Over 200 groups of students mostly in grades 6 and 7
- Students plan for needed resources, division of labour, and apply skills to real world problems by collecting, analyzing and evaluating the data needed to prepare an overall synopsis and presentation
- The inquiry project highlights the value of providing students with laptops
- Technological resources used for projects include IChat, Iweb, web building/design and powerpoint in addition to maintaining an electronic log book highlighting daily goals and areas of improvement.

The Board Chair opened the floor to questions.

A question was asked as to how the students decided to work together to which they responded that each student has his/her own strengths: Kevin – technology; Taylor – personal connections; and Sophia researched and organized.

A question was asked as to how the laptop learning differs from prior learning to which the students responded they are able to be more creative in presenting projects.

A question was asked as if the students think it will be easier to use and work with technology as they grow to which all agreed.

The students thanked all of those present who took the time to answer their inquiry questions forming part of their project. Mr. Payment reminded everyone to visit the website:

[www.sd42.ca/Programs/laptop program](http://www.sd42.ca/Programs/laptop_program)

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

PMSS Artificial Turf Field – Operating Agreement

The Secretary Treasurer reported on the outcome of several meetings involving members of the Joint Use of Public Facilities committee including two secondary Principals. The agreement is a celebration of community members working together. An addendum was created so there would be no misunderstandings of field use and will form part of the formal agreement. If the same contemplation occurs with field use at Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary ("SRT"), a procedure and template has been created. It has been the importance of everyone to meet all users' needs.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Ward

A question was asked if it was brought to the Parks Board for discussion to which it was confirmed correct. Council has played a role in the process.

A question was asked if the Addendum sets a precedent for SRT and Westview Secondary School ("WSS") whereby the agreements will be derived upon a particular group bringing forward a change to which the Secretary Treasurer responded this process will break the ground of acceptance. WSS is part of the consortium of three fields. The Addendum will lend itself if there is interest. This action was specifically brought forward to address football needs. All users have reviewed and provided compromises.

A question was asked if the Addendum has been signed by the City of Pitt Meadows yet to which the Secretary Treasurer confirmed it has not. However, it has been vetted and well received.

THAT the Board approve the Pitt Meadows Secondary Artificial Turf Field operating Agreement (Addendum No. 1) and the Board's Chairperson and the Secretary Treasurer be directed to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board.

CARRIED

2. Information Items

- a) Superintendent of Schools
- b) Deputy Superintendent

Deputy Superintendent Vandergugten referred to the self-explanatory handout regarding the Distributed Learning Ministry of Education audit for further clarification to his last report.

- c) Secretary Treasurer

Ministry of Education – New Funding and Property Loss Changes

The Secretary Treasurer reported on the Schools Protection Plan ("SPP") whereby a decision was made in Victoria to download premiums onto school districts. SD42's portion resulted in \$63K. After an outcry from school districts, the Government reacted by reviewing holdback funds and released \$15 per student per school district resulting in a total of \$210,518 for SD42. When the Ministry created the pressure, they also found a way to locate pressure release. This was a good resolve to change the practice around SPP.

A question was asked if SD42 received holdback funds last year to which Mr. Bullock confirmed same in the approximate amount of \$700K. There is a potential to receive another residual holdback in late May or June.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board receive the Secretary Treasurer's report on additional holdback funding of \$15 per student and the increased cost of the School Protection Plan for information.

CARRIED

Declining Enrolment / Facilities Utilization Report

The Secretary Treasurer provided a report outlining the budget building process and the effect of declining enrollment. In terms of a loss of students, it is not as great as originally anticipated.

Assistant Secretary Treasurer, Peter Bullock, provided a report on declining enrolment and the process of forecasting same: demographic Barager, Ministry forecasts, and use of locally known knowledge. Each of the three tools indicates a common theme in Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows: enrolment is inclined to decline until 2015 where it will then level off. It will take until 2020 to get to the current 2010 levels.

Facilities are reviewed on an annual basis. Areas of growth include East and North Maple Ridge areas. Staff is addressing the capital plan reviewing existing facilities and ensuring SD42 is maximizing the use of same. Rick Delorme, Director of Facilities, has conducted and continuously reviews facility usage and provided an overview of the revised handout titled '2011 Secondary Facilities Summary Report'. SD42 is obtaining nine (9) modular units from the Ministry: Two 2 in the West and the balance in the East. A determination of needing a new elementary school in the East has been made. Staff is trying to demonstrate to the Ministry of Education, that instead of purchasing seven (7) modulares, SD42 can use portables allocating money saved from modulares to build a new elementary school. The Ministry agrees with the principle and staff is awaiting confirmation.

Differences between modulares and portables was discussed. Portables are in surplus, are for shorter term uses, more cost effective to install. Modulares are based on a 20–40 year lifespan; washrooms; larger space. Seven (7) modulares in the East would cost \$2.8 million; seven (7) portables would cost \$220K.

A question was asked if portables are in use only at Maple Ridge Secondary School ("MRSS") and Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary School ("SRT") to which it was confirmed MRSS is not using portables; SRT is the only secondary school using portables.

Mr. Delorme has been negotiating with the Ministry in terms of recognizing installation and set up costs; and the need for permanent space in Albion. Staff believes it has received full support for the new Albion elementary and are waiting for an announcement.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Ward

THAT the Board receive the Secretary Treasurer's reports on declining enrolment and facilities utilization for information.

CARRIED

School Closures – Transition Report

The Secretary Treasurer provided a brief overview of the financial impact of school closures. The Superintendent reported on the promise of following up with students and parents after the Mt. Crescent

and Riverside Elementary schools closed. Surveys were sent to parents and staff and disappointment was expressed at the few who responded. Survey results received indicated students strongly were adapting to the school, making friends and upon touring the schools, is hard pressed to determine which kids were which. Parents have had a harder time to adjust.

The Secretary Treasurer was asked to provide actual costs incurred with the startup at Riverside Centre and structural change costs for Mt. Crescent Elementary for future Board reference. The Secretary Treasurer referred to the School District's operating budget and the use of Annual Facilities Grant ("AFG") funds. Closing two (2) schools provides an ongoing savings in addition to selling portables. Mr. Delorme confirmed AFG can only be used for maintaining existing facilities. There is a small criteria you can use AFG funds - does not affect capital funding. Money spent did not take away from any other operations.

The Secretary Treasurer referred to the two alternate space use and the generating of revenue for same: TOPIA rental, sale of 31 portables; energy savings alone is \$150K. Efficiencies have been gained in merging three units into Riverside Centre and there have been savings of approximately \$325K each school, per year. Year after year – continued savings.

Moved: Trustee Huber

Seconded: Trustee Rempel

THAT the Board request the Secretary Treasurer to report back to the Board, all costs and savings associated with the transition and school closure process by the June 28, 2011 Board Meeting.

CARRIED

The chair called for a vote to the original motion.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board receive the 2010 School Closure Transition Report for information.

CARRIED

Off-Leash Dog Park Update

The Secretary Treasurer referred to the report attached with the Agenda. According to the most recent information provided by the General Manager, Community Development Parks and Recreation Services, there have been no recent reports sent to either the Commission or Council. The implementation of the Off-Leash Dog Park program appears to be working as planned.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Vdovine

THAT the Board receive the Secretary Treasurer's updated report on off-leash dog parks at Davie Jones Elementary and Laity View Elementary for information.

CARRIED

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

J. QUESTION PERIOD

In reference to the proposed visit from the Minister of Education, Trustee Huber invited partner groups to share dialogue asking for feedback on areas of concerns via letters and emails sharing concerns. The more information the Board has to share, the more valuable the meeting will be.

Trustee Vdovine commented on the correspondence received from Health Canada. The Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer confirmed it is the School District's obligation to identify any health risks and to

delegate same to SD42's Health and Safety Officer who has confirmed there has been no identified risks at this time. Health and safety of students and staff is of utmost importance and SD42 has a standing protocol with Fraser Health.

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Municipal Advisory & Accessibility

Trustee Huber reminded everyone of the Rick Hansen 25 year anniversary in May 2012. The School District has been a huge supporter of events and this may be a great opportunity for teachers, students and staff to get involved.

Trustee Rempel reminded everyone of the Tzu Chi Foundation Celebration on June 2nd at Eric Langton from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. RSVP's can be sent to Louisa at Kanaka Creek Elementary.

L. OTHER BUSINESS


M. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Trustee Rempel

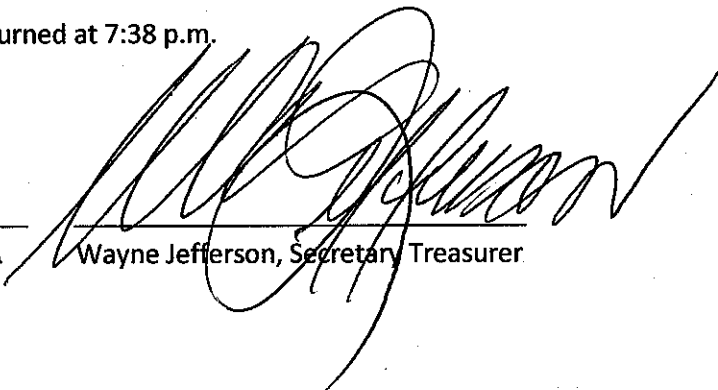
Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

CARRIED



Ken Clarkson, Chairperson



Wayne Jefferson, Secretary Treasurer