

Wednesday, April 10, 2013
6:00 p.m.

District Education Office
22225 Brown Avenue
Boardroom

A G E N D A

"It is Spring again. The earth is like a child that knows poems by heart"
~ Rainer Maria Rilke

A – OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order
2. Correspondence ITEM 1
 - i. Patti Bacchus, Chairperson – SD 39 (Vancouver) *(March 12, 2013)*
 - ii. Honourable Christy Clark, Premier of British Columbia *(April 2, 2013)*
 - iii. All Boards of Education *(April 2, 2013)*
 - iv. Denise Harper, Chairperson – SD 73 (Kamloops/Thompson) *(April 3, 2013)*
3. Ordering of Agenda
4. Invitation for Public Input to matters on the Agenda

B – CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. March 13, 2013 ITEM 2

C – PRESENTATIONS

ITEM 3

- i. School Growth Plans – David Vandergugten, Director of Instruction K-12

D – DELEGATIONS

E – CHAIR REPORT

F – DEFERRED ITEMS

G – TRUSTEE MOTIONS

H – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

1. Decision Items
 - a) Superintendent of Schools
 - i. Elementary Reporting Option ITEM 4
(To Be Distributed)
 - b) Deputy Superintendent
 - c) Secretary Treasurer

2. Information Items
 - a) Superintendent of Schools
 - b) Deputy Superintendent
 - c) Secretary Treasurer

I – COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Committees of the Whole
 - a) 2012 - 2013 Finance
 - b) 2013 - 2014 Budget
 - i. 2013/14 Preliminary Budget
(To Be Distributed)
2. Committee & Advisory Committee Reports
 - a) Aboriginal Education
 - b) Board Policy Development
 - c) District Student Advisory
 - d) Education
 - e) French Immersion Advisory
 - f) Inclusive Education

ITEM 5

J – QUESTION PERIOD

1. Trustee Questions
2. Staff Questions
3. Employee Group Questions
4. DPAC Questions
5. Public Questions

K – TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. BC School Trustees' Association Provincial Council
2. District Parent Advisory Council
3. Joint Parks and Leisure Services
4. Municipal Advisory & Accessibility
5. Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council
6. Ridge Meadows Education Foundation
7. Social Planning Advisory:

http://www.mapleridge.ca/EN/main/municipal/728/9982/spac_agenda_minutes.html
8. Tzu Chi Foundation
9. Youth Society
10. Other Board Liaison Representative Reports
 - a) Good News Items
 - b) Public Disclosure of Closed Meeting Business

ITEM 6

L – OTHER BUSINESS

M – ADJOURNMENT

To: Board of Education

From: Chairperson
Mike Murray

Re: **OPENING PROCEDURES**

Date: April 10, 2013
(Public Board Meeting)

Information/Decision

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. CORRESPONDENCE (Information Item)

1. Patti Bachus, Chairperson – SD39 (Vancouver) *(March 12, 2013)*
2. Honourable Christy Clark, Premier of British Columbia *(April 2, 2013)*
3. All Boards of Education *(April 2, 2013)*
4. Denise Harper, Chairperson – SD 73 (Kamloops/Thompson) *(April 3, 2013)*

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information.

Attachments

3. ORDERING OF AGENDA (Decision Item)

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Agenda be ordered as circulated.

4. Invitation for Public Input to matters on the Agenda



Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

1580 West Broadway

Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8

Telephone: 604-713-5000

Fax: 604-713-5049

March 12, 2013

Honourable Don McRae
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister McRae,

Re: Provincial Holdback Funds

On February 4, 2013 I wrote to you, on behalf of the Vancouver Board of Education (VBE), requesting that the Ministry of Education immediately release to school districts all possible provincial holdback funds, including the \$2.1 million that was used to fund BCSPEA's operating costs (see attached). We have not yet received a reply to our letter.

On March 12, 2013, the Board of Trustees approved the following motion:

"that the Board write to the Minister of Education requesting the release of holdback funds as soon as possible, and that all dollars originally allocated to go to districts go back to districts and not be used for other purposes."

The VBE, like most school districts, is in the midst of budget planning for 2013/2014. Most school districts are facing cost pressures and projected funding shortfalls for next year. Some districts are faced with shortfalls for the current year as well. Given the financial situation of school districts in the province, the Ministry of Education should not be withholding funds that have been approved by the Legislative Assembly for allocation to school districts.

Based on information issued by your Ministry in December, 2012 with respect to the 2012/2013 Recalculated Funding Allocations, a total of \$26.3 million was remaining in holdback funds. This included \$15 million that was being held as a general budget contingency. In addition, as much of the \$51 million holdback that was released in December resulted in offsetting reductions in funding protection grants, a good portion of these funds should still remain within the provincial funding envelope and be available for distribution to school districts.

Again, the VBE would request that the Ministry of Education immediately release all possible funds in the provincial holdback to school districts, including the \$2.1 million that was used to fund BCPSEA's operating costs.

Yours truly,

Patti Bacchus
Chairperson

Attachment

c: Vancouver Board of Education
All BC Boards of Education, c/o BCSTA
Vancouver Members of the Legislative Assembly
Steve Cardwell, Superintendent of Schools
Rick Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer

Board of School Trustees:

Patti Bacchus - Chairperson
Mike Lombardi - Vice-Chairperson
Fraser Ballantyne Ken Clement Ken Denike
Cherie Payne Allan Wong Sophia Woo
Rob Wynn



Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

1580 West Broadway

Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8

Telephone: 604-713-5000

Fax: 604-713-5049

February 4, 2013

The Honourable Don McRae
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister McRae:

Re: 2012/2013 Funding Recalculation

On December 14, 2012, the Ministry of Education announced the 2012/2013 funding recalculations for school districts based on actual September, 2012 enrolment and educator salary data (see attached letter).

As part of that announcement, the Ministry distributed a portion of the Holdback Allocation Funds as a supplementary grant to school districts at a rate of \$96 per full-time equivalent school-age student. For the Vancouver Board of Education (VBE), this equates to a holdback allocation of \$4.97 million. However, as the VBE is currently in funding protection, our funding protection grant was reduced by an equivalent amount. Accordingly, the VBE did not receive a net gain as a result of the holdback allocation and additional funds will remain available within the provincial funding envelope for school districts. As many districts are in funding protection, this would likely be a common situation with other districts.

The December 14, 2012 announcement also indicated that \$26.3 million remains in the provincial holdback funds. It was mentioned that this amount is higher than projected and is intended to be used to address budget pressures and/or unanticipated enrolment growth in the February and May, 2013 enrolment counts. Given that some school districts are facing funding shortfalls for the current year and that most districts will face funding shortfalls for next year, the Ministry of Education should immediately release as much of the remaining holdback funds as possible so that districts can take these amounts into account in their current budget planning.

In addition, in the December 14, 2012 announcement, the Ministry advised that they were using \$2.1 million of the holdback allocation to cover the 2012/2013 allocation to BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) for their operating costs. This cost was previously paid for directly by the Ministry. This change results in a downloading of costs from the Ministry to school districts and was made without notice or consultation with school districts.

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Board of School Trustees:

Patti Bacchus - Chairperson

Mike Lombardi - Vice-Chairperson

Fraser Ballantyne Ken Clement Ken Denike

Cherie Payne Allan Wong Sophia Woo

Rob Wynen

The Honourable Don McRae
Minister of Education
February 4, 2013
Page 2

In summary, as most school districts are facing funding shortfalls for this year and/or next year, the Vancouver Board of Education requests that the Ministry of Education immediately release to school districts all possible provincial holdback funds, including the \$2.1 million that was used to fund BCPSEA's operating costs.

Sincerely,



Patti Bacchus
Chairperson

Enclosure

cc: Board of Trustees
Steve Cardwell, Superintendent of Schools
Rick Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer
All BC Boards of Education, c/o BCSTA



VIA EMAIL

Ref: 164278

December 14, 2012

To: All Secretary-Treasurers
All School Districts

Re: 2012/13 Recalculated Funding Allocations

The 2012/13 recalculated funding allocations have been determined based on actual September 28, 2012 enrolment and educator salary data.

The complete package is located on our website at: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/k12funding>. Where indicated, these tables will be updated for funding adjustments resulting from the February and May 2013 enrolment counts.

Grant adjustments will be disbursed to school districts on the following basis:

April, May and June 2013

33.3 percent each month

Holdback Allocation

Holdback Allocation Funds are being distributed as a supplemental grant at \$96 per full-time equivalent school-age student. A total of \$26.3 million remains in the holdback. This amount is higher than projected earlier to address budget pressures and/or unanticipated enrolment growth in the February 2013 and May 2013 enrolment counts.

The Ministry is also using \$2.1 million of this holdback allocation to cover the 2012/13 BCPSEA operating cost. This is in addition to the \$51 million being released allocated at this time.

Targeted Funding

The minimum spending amount for Aboriginal Education programs is identified in Table 4b, as prescribed under Section 106.4 of the *School Act*. This amount has been recalculated based on actual September 2012 enrolment data.

If you have any questions about the funding allocations, please contact Dave Duerksen, Director, Funding & Compliance Branch or Michael Lebrun, Senior Funding and Policy Analyst at (250) 356-2588.

Amended budget instructions for 2012/13 will be provided to school districts within the next few days.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Miller
Assistant Deputy Minister

April 2, 2013

The Honourable Christy Clark
Premier of British Columbia
Box 9041, Station PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Clark:

Re: 2013/14 Public Education Budget

The public education system in British Columbia is the envy of many countries around the world. We should all be very proud of that stature and achievement. For the sake of our children and the future well-being of this Province we need to make adequate investments in education, to ensure we can continue to achieve that standard, providing the kind of public education British Columbia families have come to expect.

We are concerned our ability to meet that expectation is being seriously eroded with the adoption of the Provincial Budget and advice from the Minister of Education that sufficient funding is not being provided to cover approximately \$134 Million in cost pressures over which Boards of Education have no control. Of course these cost pressures do not include whatever wage settlement may be reached in the current labour negotiations, nor do they include the reductions in funding resulting from declining enrollments.

The Board of Education for School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows), the MRPM District Parent Advisory Council, CUPE local 703 and the Maple Ridge Teachers' Association are all concerned that our collective ability to provide the kind of education we want for our children is being significantly compromised and, despite our best efforts to communicate the concern through various organizations including the BC School Trustees Association, it seems that government isn't listening.

We are not the only Board of Education that is concerned. All of the Boards we have had the opportunity to speak with in the lower mainland are equally concerned and are sharing similar stories, having to make cuts which will have a negative impact on our children's education. In a recent report to regional BCSTA Branches, Vice President Teresa Rezansoff is quoted as having

To Honourable Christy Clark

April 2, 2013

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said the following to the media during the budget lock up, "Programs and choice for students will be sacrificed as school districts struggle to meet these cost pressures". She was referring to the approximately \$134M calculated by the BC Association of School Business Officials. As we wrestle with the process of finding ways to submit a balanced budget in this District we know Ms. Rezansoff's statement is absolutely accurate.

To illustrate the point School District No. 42 has closed five schools and reduced staff in many operational areas over the past several years. We have had a decline in enrollment and acknowledge that reducing our resources in response to that decline is fiscally prudent and responsible. If that was the only funding shortfall we were facing we could handle that. However, the \$2M in cost pressures we have no control over (pension contribution adjustments, HST to PST, Inflation on utilities, supplies and services) on top of the funding reduction that comes with the decline in enrollment coupled with our need to replace the contribution to our 2012/13 budget that came from contingencies (now very close to being depleted) amounts to an overall 2013/14 budget shortfall of \$6M or five percent. Again, this does not include any wage settlements which may be reached in the current labour negotiations.

All of this is challenging however, it is having to address the \$2M in cost pressures noted above without any Government assistance which is particularly galling given our continuing struggles to manage the other shortfalls. Of course we couldn't possibly cover any wage settlements within the existing funding envelope even though we believe modest wage increases are appropriate in an inflationary environment.

In light of this situation and similar situations in most School Districts throughout the Province we request that the Province revisit its budget priorities to adequately fund one of government's most important areas of service. To be more specific we are hoping government will fund the cost pressures noted above and any settlements which are the result of the current labour negotiations.

To quote from the 2002/03 Charter for Public Education;

"Public Education is a sacred trust. As a community we promise to prepare learners for a socially responsible life in a free and democratic society, to participate in a world which each generation will shape and build. We promise a public education system which provides learners with knowledge and wisdom, protects and nurtures their natural joy of learning, encourages them to become persons of character, strength and integrity, infuses them with hope and with spirit and guides them to resolute and thoughtful action."

We cannot possibly honour this commitment with continually diminishing resources. Just to be clear a hold the line budget in the face of inflation and other significant cost increases over which

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To Honourable Christy Clark

April 2, 2013

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we have no control represents a budget cut. Budget cuts represent reductions in programs and choice for students. All of the trimming has been done over many years of austerity. As one of our partners so aptly described it we've already cut the fat.....we're now moving into bone and muscle and it hurts a great deal. All of the undersigned are asking for your help.


Sincerely,



Eleanor Palis, Vice-Chairperson
Board of Education



Leslie Franklin, President
Canadian Union of Public Employees



George Serra, President
Maple Ridge Teachers' Association



Kellie Marquet, Chairperson
District Parent Advisory Council

cc: Board of Education
Jan Unwin, Superintendent of Schools
Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer
Honourable Minister, Don McRae, Minister of Education
Marc Dalton, Member of Legislative Assembly
Michael Sather, Member of Legislative Assembly

MM/to

April 2, 2013



All British Columbia Boards of Education
c/o British Columbia School Trustees' Association

Dear Colleagues:

Re: 2013/14 Public Education Budget

The public education system in British Columbia is the envy of many countries around the world. We should all be very proud of that stature and achievement. For the sake of our children and the future well-being of this Province we need to make adequate investments in education, to ensure we can continue to achieve that standard, providing the kind of public education British Columbia families have come to expect.

Our Board is concerned our ability to meet that expectation is being seriously eroded with the adoption of the Provincial Budget and advice from the Minister of Education that sufficient funding is not being provided to cover approximately \$134 Million in cost pressures over which Boards of Education have no control. Of course these cost pressures do not include whatever wage settlement may be reached in the current labour negotiations, nor do they include the reductions in funding resulting from declining enrollments.

We know from discussion at BCSTA Regional Branch meetings that many other Boards are concerned that our collective ability to provide the kind of education we want for our children is being significantly compromised and, despite our best efforts to communicate the concern through the BC School Trustees Association, it seems government isn't listening.

In the most recent report to regional BCSTA Branches, Vice President Teresa Rezansoff is quoted as having said the following to the media during the budget lock up, "Programs and choice for students will be sacrificed as school districts struggle to meet these cost pressures". She was referring to the approximately \$134M calculated by the BC Association of School Business Officials. As we wrestle with the process of finding ways to submit a balanced budget in this District we know Teresa's statement is absolutely accurate.

We know our story is not unique. Like most Districts we've closed a number of schools and reduced staffing in all areas of our operation for several years. Like most we have had a decline in enrollment and acknowledge that reducing our resources in response to that decline is fiscally prudent and responsible. If that was the only funding shortfall we were facing we could handle that. However, the \$2M in cost pressures we have no control over (pension contribution adjustments, HST to PST, Inflation on supplies and services) coupled with our decline in enrollment and need to replace the contribution to our 2012/13 budget that came from contingencies (now very close to being depleted) amounts to an overall 2013/14 budget shortfall of \$6M or five percent of our total budget. Again, this does not include any wage settlements which may be reached in the current labour negotiations.

All of this is challenging however, it is having to address the \$2M in cost pressures noted above without any Government assistance which is particularly galling given our continuing struggles to manage the other shortfalls. Of course we couldn't possibly cover any wage settlements within

To All Boards of Education

April 2, 2013

Page 2

the existing funding envelope even though we believe modest wage increases are appropriate in an inflationary environment.

In light of this situation we urge all Boards of Education to write to the Premier's office to share your stories and register your concerns and request the \$134M referred to in the BCSTA literature be fully funded by the Ministry of Education in the 2013/14 budget year.

We recognize BCSTA continues to have meetings with both the government and opposition on this subject and are very hopeful they will be successful. Our purpose in requesting that all Boards join us in writing directly to the Premier's office is simply to support their efforts. Our view is that it is one thing for a Provincial Organization to be able to say they represent sixty school Boards but much more compelling if sixty letters have been received by government reinforcing the same message.

To quote from the 2002/03 Charter for Public Education;

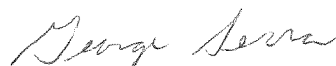
"Public Education is a sacred trust. As a community we promise to prepare learners for a socially responsible life in a free and democratic society, to participate in a world which each generation will shape and build. We promise a public education system which provides learners with knowledge and wisdom, protects and nurtures their natural joy of learning, encourages them to become persons of character, strength and integrity, infuses them with hope and with spirit and guides them to resolute and thoughtful action."

We cannot possibly honour this commitment with continually diminishing resources. A hold the line budget in the face of inflation and other significant cost increases over which we have no control represents a budget cut. As Teresa Rezansoff indicated budget cuts represent reductions in programs and choice for students. All of the trimming has been done over many years of austerity. One of our educational partners aptly described our collective frustration in a budget consultation meeting by saying, "We've already cut the fat....we're now moving into bone and muscle and it hurts a lot".


Sincerely,



Eleanor Palis, Vice-Chairperson
Board of Education



George Serra, President
Maple Ridge Teachers' Association



Leslie Franklin, President
Canadian Union of Public Employees



Kellie Marquet, Chairperson
District Parent Advisory Council

cc: Board of Education
Jan Unwin, Superintendent of Schools
Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer

MM/to

April 3, 2013

Ministry of Education
Office of the Minister
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

The Honourable Don McRae, Minister of Education

Dear Mr. McRae:

Re: Communication

I write on behalf of the Board of Education of School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson), to draw your attention to a serious concern we have regarding communication between ourselves and the Ministry of Education.

Nearly ten years ago the Education Minister of the day, now Premier Clark, entered into a Protocol of Recognition agreement with the British Columbia School Trustees Association. This document has been renewed several times over the past decade and has been depended upon by both parties to help define the co-governance relationship we share with your Ministry. It has set the stage for the many partnerships that school districts have had with the Ministry of Education over the years.

Integral to a cooperative relationship is communication and the Protocol Agreement states under item 5 that the Province will notify and consult with both the BCSTA and individual boards of education on matters affecting them. Unfortunately swift and efficient sharing of information does not always occur between our Board and your Ministry. In our district we are frequently contacted by local media with questions regarding a news release or announcement from the Ministry of Education. With increasing frequency we have not received copies of the releases they reference. We are left scrambling for details and find we must ask the reporter to send us a copy of the release they are referencing. I acknowledge the information does occasionally come to them through other media outlets and in those cases they are attempting to put a local “spin” on the story. However, there are occasions when the release or announcement is of significant importance to school districts either locally or throughout the province and it is these occurrences that cause concern.

When I raised this matter at a recent meeting of the Board of Education, a reporter was present and she followed up with a story wherein she quoted Mr. Scott Sutherland, a communications officer within your Ministry. Mr. Sutherland is quoted as having said he is unaware of a protocol agreement within his department. This is unfortunate, however it does not negate the fact that when announcements of programs or initiatives are made, it would be very helpful if school districts could receive the information that the media receive at the same time. This would allow staff to investigate and be prepared to answer inquiries when they are made.

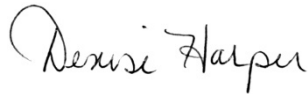
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Ministry of Education – Communication
April 3, 2013
Page 2

Mr. Sutherland is quoted as stating that creating a separate email list for school boards would be too onerous. I am surprised by this response. Surely the Ministry has an existing data base which includes the email addresses of all superintendents and secretary-treasurers in the province. Trustees do not expect to receive each announcement personally but hope that when we turn to our district leaders they would be aware of the matter at hand and be prepared to offer advice on how the local school district might be affected by the news.

The Board of Education of the Kamloops/Thompson School District request that the situation be corrected and that boards across the province receive important announcements and releases in advance of media and other interested parties.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise Harper".

Denise Harper, Chair
Board of Education

DH:eb

cc: The Honourable Christy Clark, Premier
MLA Krueger, North Kamloops
MLA Lake, South Kamloops
BCSTA – Distribution to all Boards of Education



ITEM 2

To: Board of Education

From: Chairperson
Mike Murray

Re: **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Date: April 10, 2013
(Public Board Meeting)

Decision

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Minutes of the March 13, 2013 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

Attachment

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Board Chairperson – Mike Murray
Vice-Chairperson – Eleanor Palis
Trustee – Susan Carr
Trustee – Ken Clarkson
Trustee – Kathy Marshall
Trustee – Sarah Nelson
Trustee – Dave Rempel

STAFF:

Superintendent – Jan Unwin
Secretary Treasurer – Flavia Coughlan
Deputy Superintendent – Laurie Meston
Mgr. of Communications/Community Relations – Irena Pochop
Executive Assistant – Tracy Orobko

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

- Baljinder Narang, Chairperson – SD41 (Burnaby)
- Caroline Mitchell, Chairperson – SD28 (Quesnel)
- Doug Stewart, Director, Capital Mgmt. Branch – Ministry of Education
- Moyra Baxter, Chairperson – SD23 (Central Okanagan)

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Nelson

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information

CARRIED

2. Ordering of Agenda

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Agenda be ordered as circulated.

CARRIED

The Chair opened the floor to others wanting to speak to the Agenda.

Leslie Franklin cautioned that there were two discussions on the school calendar. Not 'several' as indicated in the recommendation.

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. February 27, 2013 Public Board Meeting Minutes

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Minutes of the February 27, 2013 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

C. PRESENTATIONS

Ross Davies, Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society – “K.E.E.P.S.” and
Wendy Holm, Regional Manager for GVRD Parks

Mr. Davies provided a presentation highlighting the programs with schools including the addition of 13 aquariums in classrooms where students participate the raising of Chum salmon which they will eventually release into Kanaka Creek. Other programs include the walk to support streams where 180 students participated; Visitation of the Bell-Irving Hatchery centre; Sunday salmon days; and Kanaka weed-busters.

BCIT is interested in possibly utilizing facilities at Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary. There are many opportunities provided for people to get back in touch with the land.

Plans for the new centre were displayed and include: utilitarian stewardship building (classroom); wetland opportunities; teaching resources within the park; overnight availability. Over 97% of materials used are derived from the old building.

April 21, 2013 - opening with ‘Good-bye Chums’ event. A request was made for fundraiser support: “Kanaka Creek Watershed Stewardship Centre” where a contest is being held to win \$100,000. To offer your support visit: www.fuellingchange.com

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board receive the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society’s presentation for information.

CARRIED

D. DELEGATIONS

E. CHAIR REPORT

The Chair wished to address budget meetings held earlier in the day with partner groups. The Board has actively been contacting Government regarding the many issues over this past year.

Any additional expenses the School District has will have to be found in the same envelope that already exists. Districts across the Province are concerned about ‘going backwards budgets’. The Chair further commented on holdback funds and the process. Enrolment is down across the Province. SD42 belongs to the Fraser Valley Trustees’ Association. At the last meeting, discussion ensued regarding budgets. Boards present identified similar cost pressure issues. The Superintendent has also identified through her meetings this is a problem identified by all Boards. Boards collectively are asked to seek \$134 million out of existing envelopes without effecting services. The Deputy Minister has indicated nothing has changed despite protests. While Boards are required to submit a balanced budget, the Board acknowledges the difficult task ahead and the obligation to operate within current legislation.

F. DEFERRED ITEMS

G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS

Moved: Trustee Clarkson

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board write to all school Boards in the Province and the BCSTA indicating this Board’s concern with the task of financial support being provided by the Provincial Government for increased costs beyond our control and urge Boards to collectively lobby the Government.

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Clarkson

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Board jointly with its partner groups prepare a letter to the Ministry of Education outlining the serious challenges to our budget and express concern about the lack of Ministry funding.

CARRIED

H. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

1. Decision Items

a) Superintendent of Schools

2013 – 2014 District Local School Calendar

The Superintendent reported 191 responses were received to the survey. Based on input received from CUPE, a day in February has been changed to closing schools on June 26th instead of June 27th. If approved, the calendars will be submitted to the Ministry.

It was suggested adding something to the website differencing 'minutes' to 'days' addressing the need to highlight differences between 'old' and 'new' language of the calendar.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Board approve the District Local School Calendar, Kanaka Creek School Calendar, and the District Distributed Learning Calendar for 2013-2014.

CARRIED

The Wheelhouse BAA Application David Vandergugten and
Julie Hearn (Gr. 6/7 Alouette Elementary)

This proposal has gone through the Education Committee involving Trustees Carr and Nelson. A letter of support has been received from Dennis Tjernagel, Principal, Alouette Elementary; and has been reviewed with all stakeholder groups.

"Wonder. Discover. Reveal"

Ms. Hearn credited the laptop program which is pushing teachers to broaden their creative ways of thinking.

Ms. Hearn provided background on the program: Student-centred Learning; community connections (traveling Tuesdays - little or no cost); building leadership and citizenship; "What makes a good global citizen?"; Learning through play (Imagination Stations); Technology supported learning (one-to-one iPad); parental support.

The Chair opened the floor to questions.

Question: How are you picking students for the class? Answer: Kids just sign up. Ms. Hearn has planned district wide information meetings.

Moved: Trustee Clarkson

Seconded: Trustee Rempel

THAT the Board ratify BAA course *The Wheelhouse*, for implementation.

CARRIED

b) Deputy Superintendent

- c) **Secretary Treasurer**

2. Information Items

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

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

J. QUESTION PERIOD

Question: Is the School District getting any funds with respect to carbon neutral? Answer: \$9,000.

Question: CUPE - ratification was done regarding custodial. Was it passed? Answer: Yes.

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS

BC School Trustees' Association. Trustee Clarkson provided an update. The budget has been forwarded to us. BCSTA is the vehicle through which we have a collective voice. BCSTA submitted their "We Value Education" slogan to government.

Moved: Trustee Clarkson

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board endorse and participate in the BCSTA Me Too campaign to support public education making it an issue in the upcoming provincial election.

CARRIED

District Parent Advisory Council. Trustees Palis and Murray spoke to the DPAC meeting. Lest we forget we have one of the best education systems in the world.

Ridge Meadows Arts Council: Chair Murray reported on the strategic planning workshop.

Social Planning Advisory. Trustee Nelson reported the RCMP is looking to restructure their community safety officers.

TZU Chi Foundation. Trustee Rempel reported on a significant financial allocation to students. The next celebration has tentatively been set for May 5th at 3:30 p.m. - Connex.

Good News Items

The Superintendent reported on the "Think Pink Day".

Trustees attended the Slave – Epic Project produced by the Comparative Civ. 12 students at Maple Ridge Secondary which highlighted child labour around the world.

Alexander Robinson held their annual cup stacking event in collaboration with their assembly on student achievements.

Trustee Carr acknowledged the efforts of secondary schools and their "Spirit Week" thanking all staff for their coordinating the events.

Chair Murray reported on his opportunity to moderate a forum for Social Justice 12 students and the issue of homelessness. Youth homeless has increased from 8 to 30. Michelle Schmidt was involved with the project. Trustee Nelson wished clarification be made that homeless counts are not going down. Students were present to share personal stories. There are people getting back on their feet.

L. OTHER BUSINESS

M. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

CARRIED

Mike Murray, Chairperson

Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer



ITEM 3

To: Board of Education

From: Superintendent
Jan Unwin

Re: **PRESENTATION -
SCHOOL GROWTH PLANS**

Date: April 10, 2013
(Public Board Meeting)

Information

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

Each year all schools create a school growth plan. These school plans developed by school planning councils are an integral part of the district achievement contract and the Ministry of Education district review process.

The school planning council interprets information and identifies areas of strength and areas that need improvement. The school planning council shares its findings with the parent advisory council and the school community and solicits feedback.

Using the information collected and analyzed, and input from the parent advisory council and school community, the school planning council develops plans for improvement.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board receive the Superintendent's School Growth Summary report for information.



To: Board of Education

From: Superintendent
Jan Unwin

Re: **ELEMENTARY REPORTING
ALTERNATE OPTION**

Date: April 10, 2013
(Public Board Meeting)

Decision

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The district would like to offer teachers an alternative to the current reporting methods.

The Elementary Data Review and Reporting Committee which included teachers, administrators, and staff from SSS has been working for 2 years on an innovative reporting option for grades K-7.

The committee pursued and investigated ideas from across the globe and established a set of Reporting Principles based on this research.

A 3-way Conferencing Model that is student-inclusive is central to this reporting method.

The committee has established that a 3-way student inclusive conferencing model is an optional method of reporting student learning for grades K-7.

Reporting templates to document these formal reports have been added to this package.

The following components must be embedded in student inclusive conferences:

- Kindergarten:
 - Self-Regulation
 - Learning Dispositions
 - Five Areas of Development
- Primary:
 - Self-Regulation
 - Learning Dispositions
 - Content Areas (Literacy, Numeracy, Physical Education, Aesthetic and Artistic Development and Social Responsibility)

➤ Intermediate:

- Literacy and Numeracy – Literacy and Numeracy assessments made by teachers are drawn from all content areas and learning activities including Social Studies, Science, HACE etc.)
- Five Competencies (Communication, Social Responsibility, Critical Thinking, Creative Thinking and Innovation and Personal Responsibility)
Focus on the big ideas not the minutiae.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board approve the three way conferencing model as a reporting option for elementary schools.

Attachments to be distributed.



RECORD

2012-2013

Pursuant to provisions of 72 (1) of the *School Act*, the following report is a general statement of: (a) matters discussed; and (b) the general nature of decisions resolved at the following meetings from which persons other than Trustees or officers of the Board, or both were excluded:

March 13, 2013

Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 12:18 p.m.
Motion of Exclusion	Approved
Correspondence	Received for correspondence
Ordering of Agenda	Approved as amended
Confirmation of Minutes – February 27, 2013	Approved as circulated
Chair Report	Received for information
Secretary Treasurer & Dir. of Human Resources	Approved
Secretary Treasurer & Dir. of Human Resources	Approved
Secretary Treasurer & Dir. of Human Resources	Approved
Secretary Treasurer & Dir. of Human Resources	Approved
Secretary Treasurer & Dir. of Human Resources	Approved
Superintendent Information Items	Received for information
Committee Business	Received for information
Question Period	
Trustee Reports	
Adjournment	Adjourned at 2:41 p.m.