



**PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Wednesday, April 10, 2013 (6:00 PM)  
DEO Board Room**

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**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**

- Patti Bacchus, Chairperson – SD39 (Vancouver) *(March 12, 2013)*
- Honourable Christy Clark, Premier of British Columbia *(April 2, 2013)*
- All Boards of Education *(April 2, 2013)*
- Denise Harper, Chairperson – SD37 (Kamloops/Thompson) *(April 3, 2013)*

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information

**CARRIED**

**2. Ordering of Agenda**

**Additions:**

Chair Report – Comments to the Proposed Preliminary Budget 2013/14

Chair Report – May 8, 2013 Public Board Meeting – Change of Meeting Time

**Moved:** Trustee Carr

**Seconded:** Trustee Palis

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

**CARRIED**

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

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**B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. March 13, 2013 Public Board Meeting Minutes

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Clarkson

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

**CARRIED**

**C. PRESENTATIONS**

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

Director Vandergugten provided background on the requirements of School Growth Plans providing a synopsis of the School Growth Plan goals. All plans are available on the website.

Every School Growth Plan has a target using a continuous improvement model.

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Clarkson

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

**CARRIED**

**D. DELEGATIONS**

**E. CHAIR REPORT**

Proposed Preliminary Budget 2013/14

The Chair read a statement on behalf of the Board acknowledging the challenges with the proposed budget starting with commending all staff for the continued innovation in the School District.

Under the *School Act*, the Board is obligated to adopt a balanced budget.

The Chair referred to correspondence attached to the Agenda whereby the Board with its partner groups, DPAC, CUPE and MRTA, wrote to Premier Christy Clark expressing concern that Boards will be expected to continue absorbing increased costs over which they have no control. The proposed budget is being presented for further input and thanked staff who worked so diligently on meeting the obligation to prepare the budget in a form that meets legislative requirements.

May 8, 2013 Public Board Meeting – Change of Meeting Time

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Clarkson

THAT the May 8, 2013 Public Board meeting commencement time be moved from 6pm to 4pm that evening.

**CARRIED**

**F. DEFERRED ITEMS**

**G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS**

**H. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

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**1. Decision Items****a) Superintendent of Schools**Elementary Reporting Option – David Vandergugten, Director K-12 Education

The Superintendent introduced Director Vandergugten commending him and the committee for the innovative and collaborative work done over the past two years. Director Vandergugten introduced staff members, Ron Lanzarotta, Joanne Rowen, Steven Gray, Barbara Mackinnon, Melanie Roth, Shawna Loutet, Julie Hearn and Mike Saul who presented a video, "Focus on the Big Ideas not the minutiae" which provided the efforts and process taken to achieve the new reporting option. The new reporting option supports students' varied learning styles and documents progress with a truer open dialogue between the teacher, student and parent and points out the students' working to full potential vs. seeking letter grades.

Discussion ensued and comments made regarding secondary reporting. The Board commended the committee on their success and the creativity in higher level thinking. Any new grad requirements may facilitate future changes at the secondary level.

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Clarkson

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

**CARRIED****b) Deputy Superintendent****c) Secretary Treasurer****2. Information Items****a) Superintendent of Schools****b) Deputy Superintendent****c) Secretary Treasurer****I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**2013/14 Proposed Preliminary Operating Budget

The Secretary Treasurer referred to the "Summary of Survey Results" and the "Proposed Preliminary Budget 2013/14". The Base Operating Budget reflects the estimated revenue and expenses for 2013/14 if the School District were to maintain the same level of service that it provided for the 2012/12 school year.

The Base Operating Budget is based on the Board-approved 2012/13 Amended Annual Budget and has been adjusted for:

- Projected enrolment changes (decline of 197 FTE students for 2013/14);
- Projected changes to revenue and staffing due to changes in enrolment;
- Estimated changes to employee salaries and benefits (increases in Teachers' pensions equates to \$1 Million);
- Estimated changes to services, supplies and utilities due to inflation; and
- Adjustments for one time revenue or expenditures in the prior year budget.

The overall shortfall for next year is \$5.66 Million.

The shortfall SD42 is faced with for 2013/14 will continue in future years and any one time funds used to balance the 2013/14 budget are funds that will not be available to balance future years.

The Secretary Treasurer read the “Preliminary Operating Budget Balancing Proposals”.

*Key dates:*

April 17, 2013. Public Budget Committee of the Whole Input meeting. 6:00 p.m. at Maple Ridge Secondary School. Registration is required and can be done through the Executive Assistant, Tracy Orobko, no later than 4:00 p.m. April 15, 2013.

April 24, 2013. The Board will have final deliberation and will adopt the 2013/14 Budget Balancing Proposals.

May 8, 2013. – Formal adoption of the 2013/14 Annual Budget Bylaw. Note: the time has changed to 4:00 p.m.

Trustee Clarkson reported on movements being made by the BC School Trustees’ Association (“BCSTA”) and read a statement of unattaining levels of achievement. BCSTA is moving to make this an issue in the upcoming election - to maintain a level of education for our kids.

A question was asked regarding supplies and services and how much is related to technology to which the Secretary Treasurer confirmed in reductions out of the total budget equating to 8.3 % overall are proposed for supplies and services and for technology the reduction is \$54K.

A statement was made regarding the Pitt Meadows buses reassuring the public that all students will still be served.

Concerns were raised regarding academy buses. Staff confirmed the District will ensure families are aware of students obtaining their own transportation if the change is approved.

Comments were made regarding the rental of facilities where it was confirmed building rentals will only be increased if we can ensure full cost recovery.

A question was asked as to how many jobs will be cut where it was confirmed 5.51 FTE CUPE staff; 32.65 FTE teachers and two Principals. The loss of Principals is tied to declining enrolment and change in formula.

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Carr

THAT the Board work with the District Parent Advisory Council to organize a local all-candidates meeting.

**CARRIED**

**J. QUESTION PERIOD**

**K. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

BCSTA. Trustee Clarkson reported on the upcoming AGM on April 25-28 in Kelowna. All Trustees with exception of one plan to attend.

Fraser Valley BCSTA. Trustees have been asked to complete a survey to obtain feedback so the meetings can be more prolific.

DPAC. Trustee Carr reported on Deputy Meston’s presentation on the calendars and the successful presentation by Director Vandergugten and Richard Eskandar, Manager, Information Technology Services, regarding security concerns on school sites. Trustee Carr commended Glenwood Elementary on all the great work being done at the school.

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Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council. Lindy Sisson, Executive Director, was the recipient of the Presenter of the Year award from the touring council of theatre managers in the province which speaks to the quality of work done.

Social Planning and Advisory. Trustee Nelson reported on Healthy Families BC. Fraser Health is looking to partner with the community. An upcoming presentation will be made on child poverty by Roberta O'Brien of Ridge Meadows Early Childhood.

Good News Items

Trustee Carr reported this year's cross-country events will both be held at Albion.

Trustee Carr reported on the successful RCMP Youth Academy which occurred Spring Break at Stillwood Camp in Chilliwack. 16 students from the district attended. Ridge Meadows Education Foundation supported the program with a \$1000 donation.

Trustees Carr, Clarkson and Nelson attended and commended the Grade 10 Interview Fair held at Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary.

**L. OTHER BUSINESS**

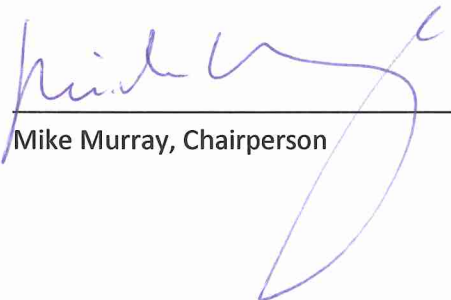
**M. ADJOURNMENT**


**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Carr

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

**CARRIED**

  
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Mike Murray, Chairperson

  
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Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer