



PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Wednesday, February 27, 2013 (6:00 PM)
DEO Board Room

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Board Chairperson – Mike Murray
Vice-Chairperson – Eleanor Palis
Trustee – Susan Carr (part)
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**

- Jamie Brennan, Chair – SD68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) (Feb. 7, 2013)
- Melissa Hyndes, Chairperson – SD43 (Coquitlam) (Feb. 12, 2013)
- Peg Orcherton, Chairperson – SD61 (Greater Victoria) (Feb. 20, 2013)
- Don McRae, Honourable Minister – Ministry of Education (Feb. 22, 2013)

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information

CARRIED

2. **Ordering of Agenda**

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

Additions:

Chair Report: Correspondence – Don McRae, Honourable Minister – Ministry of Education

Chair Report: Alouette River Management Society – Correspondence from the Board

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

CARRIED

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

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. February 13, 2013 Public Board Meeting Minutes

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Nelson

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

CARRIED

C. PRESENTATIONS

Learning Centre Update - Halia Hirniak, District Helping Teacher-Librarian

Ms. Hirniak presented a video highlighting services and staff including the ongoing development of existing school libraries to incorporate 21st century initiatives while providing a Learning Commons atmosphere. All online resources can be accessed through the SD42 website and monthly emails and links are sent to teachers regarding the online resources available. A shift in purchasing has occurred whereby resources include streaming rights via Helix vs. purchasing DVDs. A large part of support focuses on assisting students with finding reliable online resources.

The Chair opened the floor to questions.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board receive Halia Hirniak's Learning Centre update for information.

CARRIED

D. DELEGATIONS

E. CHAIR REPORT

Don McRae, Honourable Minister – Ministry of Education (Feb. 22, 2013)

Moved: Trustee Palis

Seconded: Trustee Nelson

THAT the Board move the correspondence received from the Ministry of Education to the Board Policy Development Committee.

CARRIED

Alouette River Management Society "ARMS" – Letter of Support

The Board spoke to the draft letter of support for a grant application. The organization has done a lot of work with our students to which the Board expressed gratitude.

Moved: Trustee Marshall

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board forward the letter of support to the Alouette River Management Society.

CARRIED

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

2012/2013 Amended Budget Bylaw

The amended budget for 2012/2013 is attached to the Agenda. As the School District is anticipating a shortfall for 2013/2014, the proposed transfer to Local Capital will provide a minimal contingency reserve for next year. There is still a lot of work to be done in terms of balancing the budget for 2013/2014.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Board approve the transfer of \$249,999 from the Operating Fund to Local Capital to be used for Capital Lease payments due in 2012/2013.

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board approve the transfer of any unrestricted surplus for 2012/2013 (currently estimated to be \$0.97 million) to Local Capital to potentially be used to assist in offsetting the 2013/2014 projected funding shortfall.

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT The Amended Budget Bylaw of the Board for the Fiscal year 2012/2013 be given three (3) readings at this meeting. (vote must be unanimous)

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2012/2013 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw be:

Read a first time on the 27th day of February, 2013;

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

Read a second time on the 27th day of February, 2013;

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

Read a third time, passed and adopted on the 27th day of February, 2013.

CARRIED

Financial Statements – Second Quarter

The Chair introduced the financial statements and opened the floor to questions.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Board approve the second quarter financial statements.

CARRIED

Board Policy Approval 9410: Safe, Caring and Healthy Schools

The Board was pleased to announce and gave appreciation to all the students, MRTA Social Justice Committee, and the Board Policy Development Committee for taking the time to process and develop the policy. A question was asked regarding the next step of developing and implementing the policy guidelines. The Superintendent met with Bruce Cunnings, Safe Schools Coordinator, whose plan now will be to create a task force made up of students and teachers to develop the procedures, education and awareness pieces.

Moved: Trustee Carr

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board approve policy 9410: Safe, Caring and Healthy Schools for implementation.

CARRIED

2. Information Items

a) Superintendent of Schools

b) Deputy Superintendent

Kindergarten Registration Enrolment Update

The Deputy Superintendent provided an update. At the time of the Agenda preparation, enrolment totaled 958. As of today's date, enrolment is at 963. Much positive feedback was received with respect to the process of siblings receiving priority registration.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Board receive the Kindergarten registration report attached to the Agenda as of February 22, 2013, for information.

CARRIED

c) Secretary Treasurer

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Inclusive Education. Trustee Clarkson reported on his attendance at the Inclusive Education meeting last evening. In summary, it was suggested information be added to the School District website. Other topics included threat assessment, grade 7/8 transition meeting, kindergarten orientation, 'life after' transition parent night, and forming a sub-committee to make the community as a whole, more aware of making work experience opportunities available in the community.

French Immersion. Trustee Nelson reported there will be a survey to educators and parents of French immersion students to do a full review of what is and what is not working with the program forming part of the data gathering.

J. QUESTION PERIOD

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS

BC School Trustees' Association. Trustee Clarkson reported on items discussed at the Provincial Council meeting last weekend. Highlights from the presentation given by Deputy Minister James Gorman were provided.

April 25, 2013 is being declared Education Day and Boards are encouraged to create their own plans to raise public education as an issue in their communities.

Trustee Carr exited the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

The Ministry of Education budget announcement is coming on March 15th and will indicate potential challenges.

The Chair advised that the Board met with the four partner groups today and information will be posted to the School District website tomorrow including a survey for the public in terms of where we should go with respect to cuts to funding levels.

District Parent Advisory Council. The next meeting is scheduled for March 7th.

Parks and Leisure Services. Trustee Rempel reported on a concept for a water park being planned for Albion sports complex and the BC Summer Games were awarded to Abbotsford.

Municipal Advisory and Accessibility. Trustee Marshall reported on the upcoming accessibility awards. The committee is seeking nominations for people and/or organizations that have gone above and beyond in making a difference in the lives of people with disabilities.

Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council. Trustee Rempel reported Vice-President, Vickie McLeod resigned. In her place is Ray Wallace. The six month financial report was received and an RFP has commenced for an auditor. Sue Wheeler is working on buying a new artist in residence facility.

Ridge Meadows Education Foundation. Trustee Marshall reported on upcoming fundraising events including a hot dog sale at both Marks' Work Warehouse and Canadian Tire; "Runners for Kids" is being planned. The fee paid will provide a voucher for a family to get a pair of runners. RMEF made a \$1000 donation to the RCMP Youth Academy to assist students in attending the academy.

Tzu Chi Foundation. Trustee Rempel announced the dispersing of \$6K in our School District.

Youth Society. Trustee Marshall reported on a presentation regarding homeschooling. That association is seeking venues for their students to meet.

Good News Items

Chair Murray reported and thanked the Salvation Army who for their community support of maintaining the brown bag lunch program and supplied 150 school supply kits and backpacks.

March 5th - Riverside Social Justice 12 program at the Act.

Reports were provided on the successful MRSS Grad Transitions day, Garibaldi Secondary's production of the play "9 To 5" and the pole raising ceremony.

Chair Murray reported on the successful work day in Langley with School District No. 35's Board of Education.

L. OTHER BUSINESS


M. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Trustee Rempel


Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

CARRIED



Mike Murray, Chairperson



Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer