
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 – Janice Allen

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

- a) Don McRae, Honourable Minister – Ministry of Education
- b) Donna Sargent, Chair – Metro Branch Board of Education
- c) Laura Dixon, Chair – SD37 (Delta)
- d) Patti Bacchus, Chair – SD39 (Vancouver)
- e) Michael Ewen, Chair – SD40 (New Westminster)
- f) Melissa Hyndes, Chair – SD43 (Coquitlam)
- g) Dr. Jeanette Scott, Chair – SD47 (Powell River)
- h) Rick Price, Chair – SD48 (Sea to Sky)
- i) Sharel Warrington, Chair – SD57 (Prince George)
- j) G. Wayne Hunter, Chair – SD63 (Saanich)
- k) Michele Babchuk, Chair – SD72 (Campbell River)
- l) Linda Dolen, Chair – SD81 (Fort Nelson)

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information.

CARRIED

2. Ordering of Agenda

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

THAT the Board move the Delegation Nicole Read – Silver Valley School Site - to the top of the presentation order.

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

CARRIED

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

George Serra, President, MRTA spoke to the Powell River letter. The Chair noted the matter was dealt with in a Closed Board meeting and the letter was requested and returned in confidence to BCPSEA.

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. January 16, 2012 Public Board Meeting Minutes

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Minutes of the January 16, 2012 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS

Nicole Read – Silver Valley School Site

Ms. Read advised the Board that the decision to release the Silvery Valley school site would have a significant impact in the neighbourhood and there was also a concern of the lack of transparency in reaching this decision. A PowerPoint presentation was provided outlining the concerns of the Action Silver Valley group and asked that the Board reconsider their position. The Chair thanked Ms. Read, requested a copy of the presentation, and advised the Board would take the presentation under advisement.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the information provided by the delegation be received by the Board.

CARRIED

D. PRESENTATIONS

Learning Centre Update – Halia Hirniak, District Teacher-Librarian

Due to illness the presentation will be rescheduled.

Inquiry Project – Rory Payment, Facilitator Information Technology and David Vandergugten, Director of Instruction, K-12 Education

Rory Payment advised the Board that the Inquiry Project has been running for four years and involved 850 students in Grades 6 and 7 from across the district. Apple TV technology presentations were made by students from Highland Park, Yennadon and Pitt Meadows Elementary schools highlighting the use of their iPad's showcasing their projects and their ease of discussion and interaction.

Inquiry project empowers students in their ability to learn and collaborate no matter where they are and having access to rich and meaningful context that meets the needs of all the students. It provides, transforms and enhances learning opportunities and real world learning. From a teacher's point of view the inquiry project provides an opportunity for a creative learning environment.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Board receive the Inquiry Project presentation for information.

CARRIED

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 – 2013 – 3014 District Local School Calendar

Senior staff is recommending the continued use of a similar calendar structure for the 2013/14 school year. The calendars meet the required minutes of instruction outlined in the regulations. A notation was made of the back-to-back non-instructional days in September with the plan to have Alfie Kohn as the keynote speaker on September 23rd date with a communication plan in place.

The calendars will be shared with the public on the School District website from January 31 to March 1, 2013 with a request for public feedback. The feedback will be reviewed by senior staff and recommendations will be submitted to the Board at the March 13, 2013 Public Board meeting.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board of Education approve the calendars attached to the Agenda, be shared with the public in order to receive public feedback.

CARRIED

c) Secretary Treasurer

2. Information Items

a) Superintendent of Schools

b) Deputy Superintendent

c) Secretary Treasurer

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Inclusive Education Trustee Clarkson advised the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 4, 2013 at THSS – 7:00 p.m.

Education Trustee Palis attended the successful French Immersion Kindergarten open meeting noting low attendance.

J. QUESTION PERIOD

A member of the public advised of her concern with the late start practice at secondary schools and questioned why late start was not part of the calendar to which it was responded that late start Friday's were not part of the calendar process and that secondary students were in session seven days longer than in past years so instructional minutes were not lost. Conceptually, late start allows for teacher collaboration which has research based improved results.

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Joint Parks and Leisure Services An update was provided on the community garden proposal on land owned by the municipality (Edge Street and 121 Avenue) which will be connected with Eric Langton Elementary and the large senior's population in the area.

Chairperson Murray noted the issue of safety and hygiene had been raised regarding dog use of school playgrounds and park land. There is consideration being made to restricting dogs to certain areas on public property.

Municipal Advisory & Accessibility Trustee Marshall reported on the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society which has initiated a campaign to rebuild the Bell-Irving Hatchery and construct an accompanying Watershed Stewardship Centre and are seeking funds to complete their project. Donations and information: www.pacificparklands.com

Tzu Chi Foundation The Board Chair was in contact with the Tzu Chi Foundation and was impressed by the number of projects they have underway throughout the Lower Mainland and globally.

Good News Items

Trustee Palis reported on the successful Thomas Haney Secondary "The Call to Action" Personalized Learning Conference where lots of interest was shown from around the Province.

Trustee Carr attended the retirement open house for Don Koehn noting there were many in attendance. Mr. Koehn was very supportive, innovative and will be missed.

Chair Murray reported:

- On the sad loss of one of the School District's custodians, Scott Botterill, expressing condolences to the family;
- He will be moderating a forum with Social Justice on homelessness March 5th at 1:30 p.m.; and
- Commended the elementary class that had been on Skype with Astronaut, Chris Hatfield.

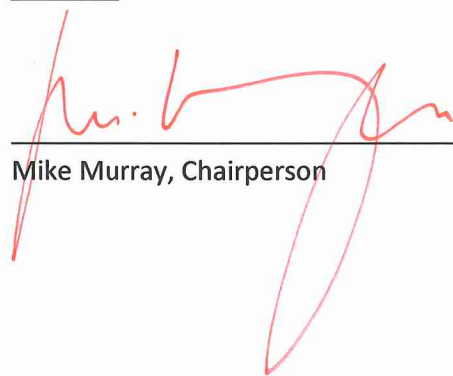
L. OTHER BUSINESS**M. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

CARRIED



Mike Murray, Chairperson



Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer