



PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Wednesday, June 27, 2012 (6:00 PM)
DEO Board Room

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 – Wayne Jefferson
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 – School District No. 39 (Vancouver) (*June 8, 2012*)
- Jamie Brennan, Chairperson – School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith)

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information

CARRIED

2. **Ordering of Agenda**

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

Additions/Amendments:

Patti Bacchus, Chairperson – School District No. 39 (Vancouver) (*June 19, 2012*)

George Abbott, Honourable Minister – Ministry of Education (*June 27, 2012*)

Moved to Trustee Motions: Correspondence – Patti Bacchus, Chairperson, School District No. 39 (Vancouver) (*June 19, 2012*)

Remove: Secretary Treasurer Decision Item – Carbon Trust Capital Bylaw – Carbon Trust Projects

Trustee Reports: BCPSEA Report – Trustee Palis

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

CARRIED

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

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES1. June 13, 2012 Public Board Meeting Minutes**Moved:** Trustee Rempel**Seconded:** Trustee Carr

THAT the Minutes of the June 13, 2012 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED**C. PRESENTATIONS**1. Bruce Grady, District Principal, Jessie Hill and Friends – Community Literacy Committee (“CLC”)

Bruce Grady, representing CLC, provided a historical look at literacy in the district and introduced Co-Chair, Jessie Hill; Facilitator, Elaine Yamamoto; and Literacy Outreach Workers, Angie McLeod and Shanti Ang.

The presentation included highlights of the successes, new initiatives and partnership with the Fraser Valley Regional Library. A handout was provided.

Acknowledgement was made to all persons involved including Community Literacy Committee, Volunteers, Tutors, Partner Organizations and Businesses, and those who give their time and energy to support literacy in our community.

Discussion on the successes and energy of the committee ensued. The group requested suggestions of the Board and the public for ideas on literacy with the idea the more collaboration, the better: “Develop the tools to live well”.

Moved: Trustee Carr**Seconded:** Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board receive the Community Literacy Community presentation for information.

CARRIED2. Natalie Baxter - Montessori Society

Natalie Baxter provided handouts and a power point presentation highlighting the history and foundation of Montessori which focuses on:

- practical life, independence;
- freedom within limits
- respect for a child’s natural development;
- sensorial, cultural and language areas;
- multi-age classrooms; and
- student choice of activity.

The Chair opened the floor to questions and comments.

Guests included Patricia Patrick, teacher, and students Molly Roberts and Nathan Irwin who displayed their reading ability with a power point presentation on building a community.

Moved: Trustee Carr**Seconded:** Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board receive the Montessori Society presentation for information.

CARRIED

3. Tony Cotroneo, Recreation Manager Youth and Neighbourhood Services and
Christa Balatti, Manager, Health and Wellness Leisure Centre

Mr. Cotroneo provided two power points from the District of Maple Ridge and the City of Pitt Meadows highlighting the Healthy Communities initiative. Recreation Services has excellent partnerships with the School District and assists with creating leadership opportunities for youth.

Highlights included:

- drop in activities at Planet Ice and Pitt Meadows Arena;
- Active Kids Club;
- providing safe and secure environments regardless of a child's abilities;
- youth action park at Thomas Haney Secondary;
- youth mentorship programs;
- grade 5 active pass born out of a healthy communities initiative;

A request of support from the School District in assisting with disseminating information to teachers and families was made and a further request was made to attend an upcoming Principals' meeting.

The Chair opened the floor to questions.

Moved: Trustee Carr

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board receive the Parks and Leisure Services Commission presentation for information.

CARRIED

D. DELEGATIONS

E. CHAIR REPORT

F. DEFERRED ITEMS

G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS

Moved: Trustee Nelson

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board write a letter to the MOE acknowledging the difficult position that many school boards are facing in submitting a balanced budget, and how support for Cowichan Board in highlighting the need for restorative budget.

MOTION FAILED (In Favour: Trustee Clarkson)

Discussion ensued regarding the support of a letter. It was agreed to defeat the motion and put a new one on the floor.

Moved: Trustee Palis

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board write a letter to the Minister of Education in reference to the Vancouver School Board letter supporting Cowichan Valley School Board urging the Ministry of Education to consult with communities and school districts across the Province to craft budgets that meet learning needs of students.

CARRIED

Ridge Meadows Education Foundation. Chairperson Kathie Ward has announced she will be stepping down.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board write a letter to outgoing Chairperson, Kathie Ward, expressing their appreciation for her efforts as Chair of the Ridge Meadows Education Foundation.

CARRIED

H. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

1. Decision Items

a) Superintendent of Schools

Achievement Contract 2012

The Superintendent reported on the presentation made to the Board earlier today. The Board recognized and acknowledged the meticulous work involved with the Achievement Contract. The Achievement Contract will be posted to site once approved.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board ratify the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2012 Achievement Contract which is to be submitted to the Ministry of Education by July 15, 2012.

CARRIED

b) Deputy Superintendent

c) Secretary Treasurer

Final Annual 2012-2013 Budget

The Secretary Treasurer introduced how the Board arrived at a balanced budget. Protecting the classroom was a mantra and guiding principle throughout the budget process. The predicted year ending of declining enrolment is 2015. This year the Ministry continued its provision of funding protection held at 98% which was sufficient to balance the budget with a small surplus.

Some highlights included:

- providing additional hours for SEA's due to increased enrollment;
- protecting a small amount of money to cover unexpected challenges;
- purchasing of equipment long overdue and needed for staff and for the facilities department to be more efficient;
- providing for the Environmental school and accounting for its growth by another 20 students.

Overall the School District is in a good financial state and there is confidence, when the year end is closed, the district will have a small surplus and a very good financial state to manage its affairs. The Board will receive additional funding via learning improvement fund in addition to its operating grants.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT all decisions taken by the 2012-2013 Budget Committee of the Whole during its deliberations regarding the Operating Budget totaling \$145,228,457 and summarized in this report, be approved by the Board for implementation.

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT pursuant to Part E, Bylaws and Resolutions, Section 3.01 subsection (d), the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) Preliminary 2012/2013 Operating Annual Budget Bylaw be given three (3) readings at this meeting (vote must be unanimous).

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) Preliminary 2012/2013 Operating Annual Budget Bylaw be approved as read a first time.

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) Preliminary 2012/2013 Operating Annual Budget Bylaw be approved as read a second time.

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Clarkson

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) Preliminary 2012/2013 Operating Annual Budget Bylaw be approved as read a third time and finally adopted.

CARRIED

Proposed Draft Policy: Safe, Caring and Healthy Schools

The Secretary Treasurer indicated that the draft policy is not quite ready to put out to the public as the committee would like to work more closely with the Maple Ridge Teachers' Association's Social Justice Committee and students.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Board authorize the Board Policy Development Committee to extend an invitation to the Maple Ridge Teacher's Association's Social Justice Committee and students to meet with the Board Policy Development Committee in the Fall to provide feedback on the proposed "Safe, Caring and Healthy Schools" draft policy.

CARRIED

2. Information Items

a) Superintendent of Schools

Playgrounds Capital Bylaw – Playground Funding

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board pass Capital Project Bylaw No. 126502 – Playground Equipment Grant for 2012-2013 at this meeting with three (3) readings, unanimously.

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Carr

Seconded: Trustee Nelson

THAT the Board pass Capital Project Bylaw No. 126502 – Playground Equipment Grant for 2012-2013 as read a first time.

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Clarkson

Seconded: Trustee Nelson

THAT the Board pass Capital Project Bylaw No. 126502 – Playground Equipment Grant for 2012-2013 as read a second time.

CARRIED

Moved: Trustee Clarkson

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Board pass Capital Project Bylaw No. 126502 – Playground Equipment Grant for 2012-2013 as read a third time and finally adopted.

CARRIED

b) Deputy Superintendent

Changing Results for Young Readers

The Deputy Superintendent referred to the report attached in the Agenda and provided background on concepts used to build the whole child enabling readiness to learn with the assistance of an early learning resource team which defines actions at both the Ministry and District levels.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board receive the Deputy Superintendent's report on Changing Results for Young Readers for information.

CARRIED

c) Secretary Treasurer

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

J. QUESTION PERIOD

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS

BC Public School Employers' Association. Trustee Palis reported on a conference call earlier today highlighting the positive steps taken in a right direction for both parties to seek resolution. The priority for teachers in the fall is advocacy for student class size and composition. The largest component was focused on a common benefits plan across the Province where approximately 50 school districts will be working with a common benefit provider (Pacific Blue Cross) trying to harmonize and standardize for consistencies for all teachers in the Province.

The Board passed a motion earlier this day providing direction to Trustee Palis, BCPSEA Trustee Representative, to vote in favour of ratifying the collective agreement reached between BCPSEA and the BC Teachers' Federation.

The Board commented on the great graduation events and offered a huge thanks to parents and staff that made the graduations and grade 7 leaving ceremonies so successful.

The Board thanked all the organizations that provided scholarship and bursaries opportunities for students.

The Chair thanked all Trustees for doing their part and words of wisdom while attending the many ceremonies and further thanked the Board for the first six months of their term as an elected Board.

L. OTHER BUSINESS

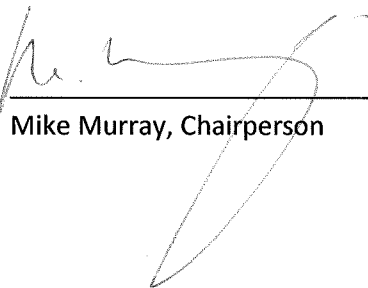
M. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Trustee Rempel

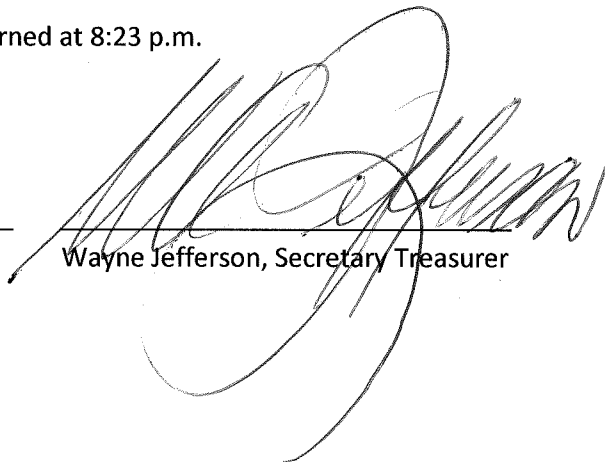
Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

CARRIED



Mike Murray, Chairperson



Wayne Jefferson, Secretary Treasurer