

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Board Chairperson – Mike Murray  
Vice Chairperson – Eleanor Palis  
Trustee – Lisa Beare  
Trustee – Susan Carr  
Trustee – Korleen Carreras  
Trustee – Ken Clarkson

**STAFF:**

Superintendent – Sylvia Russell  
Secretary Treasurer – Flavia Coughlan  
Deputy Superintendent – Laurie Meston  
Executive Assistant – Karen Yoxall

**ABSENT:**

Trustee – Dave Rempel

**A. OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. The Chair welcomed and thanked everyone for attending. The Board Chair acknowledged that this meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of Katzie First Nation and Kwantlen First Nation.

2. Correspondence

**Moved/Seconded**

- Darrel Ganzert, Chair, School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia)
- Tanya Guenther, Chair, School District No. 27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin)
- Christopher Richardson, Chair, School District No. 39 (Vancouver)
- Betty Baxter, Chair, School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast)
- Dr. Jeanette Scott, Chair, School District No. 47 (Powell River)
- Tina Last, Chair, School District No. 52 (Prince Rupert)
- Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Chair, School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
- Dot Neary, Chair, School District No. 68 (Nanaimo Ladysmith)
- Larry Ransom, Chair, School District No. 70 (Alberni)
- Denise Harper, Chair, School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)
- Linda McMullan, Chair, School District No. 78 (Fraser-Cascade)
- Art Erasmus, Chair, School District No. 82 (Coast Mountains)
- Leighton Wishart, Chair, School District No. 85 (Vancouver Island North)
- Steve Davis, Chair, School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes)
- Dave Byng, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education
- John Horgan, MLA and Rob Fleming, MLA
- Alison McVeigh, President, BCSTA Fraser Valley Branch

Trustee Clarkson requested that the correspondence from Dot Neary, Chair, School District No. 68 (Nanaimo Ladysmith) be moved from Correspondence to Information Items, Chairperson.

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information.

**CARRIED**

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3. Approval of Agenda

**Moved/Seconded**

Trustee Clarkson informed the Board that he would be posing a question on the Foundation Skills Assessment under Question Period.

**Amendments/Additions:**

**Move from Correspondence to Information Items, Chairperson:**

Correspondence from Dot Neary, Chair, School District No. 68 (Nanaimo Ladysmith)

**Add to Question Period:**

Foundation Skills Assessment

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

**CARRIED**

4. Invitation for Public Input to matters on the Agenda

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. December 10, 2014 Public Board Meeting Minutes

**Moved/Seconded**

THAT the Minutes of the December 10, 2014 Inaugural Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**C. PRESENTATIONS**

1. Prime Minister's Certificate of Achievement Award – Scott Ormiston

**Moved/Seconded**

The Superintendent presented Scott Ormiston with the Prime Minister's Certificate of Achievement Award and acknowledged his career accomplishments.

THAT the Board receive the recognition of the Prime Minister's Certificate of Achievement Award to Scott Ormiston, for information.

**CARRIED**

**D. DELEGATIONS**

a) Late French Immersion Program at Golden Ears Elementary

**Moved/Seconded**

Owen Smith and Vanessa Park, parents in School District No. 42, presented information on the Late French Immersion Program at Golden Ears Elementary. Benefits, issues, program and staffing instability, and a request to amend a previous board decision on the Late French Immersion Program at Golden Ears Elementary were included in their presentation.

THAT the Board receive the information on the Late French Immersion Program at Golden Ears Elementary from Vanessa Park, for information.

**CARRIED**

**E. DEFERRED ITEMS**

**F. DECISION ITEMS**

1. Chairperson
2. Superintendent of Schools

a) Superintendent's Report on Student Achievement

**Moved/Seconded**

The Superintendent reported that the Superintendent's Report on Student Achievement was prepared in accordance with Section 22 and Section 79.3 of the School Act. Six year graduation rates, the district literacy framework, personal and social responsibility, and the satisfaction survey were explained.

Trustee Carr requested information on the number of Leaving Certificates issued, which type of students they were issued to and the percentage of graduates receiving Leaving Certificates.

THAT the Board approve the Superintendent's Report on Student Achievement for 2014/15 for submission to the Minister of Education no later than January 31, 2015.

**CARRIED**

3. Secretary Treasurer
4. Board Committees
  - a) Finance
  - b) Budget
  - c) Board Policy Development

**G. INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Chairperson

a) Dot Neary, Chair, School District No. 68 (Nanaimo Ladysmith)

Discussion ensued on the correspondence from Dot Neary, Chair, School District No. 68 (Nanaimo Ladysmith) and the newly created Teacher Education Fund.

2. Superintendent of Schools

a) 2015/16 Carbon Neutral Capital Program – Project Proposals

**Moved/Seconded**

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the Ministry of Education had issued a call for projects for the 2015/16 Carbon Neutral Capital Program.

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the School District had engaged Quantum Lighting Inc. and SES Consulting Inc. to perform detailed energy analysis of all the District's buildings, including elementary and secondary schools. The energy assessments prepared by Quantum Lighting and SES Consulting identified Thomas Haney Secondary School as having the greatest potential energy savings. The Thomas Haney retrofit project and the hiring of an Energy Manager were previously approved by the Board as part of the Energy Management Program.

Clarification was requested on the use of AFG funds and the potential savings from the Thomas Haney retrofit project.

THAT the Board receive the proposed Thomas Haney retrofit project submitted to the Ministry of Education as part of the 2015/16 Carbon Neutral Capital Program, for information.

**CARRIED**

b) 2014/15 Ministry of Education Recalculated Funding Allocations

**Moved/Seconded**

The Secretary Treasurer reported that on December 19, 2014 the Ministry of Education communicated to school districts the 2014/15 recalculated funding allocations based on actual October 17, 2014 enrolment and educator salary data.

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the School District would receive an additional \$1.74 million in funding. The Secretary Treasurer explained that the major differences between the preliminary estimate of \$114.37 million and the updated estimate of \$116.11 million.

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the provincial holdback allocation for the School District was 1.05 million. Holdback allocations were issued by the Ministry of Education to schools as a \$71 per student supplemental grant.

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the additional \$1.74 million in funding would be considered in the preparation of the amended budget together with cost pressures identified after the 2014/15 Preliminary Budget was adopted.

Clarification was requested on per pupil funding and the distribution of holdback funds.

THAT the Board: receive the Secretary Treasurer's report for information.

**CARRIED**

3. Secretary Treasurer
4. Board Committees & Advisory & Advisory Committee Reports

- a) Finance
- b) Budget
- c) Board Policy Development
- d) Education
- e) Aboriginal Education
- f) Inclusive Education

Trustee Clarkson reported that incoming kindergarten, the grade 7/grade 8 transition process, the gifted program and the terms of reference for the Inclusive Education Committee were discussed at the meeting held on January 13, 2015.

- g) French Immersion Advisory
- h) District Student Advisory
- i) Round Table with Partners

**H. TRUSTEE MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

1. Draft Motion to BC School Trustees Association

**Moved/Seconded**

Discussion ensued on the wording of the draft motion.

THAT the Board approve the submission of the following motion to the BC School Trustee Association for consideration:

Whereas Boards of Education in British Columbia have experienced significant funding shortfalls over the past several years resulting in substantial cuts to educational resources and programs;

And whereas the Provincial Government is committed to achieve a balanced budget in an inflationary environment without additional revenues, resulting in Boards of Education having to make significant cuts to their operations which will have a negative impact on student performance;

And whereas it is clear the amount included in the annual provincial education budget is not based on the needs of the system;

Now therefore be it resolved that the BC School Trustees Association establish a regionally balanced education funding committee which would:

- a. work with all Boards of Education in the Province, the BC Association of School Business Officials, the BC School Superintendents Association and the Ministry of Education each year to establish the level of funding required to meet the needs of students attending public schools in British Columbia;
- b. make recommendations to the Province on the level of funding and required revenues including taxation required to meet those needs;
- c. make recommendations on the funding formula and the budget process including the practice of holding back funding.

**CARRIED**

2. Nomination for BCSTA Officer

**Moved/Seconded**

THAT the Board nominate Trustee Ken Clarkson for the Office of Director with BCSTA.

**CARRIED**

**I. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

BC School Trustees Association Provincial Council

Trustee Clarkson explained that motions to the BC School Trustees Association Provincial Council are required to be emerging motions only.

Joint Parks and Leisure Services

It was reported that at the last meeting the Chair and Vice Chair were elected, a proposal for three new dog parks and repairs at the Maple Ridge Leisure Centre were discussed.

Good News

Trustee Carreras and Trustee Carr reported on the Christmas concerts that they had attended. Trustee Carr provided information on a drug forum that is being organized by Alouette Addictions. The Board Chair reported that the School District had donated 7 tons of food to the food bank.

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## **J. QUESTION PERIOD**

Trustee Clarkson requested clarification on how information on the Foundation Skills Assessment is distributed to parents in this district. The Superintendent confirmed that a letter had been distributed to parents on the parent portal providing the dates for the assessments. The Superintendent explained that the Foundation Skills Assessment is a Ministry of Education requirement and that parents can opt out if they do not wish for their children to participate in these assessments.

Trustee Palis requested an update on the impact of the cuts to clerical staffing. The Superintendent explained that feedback will be received from the Partner Groups on the impact of the budget driven changes implemented as part of the 2014/15 Preliminary Budget on January 28, 2015. The Deputy Superintendent reported that there was a meeting scheduled with clerical staff on January 15, 2015.

Trustee Carreras requested clarification on the grade 7/grade 8 transition process.

A CUPE representative requested clarification on the impact of the 2014/15 Ministry of Education Recalculated Funding Allocations on the 2015/16 budget.

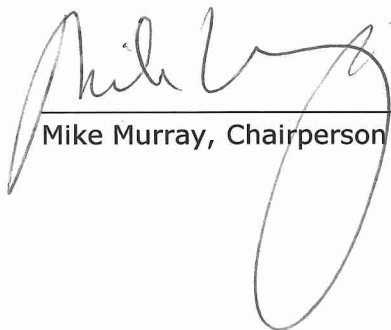
## **K. OTHER BUSINESS**

## **L. ADJOURNMENT**

### **Moved/Seconded**

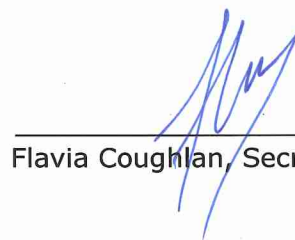
THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

**CARRIED**



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Mike Murray, Chairperson



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Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer