



**PUBLIC MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Wednesday, January 25, 2012
6:00 p.m.

District Education Office
22225 Brown Avenue
Boardroom

A G E N D A

"People rarely succeed unless they have fun in what they are doing."

A - OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order
2. Correspondence
 - a) Eden Haythornthwaite, Chairperson – School District No. 79 (Cowichan Valley)*
 - b) Wm. Turanski, Chairperson – School District No. 22 (Vernon)*
3. Ordering of Agenda

B- CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. January 11, 2012*

C – PRESENTATIONS

1. Achievement Contract – David Vandergugten,
Director of Instruction, K-12 Education

D – DELEGATIONS

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
 - c) Secretary Treasurer
 - i. Amended Budget
 - ii. Budget Timelines

2. Information Items
 - a) Superintendent of Schools
 - b) Deputy Superintendent
 - c) Secretary Treasurer

I – COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Committees of the Whole
 - a) 2011 - 2012 Finance
 - b) 2012 - 2013 Budget
 - c) Advocacy
 - d) Human Resources
2. Committee & Advisory Committee Reports
 - a) Aboriginal Education
 - b) Board Policy Development
 - c) District Student Advisory
 - d) Education
 - e) French Immersion Advisory
 - f) Inclusive Education
 - g) Transportation

J – QUESTION PERIOD

1. Trustee Questions
2. Staff Questions
3. Employee Group Questions
4. DPAC Questions
5. Public Questions

K – TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. BC School Trustee Association Provincial Council
2. District Parent Advisory Council
3. Joint Parks and Leisure Services
4. Municipal Advisory & Accessibility
5. Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council
6. Ridge Meadows Education Foundation
7. Social Planning Advisory
8. Tzu Chi Foundation
9. Youth Society
10. Other Trustee Reports
 - a) Good News Items
 - b) Public Disclosure of Closed Meeting Business*

L – OTHER BUSINESS

M – ADJOURNMENT



To: Board of Education

From: Chairperson
Mike Murray

Re: **CORRESPONDENCE**

Date: January 25, 2012
(Public Board Meeting)

Information

1. Eden Haythornthwaite, Chairperson – School District No. 5 (Cowichan Valley)
2. Wm. Turanski, Chairperson – School District No. 22 (Vernon)

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information.

Attachments

COWICHAN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

January 13, 2012

The Honourable George Abbott
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC
V8X 9E2

via email to minister.educ@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Abbott,

Re: Organization of Classes Report

Our Board in Cowichan passed a motion on January 4th 2012 rejecting the Organization of Classes Report offered by our senior staff for the month of November. This does not imply any criticism of our staff but certainly speaks to the board's deep dismay over the conditions which prevail in our classrooms.

We have been receiving the Organization of Classes Reports for many years. Trustees have always raised questions and concerns regarding the contraventions of Bill 33. As we do not believe these conditions are appropriate for student learning, this board has decided to take this step. Our board believes remaining silent signifies we are in agreement with the circumstances revealed by these reports.

In October 2011, we had 256 classes in our schools out of approximately 1200 classes which had class size and/or composition violations. In November 2011, 247 classes failed to meet the modest guidelines Bill 33 sets out. While the board is certain all the correct steps are followed and the paperwork is in order, this is hardly the point.

While the numbers on paper are discouraging, the reality in our classrooms is the true test. A test which is failed repeatedly while our employees struggle valiantly and our children miss out. Our educational leaders are expected to waste the precious time they might use for engaging with students and doing what they were so carefully trained to do in order to deliberate over bureaucratic procedures which bear no fruit and serve only to demoralize our families and our staff.

The board does not know the true cost of maintaining this oppressive record keeping but it seems likely whatever the cost may be, it would be better spent on resourcing our classrooms and nurturing our programs and services. After all, despite years of adhering to the processes demanded by Bill 33, we have seen no improvement in the conditions in our classrooms and it seems likely this will continue.

The Honourable George Abbott
January 13, 2012
Page 2

The Board of Education SD #79 invites the ministry to step up and resolve the many breaches of Bill 33 our district has outlined. A good start would be to provide funding which will allow us to staff our classrooms so our students can enjoy equal opportunities for learning in keeping with their needs and the commitment of our hardworking employees.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eden Haythornthwaite".

Eden Haythornthwaite
Chair, Board of Education

cc: BCSTA
All BC School Districts

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 22 (VERNON)

January 19, 2012

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
1401 - 15th STREET
VERNON, BRITISH COLUMBIA
V1T 8S8
TELEPHONE 250-542-3331
FAX 250-549-9200

Mr. Michael McEvoy
President, Board of Directors
BCSTA

e-mail mmcevoy@sd61.bc.ca
Fax (604)732-4559

Dear Mr. McEvoy

The Board of Education of School District No.22 (Vernon) has requested me to write you to express our serious concern about the state of bargaining between the British Columbia Teachers' Federation and the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association.

The bargaining has been going on for well over ten months and there has been no movement at the table.

Our Board encourages you to use your position to influence the two parties to bargain constructively so as to reach an agreement without delay. The future of our students depends on this.

On behalf of the Board of Education, School District No. 22 (Vernon), please forward the attached documents to all Boards of Education.

Should you require more information on our position, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Wm. Turanski
Board Chair

copy: MLA Eric Foster
BCSTA
Vernon PVP Association



... a great place to learn

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 22 (VERNON)

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
1401 - 15th STREET
VERNON, BRITISH COLUMBIA
V1T 8S8
TELEPHONE 250-542-3331
FAX 250-549-0200

January 19, 2012

The Honourable George Abbot
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

FAX: (250) 387-3200

Dear Mr. Minister:

The Board of Education of School District No.22 (Vernon) has requested me to write to express our serious concern about the state of bargaining between the British Columbia Teachers' Federation and the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association. The bargaining has been going on for well over ten months and there has been little movement at the table.

Our Board encourages you to use your position to influence the two parties to bargain constructively so as to reach an agreement without delay. The future of our students depends on this.

Should you require more information on our position, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Wm. Turanski
Board Chair

copy: MLA Eric Foster
BCSTA
Vernon PVP Association
CUPE
DPAC
VTA



... a great place to learn

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 22 (VERNON)

January 19, 2012

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
1401 - 15th STREET
VERNON, BRITISH COLUMBIA
V1T 8S8
TELEPHONE 250-542-3331
FAX 250-549-9200

Dear Ms. Joy
Chair of Board BCPSEA
e-mail mjoy@sd8.bc.ca

Ms. Lambert
President BCTF
susan@bctf.ca

The Board of Education of School District No.22 (Vernon) has requested me to write you to express our serious concern about the state of bargaining between the British Columbia Teachers' Federation and the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association.

The bargaining has been going on for well over ten months and there has been little movement at the table.

Our Board encourages you to use your position to influence the two parties to bargain constructively so as to reach an agreement without delay. The future of our students depends on this.

Should you require more information on our position, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Wm. Turanski
Board Chair

copy: MLA Eric Foster
BCSTA
Vernon PVP Association
CUPE
DPAC
VTA



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To: Board of Education

From: Chairperson
Mike Murray

Re: **ORDERING OF AGENDA**

Date: January 25, 2012
(Public Board Meeting)

Decision

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Agenda be ordered as circulated.



To: Board of Education

From: Chairperson
Mike Murray

Re: **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Date: January 25, 2012
(Public Board Meeting)

Decision

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Minutes of the January 11, 2012 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

Attachment



**PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Wednesday, January 11, 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
Acting 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

- Frank Lento, Chairperson – School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay)
- George Abbott, Honourable Minister – Ministry of Education

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:

Moved to third item of business: Acting Deputy Superintendent's – Catchment Review: Eastern Schools Catchment Changes.

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.

Lorie Firth, parent at Alexander Robinson Elementary, provided her comments on the direct impact of displaced siblings and further spoke to concerns by handing out a photograph of her children requesting consideration to prioritizing children.

Brent Green, parent resident in subdivision just past Jackson Hill, expressed concerns regarding his children being placed in Webster's Corners Elementary catchment for reasons including the travel distance in the opposite direction each day and had moved to the area prior to development and catchment review issues.

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. November 30, 2011 Public Board Meeting Minutes

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Minutes of the November 30, 2011 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. December 7, 2011 Inauguration and Organization Meeting Minutes

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

THAT the Minutes of the December 7, 2011 Inaugural and Organization Meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

Catchment Review – Eastern Schools Catchment Changes

Acting Deputy Superintendent Meston referred to the report provided in the Agenda and acknowledged members of the public for the respectful and engaging comments and suggestions. The overall message received has been to keep siblings together.

The Board Chair thanked staff for the work conducted and parents for being helpful in providing feedback encouraging the public to continue with providing input.

Recommendation #1:

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

To realign the catchments of Blue Mountain Elementary, Alexander Robinson Elementary, Webster's Corners Elementary, Kanaka Creek Elementary, Albion Elementary and Whonnock Elementary.

CARRIED

Recommendation #2:

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT grandfathering of siblings for students who previously lived in the Albion and Alexander Robinson Elementary catchment areas be allowed. This grandfathering opportunity would be for siblings born by January 2012 and who are currently identified on a district list.

CARRIED

Recommendation no. 3:

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the acceptance criteria for prioritizing placements for all registrations be changed to the following:

*Note changes are in **BOLD**

Acceptance Criteria for Prioritizing Placements For All Registrations

1. IN catchment with siblings already attending catchment school (proof of residence required) **or displaced catchment siblings on district list**
2. IN catchment (proof of residence required)
3. OUT of catchment with siblings
4. **IN catchment daycare** (dropped down from #3)
5. OUT of catchment without siblings
6. OUT of district with siblings (Out of district students should register at the District Education Office)
7. OUT of district without siblings

CARRIED

Recommendation no. 4:

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT subdivisions not yet built in the Albion, Alexander Robinson, and Kanaka Creek Elementary catchment areas be reassigned to another “catchment area” where there is room.

CARRIED

A recommendation was made the School District contact the local real estate division’s Director in the area on an annual basis advising of Recommendation #4. This would be a reminder to those people on the front lines (realtors). The Board also urged parents to conduct their own due diligence when entering real estate markets and encouraged parents to persist with putting pressure on the District of Maple Ridge.

An amendment to the original motion was suggested.

Moved: Chair Murray

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT subdivisions not yet built in the Albion, Alexander Robinson, and Kanaka Creek Elementary catchment areas be reassigned to another “catchment area” where there is room and a communication plan be developed and published to ensure the public is aware of the Board’s plans.

CARRIED

C. PRESENTATIONS

Achievement Contract – Stewart Sonne, Director of Instruction, Secondary and Adult Education

Director Stewart provided an overview of secondary education including graduation rates, grade to grade transition and Aboriginal Education.

At a recent visit by the Superintendent of Achievement it was noted School District No. 42 is only one of two Districts that has had the greatest grad rate improvement and specifically commended the successes of the Aboriginal Education graduate students.

Director Sonne commended the passion of School District staff and teams who have conducted interventions based on data and followed up with all Aboriginal Education students. Staff have created strategies to help overall grad rates and commended Alan Miller, Principal, Aboriginal Education, and his team who have followed up with those students.

Due to Teachers' Job Action, George Serra, President, Maple Ridge Teachers' Association, was asked to congratulate the entire teaching staff on behalf of the School District.

In summary, Director Sonne promoted the caring for kids in the School District; understanding what a child knows; where they want to go; and encouragement to dig deep into that learning.

Discussion ensued regarding non-graduating students, stress levels of students with anxiety, depression and substance abuse.

Director Sonne reassured the Board students are not allowed to withdraw until they have followed due process and are matched with staff enabled to intervene and assist.

Chair Murray thanked Director Sonne and acknowledged the work of the School District's front line staff. It was suggested Director Sonne bring back staff from Student Support Services to provide a presentation.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board receive the presentation for information.

CARRIED

D. DELEGATIONS

E. CHAIR REPORT

Proposed Committee Appointments

One change was noted whereby Trustee Rempel will remain as a community member of Ridge Meadows Education Foundation and Chair Murray will be appointed as one of the three Trustee representatives.

The Chair reported on the process used for BCPSEA and BCSTA appointments where it was agreed Trustees Palis and Clarkson be appointed accordingly.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

THAT the listing of Board Committee Representatives attached to the January 11, 2012 Chair Report be approved.

CARRIED

F. DEFERRED ITEMS

G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS

H. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

1. Decision Items

- a) Superintendent of Schools
- b) Acting Deputy Superintendent

Catchment Review: French Immersion Catchment Changes

Recommendation #1:

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Marshall

THAT the Board approve the realignment of the Laity View and Eric Langton Elementary French catchment areas so that the Laity View Elementary catchment increases and the Eric Langton Elementary catchment decreases.

CARRIED

Recommendation #2 :

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board, approve the same grandfathering option as presented in the East Side Schools package for siblings of students who previously lived in the Eric Langton Elementary catchment and now live in the Laity View Elementary catchment.

CARRIED

c) Secretary Treasurer

Signing Authority

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

THAT the Board approve the signing authorities for 2011/2012 in the form attached.

CARRIED

2. Information Items

- a) Superintendent of Schools
- b) Acting Deputy Superintendent
- c) Secretary Treasurer

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Acting Deputy Superintendent exited the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

J. QUESTION PERIOD

Moved: Trustee Carr

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Board write a letter to the Ministry of Education expressing our disappointment and frustration that no steps have been taken over another year to address the concerns around the FSA tests.

CARRIED

Acting Deputy Superintendent joined the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

A question was asked regarding siblings of children in catchment to which the Acting Deputy Superintendent addressed. The School District is also pursuing online registration; alternatives to families standing in line.

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Tzu Chi Foundation. Trustee Rempel reported on the attendance by Chair Murray, Superintendent Unwin and himself who attended a celebration in Richmond. Additional funds will soon be distributed in the School District.

Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council. Trustee Rempel reported on his recent attendance at a meeting. Items discussed included the new Communications Manager; bursary program, and Artist in Residence extension of another year.

BC School Trustees' Association. Trustee Clarkson reminded the Board of the February 25th deadline for Boards to submit motions of emergent nature. The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for April 26–29. Any extraordinary resolutions to change bylaws are due and requested Board feedback.

Ridge Meadows Education Foundation. The next meeting is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on January 19, 2012 at Sunwood Senior Living Community on 224th Street.

Good News Items

Trustee Palis attended a pep rally at Pitt Meadows Secondary School. Rich Goulet is back coaching and ran the pep rally. The Grade 12 Senior Basketball boys' team presented him with a watch commemorating his 1000th win.

Community Literacy program. Trustee Palis reported on the partnering with Vancity who will be providing financial literacy programs. January 27, 2012 is Family Literacy Day. There will be two free workshops which will be posted on the School District website.

Ridge Meadows Education Foundation. Trustee Rempel reported Whonnock Elementary had requested funding for recorders which were used for the recent Christmas concert.

Chair Murray commended all the schools for their outstanding Christmas concerts.

Chair Murray also commented and thanked Katzie First Nations for the recent invitation and participation at the Long House Education Forum.

Trustee Rempel thanked Tzu Chi Foundation for supporting the Christmas lunch at South Lillooet Centre.

Chair Murray thanked all Board members and staff for being helpful and productive in getting the Board up and running.

L. OTHER BUSINESS**M. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Clarkson

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

CARRIED

Mike Murray, Chairperson

Wayne Jefferson, Secretary Treasurer



To: Board of Education

From: Chairperson
Mike Murray

Re: **PRESENTATION**

Date: January 25, 2012
(Public Board Meeting)

Information

1. 2011 Achievement Contract Highlights
Engaging the Learner through Technology –
 - David Vandergugten, Director of Instruction, K-12 Education

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board receive the presentation for information.

RECORD

2011-2012

Pursuant to provisions of 72 (1) of the *School Act*, the following report is a general statement of: (a) matters discussed; and (b) the general nature of decisions resolved at the following meetings from which persons other than Trustees or officers of the Board, or both were excluded:

January 11, 2012

Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 3:24 p.m.
Motion of Exclusion	Approved
Correspondence	Received for information
Ordering of Agenda	Approved as amended
Confirmation of Minutes – November 30, 2011	Approved as circulated
Confirmation of Minutes – December 14, 2011	Approved as circulated
Presentation	Received for information
Superintendent Decision Items	Approved
Secretary Treasurer Information Item	Received for information
Committee Business	
Other Business	
Adjournment	Adjourned at 4:49 p.m.