

**PUBLIC MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Wednesday, November 9, 2011
6:00 p.m.

District Education Office
22225 Brown Avenue
Boardroom

A G E N D A

"The greatest mistake a person can make is to be afraid of making one"

A - OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order
2. Correspondence
 - i. Sharon Welch, Chairperson (1) – School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith)
*(July 13, 2011 Board Meeting Motions)**
 - ii. Sharon Welch, Chairperson (2) – School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith)
*(September 28, 2011 Board Meeting Motion)**
 - iii. Candace Gordon, Chairperson – Community Network –
The Hive Neighbourhood Centre*
 - iv. George Abbott, Minister – Ministry of Education*
 - v. Monty Wong *(with responses from Ken Clarkson, Chairperson and
Eleanor Palis, Vice-Chairperson)**
 - vi. Brent Crich, Teacher – Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary School
*(with response from Ken Clarkson, Chairperson)**
 - vii. Ryan Connolly, General Manager – Epic Homes*
3. Request to Speak to and Ordering of Agenda

B- CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. October 26, 2011*

C – PRESENTATIONS

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) Acting Deputy Superintendent
 - c) Secretary Treasurer
 - i. Temporary Borrowing Resolution*
2. Information Items
 - a) Superintendent of Schools
 - i. British Columbia Education Plan*
 - ii. Learning Technology Plan

*Enclosure

**To Be Distributed

- b) Acting Deputy Superintendent
 - i. Enrollment Update*
- c) Secretary Treasurer

I – COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Committees of the Whole
 - a) 2010 - 2011 Finance
 - b) 2011 - 2012 Budget
2. Committee & Advisory Committee Reports
 - a) Education Committee
 - b) Human Resources Committee
 - c) Inclusive Education
 - d) Board Policy Development Committee
 - e) Aboriginal Education Committee
 - f) French Immersion Advisory Committee
 - g) Anti-Vandalism Advisory Committee
 - h) Communications Advisory
 - i) District Student Advisory Committee
 - j) Social Wellness Committee
 - k) Historical Committee
 - l) Advocacy Committee

J – QUESTION PERIOD

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

K – TRUSTEE REPORTS

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

L – OTHER BUSINESS

M – ADJOURNMENT

**Enclosure*

***To Be Distributed*



To: Board of Education

From: Board Chairperson
Ken Clarkson

Re: **CORRESPONDENCE**

Date: November 9, 2011
(Public Board Meeting)

Information

- i. Sharon Welch, Chairperson (1) – School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith)
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- vii. Ryan Connolly, General Manager – Epic Homes

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information.

Attachments



**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT 68 (NANAIMO-LADYSMITH)**
Today's Learner – Tomorrow's Future

395 Wakesiah Avenue
Nanaimo, BC V9R 3K6
Telephone 250-741-5238
Fax 250-741-5309

October 24, 2011

The Honourable George Abbott
Minister of Education
PO BOX 9058 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister:

At the Board Meeting held July 13th 2011, the Nanaimo-Ladysmith Board of Education adopted the following motion:

Folio R11/07/13-09 That the Board of Education of School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) receives and files the correspondence from the NDTA regarding the Board's response to their letter regarding the Supreme Court ruling of April 13th, 2011 and further that the Board write to the Minister of Education urging the Ministry to provide funding for the costs arising from legislative changes and further

Folio R11/07/13-10 That the Board of Education of School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) write to the Minister of Education and ask that he immediately address the repercussions of the court decision to ensure that there is no disruption in the 2011-12 school year.

The Board asks that you give serious consideration to the above motion. Thank you for your consideration. A copy of the NDTA's letter is attached for your information.

Yours truly,

Sharon Welch
Board Chair

Pc: Trustees
Superintendent/CEO
Secretary-Treasurer
BCSTA – Boards of Education



**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT 68 (NANAIMO-LADYSMITH)**
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October 24, 2011

The Honourable George Abbott
Minister of Education
PO BOX 9058 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister:

At the Board Meeting held September 28th 2011, the Nanaimo-Ladysmith Board of Education adopted the following motion:

Folio R11/09/28-12 That the Board of Education request that the Ministry of Education:

- a) Expand the categories for designating students to include a broader range of behavioural problems/disabilities
- b) Increase funding per FTE for all designations
- c) Refer authority for continuing designations to Boards of Education and further to School Based Teams and Administration

And; that these measures be adopted before the end of the 2011-12 school year.

The Board asks that you give serious consideration to the above motion. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Sharon Welch
Board Chair

Pc: Trustees
Superintendent/CEO
Secretary-Treasurer
BCSTA – Boards of Education



Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows - Katzie

Aboriginal Child and Family Services, Act II Child and Family Services, Adult Mental Health Resource Centre, Alouette Addictions, Alouette Correctional Centre for Women, Alouette Home Start Society, Asante Centre for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, BC Healthy Communities, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Bowman Employment Services, Building Community Solutions, Canadian Cancer Society, Canadian Mental Health Association, CEED Centre, Christian Reformed Church, Community Connections, Community Kitchens, Community Living BC, Cythera Transition House, Discover Playhouse Children's Centre, District of Maple Ridge Parks and Leisure Services, District of Maple Ridge Social Planning, Dynaparents Support Group, Early Childhood Development Committee, Family Education and Support Centre, First Call, Fraser Health, Fraser Valley Library - Maple Ridge, Friends in Need Foodbank, Generations Christian Fellowship, Inner Visions Recovery Society, Jessie's Hope, Katzie Community Services, Katzie Healthy Living, Maple Ridge Patrol Office, Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Community Services, Matrix, Ministry for Children and Families - Aboriginal Team, Ministry of Children and Family Development, Pacific Community Resources Society, PLEA, RCMP - Youth Resources Office, Ridge Meadows Association for Community Living, Ridge Meadows Child Development Centre, Ridge Meadows Hospital, Ridge Meadows Seniors' Society, Ridge Meadows Women's Centre, Salvation Army Caring Place, Sante Wage Subsidy Services, School District 42, Youth Home Detox, Sprott Shaw Community College, United Way, Volunteer Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows, Westcoast Family Resources, Youth Crisis Response Program, Eagle Ridge Hospital, Youth Diversion Program, Youth Unlimited. (May 2009).

October 23, 2011

School Board of Trustees
School District 42 Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows
22225 Brown Avenue
Maple Ridge, B.C., V2X 8N6

Attention: Ken Clarkson, Chair

Dear Board of Trustees

The Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows and Katzie Community Network would like to express our support for the continuation of **The HIVE Neighbourhood Centre** at Eric Langton Elementary School. The HIVE centre has been responsible, since December, 2009, for delivering community programs that compliment the school environment through a continuum of services to parents and children from ages prenatal through grade 7 and beyond.

The HIVE Centre has proven to have provided a positive impact to the reputation of Eric Langton School. It is now perceived as a true community school servicing the needs of the surrounding community and beyond. Programs such as **Strong Start, After-School Kid's Club, Healthy Babies, Mother Goose, Nobody's Perfect, Parent Talk** and **The Pre-School Around the Corner** all offer healthy and positive alternatives and options to parents and children for their growth and development. The HIVE has also offered programs such as **First Lego League Team, Chinese New Year, Career Jumpstart** and the **twice annual Free Children's Clothing Exchange** that have benefitted and have been enjoyed by, the community at large.

The HIVE Neighbourhood Centre has been a wonderful, exciting example of what community collaboration can achieve. Many of the programs are well known and have become staples to the community for the health and well-being of the people who attend.

We strongly urge you the School Trustees for School District 42 to recommend the continuation of the HIVE Neighbourhood Centre at Eric Langton School.

We thank you for your consideration to this request.

Yours truly

Candace Gordon, Chair

Cc Laurie Meston
John Wheatley



October 28, 2011

Ref: 149548

To: All Board Chairs

The Province introduced legislation on October 26, 2011, to create a more accountable and transparent teacher regulation system to better protect children and put the public's interest first. The *Teachers Act* was developed in consultation with education partners, including the BCTF, and marks a significant milestone as it pertains to education transformation. My Deputy Minister, James Gorman, has also written to all Superintendents of Schools regarding this matter.

The new Act repeals the *Teaching Profession Act* and dissolves the BC College of Teachers. The *Teachers Act* sets up a new system to certify, regulate and discipline teachers through shared responsibility between government and the education sector. A key part of the new structure will be a new Discipline and Professional Conduct Board. Discipline matters will be heard by three-member panels of the Board that will include no more than one BCTF member. As a result, greater balance will be restored to disciplinary processes for the profession.

The changes respond to concerns identified in a report by former education deputy minister Don Avison, as well as input received from education sector partners. Mr. Avison's report was released last year and found that the College had lost the confidence of BC's education community.

The new legislation also establishes a 15 member British Columbia Teachers' Council that will include all members of the education community and set standards for teachers with respect to training, conduct and competence.

The Ministry of Education will take over the College's administrative functions, including teacher certification and registries. Government certification of teachers is the norm in all other provinces except for Ontario.

I am confident that the changes we are undertaking will further enhance our public education system. Thank you for your ongoing service and leadership and your strong commitment to ensuring that students in British Columbia receive the best education possible.

Yours truly,

George Abbott
Minister

From: Monty Wong

Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2011 10:37 AM

To: David Rempel; Eleanor Palis; Kathie Ward; Ken Clarkson; Mike Huber; Stepan Vdovine; Susan Carr

Subject: So you deserve a RAISE, eh?

Importance: High

Dear all,

I speak on behalf of all working tax payers that has received ZERO - ZERO and ZERO for the last 3 years. Our property taxes has increased many folds; yet my annual household income hasn't. How is it possible you can grant yourself a 2% increase in this FRAGILE economy all in the sake of 'cost of living'.

I have strong objections to this increase.

Looking at the SD42 financial statements for School Trustees....

In 2009, there are a total of 10 'Trustee Staff' with a total remuneration of \$120,000 and total expense of \$24,000.

In 2010, there are a total of 7 'Trustee Staff' with a total remuneration of \$133,822 and total expense of \$15,000.

I'm curious to see what the EXPENSE line items will look like in 2011. I wonder who keeps the 'Trustee Staff' accountable for THEIR expenses.

Why don't you help me understand just exactly what you do with OUR TAX dollars:

1. On average, how many hours do you work as a 'school trustee' per month?
2. What significant contributions have you made to SD42 from 2008 to present? How is that measured?
3. When was the last time ALL POLICIES were reviewed and updated? Have a look at your own SD42 policies and see when it was last updated.
4. Who looks after the tax payers interest for SD42 expenses?

When the money you spend belongs to the tax payers, you are accountable and subject to being under a microscope.

I look forward to your responses.

regards,

Monty and Josie Wong

Monty and Josie Wong,

Thank you for taking the time to express your concerns. If more people took the interest in the affairs of the Board that you do, we would all be the beneficiaries.

My response is not intended to change your mind, I respect your opinion. My purpose is to explain my rationale for coming to the decision I did. In this case it is not a matter of right or wrong but rather of deciding the priority. Ironically, your opinion is founded on principle as is mine; just a different principle.

The previous Board passed the trustee remuneration bylaw, which I totally agree with. It makes the process as objective as possible, as the Board receiving the remuneration is not the one determining it. This decision, I believe is a local one and the responsibility of our Board to make. For political reasons Boards and other public bodies often forego making decisions around salary, forcing future Boards to make abhorrently large raises. It would've been much easier to reject any increase. I certainly foresaw the criticism and understand the perception it sends, however, in my opinion I felt this was the responsible decision.

The process requires a review to be conducted by the Secretary Treasurer with the assistance of two citizens from Maple Ridge and one from Pitt Meadows. As outlined in the bylaw, the committee met to review the current stipends paid to nine School Districts. The motion Trustees endorsed was for remuneration to increase by the Cost of Living Adjustment for the Greater Vancouver area from the previous year.

The first two options were not considered as either one of them would have meant a relatively dramatic increase in trustee remuneration. A fifth option was moved, which if it had passed would've meant no increase in pay for the three years of the next term. From my perspective, the easier way would have been to force a future Board to make an unpalatable decision. Additionally, the message would be we accept the governments zero-zero mandate.

My fellow trustees voted three- three. As chair I vote in cases of a tie and voted to defeat the motion.

Option 3 was moved, which is the one that passed and complies with our policy.

Again, the vote was three-three with me as Chair casting the deciding vote. All things considered I believe it is the best option. The debate was respectful, thoughtful and explored the topic in depth. I believe it's another of many examples of our Board's growing ability to explore a broad range of opinions in our decision-making process.

The resulting salary increase will be approximately \$1.00 per day for each of the seven trustees.

Regarding, trustee expenses; approximately two years ago this Board rewrote our trustee expense policy, moving it from a one pie for all scenario to one where each trustee is responsible and accountable for their own set amount. Each trustee receives a quarterly report on the state of their expense account.

To help you understand what we do with your tax dollars:

As a school trustee; rare is the occasion that I am not one.

I love the job and I'm not complaining it's just a fact. I believe you understand this. I have a passion for public education and am so very grateful to have the opportunity to be in the role I am. I take it very seriously and work very hard at it. I'm not complaining. When I was 16 in 1967, I had a letter regarding public education printed in the Haney Gazette, it's my first memory of my ever growing passion for the role public education plays in our children's lives and for the common good of us all.

More to your point:

I spend at least two hours a day with email, correspondence, telephone etc. I want to say three but I'll stick with two; Eight days a week, to borrow a Beatles title as well as two agenda prep mtgs a month.

There are 22 committees which the trustees divide amongst themselves; most require two or three trustees and many meet once a month.

Every second Wednesday we meet as a committee of the whole usually from 3pm to 8pm. During budget time these days usually begin at noon and there are least 3 other separate budget meeting days. As well we have Board workdays on at least 6 occasions throughout the year.

Then there are committees which arise as necessary. I sit on the CUPE bargaining committee which has met 12 days 9 am-4pm since January (more before).

This year a local Ab Ed conference and Learning for Tomorrow presentation were just two examples of time spent engaging the public.

I could go to a school invitation literally every day. I do go to many as do other trustees.

There are a total of 7 BCSTA conferences which for me are an essential part of being the best I can be in this role. They are at least 3 days each and account for the majority of my expense account. As well, like other trustees I sit on a BCSTA committee. I do not get paid for it but do it because I believe like all of these things it has an impact on the education of our children. One of the roles of this committee is to review BCSTA policy.

Then there are seven grads to attend, etc. In all honesty, this list can be extended, more items come to mind as I write this but you get the point.

One can spend as much time as one wishes.

Our most significant contribution, I believe, is regarding the relationships we have established with our partner groups. I feel very confident, if you ask them, they'll tell you about how our relationship enables us to come to resolution over inevitable conflicts more efficiently and at less cost.

One example; during our budget deliberations we ask partner groups to make submissions; two years ago they came with no specifics but basically used it as a sounding board. We asked them to go back have a re-think and bring us genuine proposals then we demonstrated we listened by acting on them.

Everything that can be counted does not necessarily count; everything that counts cannot necessarily be counted. I'm no Einstein, but I believe this to be self-evident. We do make a huge effort to document and count some of our achievements. Please refer to our website www.sd42.ca

When I was first elected to the Board, the state of our policies required improvement, although the previous Board had spent a considerable time in committee working on them. As a Board, very early in our term, we were presented with the option of hiring a consultant to get the work done. He had a track record of doing excellent work with other Boards on their policies. He spent a day with us working on our Goals and Vision. To have him work with us on our policy would have cost \$40,000.00. I couldn't justify that expenditure, as a Board we made a decision to do the work in house. If I had to do it again I'd spend the \$40,000.00.

I am a taxpayer too. I can assure you as trustees, we spend a great deal of our time acting as responsible as possible, to get the best value from the tax dollars we receive; for the benefit of the children. The taxpayers' interests are always at the forefront of what we do. Providing each student with opportunities to discover who they are and in the process becoming productive citizens of our democratic society is beneficial to us all.

Hello Mr. and Mrs. Monty and Josie Wong

Your interest in public education is noted and appreciated. I wish to respond to your questions, and so that you have a clear understanding of who I am and what I hope to bring to our local board table, please allow me the liberty to introduce myself and some of my contributions in our community prior to being elected as a School Trustee.

Now may be a good time for me to reference a video about the effect of "The Single Story"

This is a very thought provoking presentation, it does take a few minutes to watch, but its message is an extremely powerful one. I encourage you to consider this message and its relation to your questions to us and the answers you receive from those that reply.

http://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story.html

I have lived in Pitt Meadows for 24 years and have raised 4 children here, all of whom have attended our public schools in the French Immersion Program. My eldest 3 children have graduated and moved on to university, and I have 1 son remaining at Pitt Meadows Secondary where I am still an active and positively involved parent. My involvement in my children's learning experiences outside the home began as they entered a local highly successful parent run preschool, where I served as Treasurer and then President for several years. It was my philosophy to support and work with those that provided for my children and those of the community while out of our care. I carried that philosophy through my children's years through elementary school and volunteered myself often in the classroom; organizing talent shows, sports days, aiding on field trips; assisting and supporting teaching staff wherever I could, and developing solid relationships with parents and students both at the school and throughout the community. As my children entered high school, I recognized a need to solidify the parent/school/student triangle and worked diligently with administration to alter the traditional "pull away" from parents at the high school level. Together with staff, administration and the parent group, I coordinated several informative speaker workshops inviting our entire community and district to rethink a parent's reluctance to enter a high school other than for a basketball game, and to really be and stay involved as their children worked to graduate with the tools necessary to move forth following grade 12. In these years I have also chaired the Graduation Committee three times, and was very involved in our local Soccer Club as my family had a huge interest and a significant spot on the Executive Committee.

You ask "How many hours do you spend on average in a month as a trustee."

I don't want to sound pompous when I answer, that, as an elected official, I am always spending my time as a Trustee. I must add that I am proud of that. When I go to the grocery store and run into people I know in my community who know the role I fill, I am not just shopping, I am a trustee. When I sit at the local coffee shop with my son on Thanksgiving Sunday, I am a trustee. When I go for a walk on the dyke at 7 am on a summer morning, I am a trustee. When I am at work in my other job within the community, I am a trustee. Anyone who offers themselves to a publicly elected position recognizes that their life is now a public one. I am grateful in this community that the many people I speak to everyday recognize that I am also a person who enjoys interacting with people and find me approachable on many things beyond schools and politics.

That being said, I have made it my mandate to visit schools, get to know the people who work in them, who attend them, the programs being offered in them. In my first year in this role I visited every single school, and have continued to be invited back often to them- to attend assemblies, awards ceremonies, judging of public speaking; for tours, to lobby for crosswalks with parent/RCMP/city representatives/administration; Christmas concerts, Olympic Torch relay pep rallies, to speak at Graduations, the list goes on and on. Like my fellow trustees, I sit on several committees both internal and external to the School District itself. Our job entails so much more than a bi weekly meeting. I have earned the respect of my colleagues and have been elected to the Vice Chair position for the last 2 years. With that I also attend the agenda preparation meeting following our regular board meeting; I am the Board's representative to the BC Public School Employers Association (BCPSEA), our official bargaining agent with the province. I regularly attend seminars as a rep, and in that enhance the learning required in this role. As extenuating circumstances unfold in local issues, so then does our time commitment as trustees. In our first year it was not odd to attend meetings at our board office from 9 am til 10 or 11 at night. Committee work can add anywhere from 2 -?? hours per week depending on scheduling and trustee commitment and interest. Appearances at public events, to which we are invited and expected to attend, take up hours in a week. Individual trustees can decide just how much they want to attend and for how long, so a definite timeline for all is difficult, every week looks different. I can tell you that I will always make time to attend a school and see teaching and learning in action. I have blocked every Wednesday for the last 3 years as a Board day, even if it was not a scheduled meeting day. I have taken holidays from my other job in order to attend conferences or meetings related to my school board position. On average how much time do I spend as a trustee, in a "go to work" sense as I believe you ask? This is difficult to measure, as I sit on a Saturday night typing for 4 hours, considering and editing this reply all day on Sunday. This is difficult to measure when the job does not leave me and I do not leave the job. One can contribute as much or as little as one likes as a trustee, so long as there is attendance at a minimum of public meetings. I have missed one meeting in 3 years as I was on vacation.

2. What significant contributions have you made since 2008 and how is that measured?

If you have followed this board's work ,, or glanced at our Achievement contract, you will see the significant moves forward this district is a part of. I am proud to sit on a board that has made huge strides in relationship building. During the last election in 2008, it was noted often that the relationship between the board and various partner groups was fractured at best. As relationships have a direct impact on results, this group made it the number one priority to bridge this gap. It would make good common sense that if the people that deliver their expertise and services in public education to students everyday feel valued, they will deliver best to kids. Hence the huge focus I made to visit schools regularly and value the work that was going on inside them.

When faced with budget shortfall and declining enrolment, this board made the difficult decision to close 2 schools. By doing this we not only alleviated huge financial pressure in schools that could barely operate with the the few students in them, but allowed for the creation of Riverside centre, home of Ridge Meadows College and our International Education Department, which contributes significant dollars to our district each year, and for the smooth transition of students from Mt Crescent into

Glenwood Elementary and other surrounding schools. These students are now part of a larger school community which provides them further social and educational opportunities. This board not only saved the district money, but created future positives.

We listened when the idea of the Environmental School was presented to us. We have taken a lead in the province and created yet another option for parents in this district. Community partnerships; a champion for the cause, \$1million in grants and support from SFU and parent input for options for kids allowed this initiative to take shape. I visited one of the sites recently and was impressed and truly moved by the significant impact on children who are taking part in this unique learning environment.

We supported the initiative to invite community to the Learning for Tomorrow fair, investigating and sharing the importance of recognizing the rapid technological changes in the world and effects on education. We know we need to think forward in order to best prepare our students to face the world when they leave high school.

We streamlined many practices within our system in order to operate a \$126 million budget more efficiently. We work diligently all year long with partner groups in order to balance this budget with their input, respectfully and with an emphasis on the value of this collaboration.

Our board was the first in the province to sign a 3rd Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement, further committing to supporting these students and recognizing and valuing their contributions and culture to all learners in our schools.

Our support of partnership programs and academies provides senior students with options in order to graduate, improving grad rates, and preparing them for the future.

We listened to the public response when an option to cut an elementary band program was brought forward to us. When approached by concerned citizens, we listened and made a compromise decision which benefitted everyone.

The one job a board owns exclusively is hiring a Superintendent. We have made huge strides in working towards success for all learners that could not have happened without the board in total collaboration and a continual improvement focus. Together we are responsible for being recognized as a leader in this province.

I do believe our most significant work is our improved relationships with partners. With a solid relationship established, the goal of success is that much more attainable.

How is our work measured? I would hope in many ways.

Our district is required by the School Act to submit an Achievement Contract annually. We are also required to balance a budget annually. The board is presented with data and feedback from Grant Thornton, Accounting firm designated to audit our financial records. This year's visit reported the cleanest, most streamlined and well presented budget ever. I believe this is an indication, a measure if you will, that our board's work is at the very least satisfactory, if not exemplary. As for individual

trustees being measured, I feel that every time I enter a school and am welcomed and reminded of the sense of renewal and respect throughout the district, that my work has been measured by the people that work here for students. When I am approached by parents or community members telling me they value my contributions and energy towards this job, I feel my work is being measured. When members of a community head to the polls and cast a vote for a trustee, or a community acclaims a trustee, our work is being measured. I accept that you are asking if trustees are fulfilling their duties to a descriptor of the role. Boards are required to pass a balanced budget in recognition and best interest of the public dollars targeted for education in this province. This board has fulfilled that obligation. How we as individuals contribute to that task as a board is the beauty of democracy in this country, and why boards are elected by the people in their communities. This is why I contribute in the positive and collaborative fashion that I do with respect in relationships at the forefront.

When was the last time ALL policies were updated?

This work is ongoing. Policy itself should not for long sit idle. It has been the desire of this board to update policy to reflect currency and relevancy. This is however a time consuming endeavor. This is not an excuse for the lack of completion, but recognition that it is ongoing work. Yes, our policies require review and updating. Given the amount of policies boards have created without deletion of others in previous years, this board could not possibly update ALL policies at once. In the beginning of our term, we opted against spending a substantial amount of money to complete this work via a contractor. The use of public funds was and is at all times forefront in our decision making.

Who looks after tax payer's interest for sd42 expenses?

Trustees are provided quarterly reports of their expenditures and each are provided allowances for Professional Development. Because I feel it is a very important part of my work to understand and be current in my role, I attend conferences through the BC School Trustees Association and BCPSEA, as well as some specialized workshops pertaining to my role as BCPSEA Rep. I value the knowledge I have attained through these opportunities and know that it is vital to understanding and making good decisions. I feel it is prudent to understand and attach myself to the relevance and significance of this position.

I hope that I have managed to answer your questions and recognize, of course, your concerns as a taxpayer. We all are and all have concerns in this fragile economy. Our decision on Wednesday night was not only a one hour conversation in the board room, but I would hope had been on the minds of trustees since the previous Friday when we received the agenda. We worked with a policy in place and made a decision that would best suit the incoming board, as the previous board had done for us.

Thank you for your interest in public education. I hope that you get the opportunity to see and be a part of the positive teaching and learning opportunities that take place in our schools, in your school, every day for all of our children.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Palis

Vice Chair, SD42 Board of Education.

From: Ken Clarkson

Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 9:52 PM

To: 'brent crich'; Susan Carr; Mike Huber; Eleanor Palis; David Rempel; Stepan Vdovine; Kathie Ward

Cc: Brent Crich; Steven Halfnights (External)

Subject: RE: Important MRTA Message re BCPSEA & the LRB

Hi Brent,

Thank you for your letter expressing your concerns. The morale of teachers, our districts team philosophy and the relationship with all of our partnership groups, is a priority of this Board.

The BCPSEA application to the LRB is to pressure the BCTF union; not individual teachers. BCPSEA's application to the LRB is not to reduce individual teachers' salaries. Our Board has written a letter to BCPSEA asking that the contract be resolved through collective bargaining. We did not speak in favor of any pressure at this time.

Thanks Again,

Ken Clarkson, Board Chair

From: brent crich

Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 7:37 PM

To: Susan Carr; Ken Clarkson; Mike Huber; Eleanor Palis; David Rempel; Stepan Vdovine; Kathie Ward

Cc: Brent Crich; Steven Halfnights (External)

Subject: Important MRTA Message re BCPSEA & the LRB

Hi Everyone,

I just read that the Victoria teachers all emailed their school trustees on Friday to tell them about all the hours they are still working despite job action, and that garnisheeing 15% off of our wages is heavy handed given that we are still working the hours we did prior to job action.

Actually, I am working even harder this year than in previous years because I have a larger than normal number of special needs students (and students who have not yet been "coded"), and I have no SEA support in any of my classes. This is really what the "job action" is about - class size and composition - and it is being resolved even slower this year than ever. The government makes promises for services, and then does not provide the money to provide these services.

So...formally I am asking you, the trustees, to contact BCPSEA and urge them to curtail their application to the LRB.

It appears that BCPSEA is more interested in provoking a "strike", rather than working toward a rational solution to systemic problems. We all know that a "strike" will not be beneficial to students, parents, District 42 employees, and long-term morale and "team" philosophy in District 42.

Thank you! ...Brent Crich, SRT



A new tradition of quality and value

201 - 20050, Stewart Crescent, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 0T4

Email: info@epichomes.info Web: www.epichomes.info

Tel: 604-465-6886 Fax: 604-465-6892

October 18, 2011

District Education Office

22225 Brown Avenue
Maple Ridge, BC
V2X 8N6

Attention: Ken Clarkson
Chairman

Dear Sir;

As the general manager of a builder/developer in the Albion area for the last several years I have come to know the difficulty parents are facing getting their children registered in local schools. In some cases parents are lining up over night, just so their child can attend a school in a reasonable distance from their home. I have also noted there is some land set aside for the school board on 104th Avenue; as well as the land set aside for a school on 112th that has been released for development and will no longer accommodate a future school. Based on several phone calls to local schools it seems that all elementary schools in the catchment area are full.

In short are there any plans for near term new construction of an elementary school and/or middle school in the eastern portion of Maple Ridge? Or, are there any immediate plans for expansion of existing schools; to prepare for the rising population in this area. North Albion area is an area of upcoming planned residential growth and this issue will need to be addressed in the near future.

Any information or insight you could relay back to me would be greatly appreciated.

Best Regards;

Epic Homes (Highland Meadows) J.V.

Ryan Connolly.
General Manager

Cc: David Laird, Damax Consultants Ltd.



To: Board of Education

From: Board Chairperson
Ken Clarkson

Re: **ORDERING OF AGENDA**

Date: November 9, 2011
(Public Board Meeting)

Decision

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Agenda be ordered as circulated.



To: Board of Education

From: Board Chairperson
Ken Clarkson

Re: **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Date: November 9, 2011
(Public Board Meeting)

Decision

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Minutes of the October 26, 2011 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

Attachment



**PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Wednesday, October 26, 2011 (6:00 PM)
DEO Board Room**

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Board Chairperson – Ken Clarkson
Vice-Chairperson – Eleanor Palis
Trustee – Susan Carr
Trustee – Mike Huber
Trustee – Dave Rempel
Trustee – Stepan Vdovine
Trustee – Kathie Ward

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

- Debra Pool, President – Canadian Parents for French, BC & Yukon Branch
- Ken Vance, Senior Policy Advisor – Union of BC Municipalities
- Susan Barr, Chairperson – School District No. 71 (Comox Valley)
- Silas White, Chairperson – School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast)
- Donna Sargent, Chairperson – School District No. 38 (Richmond)
- George Abbott, Minister – Ministry of Education

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Ward

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information

CARRIED

2. Ordering of Agenda

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Carr

Additions/Amendments:

Added to Correspondence: Patti Bacchus, Chairperson – School District No. 39 (Vancouver)

Moved to Chair Report: Correspondence – Patti Bacchus, Chairperson – School District No. 39 (Vancouver)

Added to Trustee Report: BC School Trustees' Association – Fraser Valley

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

CARRIED

The Superintendent introduced the new Manager of Communications and Community Relations, Irena Pochop. As well, the Superintendent clarified the enrollment report would be included with the Bill 33 report as brought by the Acting Deputy Superintendent.

The Chairperson opened the floor to others wanting to speak to the Agenda to which a member of the public, Karen Georgi, read a statement regarding Trustee Remuneration.

B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. October 12, 2011 Public Board Meeting Minutes

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Minutes of the October 12, 2011 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

C. PRESENTATIONS

D. DELEGATIONS

E. CHAIR REPORT

Moved: Trustee Carr

Seconded: Trustee Vdovine

Correspondencen: Patti Bacchus, Chairperson – School District No. 39 (Vancouver)

The Board agreed this letter be presented to the Board Policy Development Committee for review and consideration.

F. DEFERRED ITEMS

G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS

H. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

1. **Decision Items**

a) **Superintendent of Schools**

b) **Acting Deputy Superintendent**

Bill 33 Final Report

The Acting Deputy Superintendent provided an overview of the additional handout. Highlights included an enrollment increase from original projections by approximately 200 students although overall, the District is still in a declining enrollment status. Original projections were on the conservative side. With continued refinement of formula processes, and with the future assistance of Baragar, the Ministry and internal checks, the District will be better able to gage enrollment numbers.

The Acting Deputy Superintendent exited the meeting at 6:17 p.m. Enrollment, head count and funding perspective discussions continued.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Palis

THAT the Board receive the Acting Deputy Superintendent's report for information.

CARRIED

The Acting Deputy Superintendent joined the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

The Superintendent and Acting Deputy Superintendent confirmed they will bring the head count and FTE report back to the next meeting.

c) Secretary Treasurer

Trustee Remuneration Review

The Secretary Treasurer publicly thanked the three members of public for assisting with the remuneration review. Ultimately, it is the Board's decision around remuneration to which the Ad Hoc Committee attempted to provide context with respect to Metro Vancouver. The committee was in agreement to bring the four options to the Board for consideration.

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Huber

THAT the Board receive the Ad Hoc Trustee Remuneration 2012 Committee report for information and thank the public members for their time and dedication to the work on behalf of the Board

CARRIED (Abstained: Trustee Huber)

Trustee Huber abstained his vote for reasoning of believing it is a conflict for politicians to dictate their own pay scale and further stated he believes there should be a better system. He further commented on an equalization across the Province so all Trustees are compensated equally.

It was agreed the rate and amount of hours exerted by Trustees to be truly effective, is under estimated.

Trustee Huber further wished to refer to comments made by a member of the public and wished to clarify his media quote. He will always support the majority although outnumbered in many matters.

Discussion continued. It was agreed if employee groups are faced with a "0" mandate, Trustees should also take a stance in support by rejecting same.

Trustee Carr proposed a fifth option.

Moved: Trustee Carr

Seconded: Trustee Huber

THAT the Board adopt an option number 5 which is to accept no raise in remuneration at this time.

MOTION FAILED (In Favour: Carr, Huber, Ward). The Chairperson voted against the motion.

Discussion continued regarding politicians and remuneration decisions. The Board discussed the intent of the policy for outgoing Boards to set remuneration prior to the appointment of a new Board of Education. Further discussion ensued around the matter of the cost of living and the support of option three. The Trustees discussed each option thoroughly.

Moved: Trustee Vdovine

Seconded: Trustee Rempel

THAT the Board continue to use the COLA rate for 2012 to increase the current base rate of \$18,207 by approximately 2% for Greater Vancouver creating an estimated increase of \$364. The 2011 rate is usually published in the first week of February and would be retroactively applied to January 1st.

CARRIED (Opposed: Trustees Carr, Huber, Ward)

The Secretary Treasurer reiterated the current policy wording adding that a recommendation will come in to the new Board in February.

2. Information Items

a) Superintendent of Schools

b) Acting Deputy Superintendent

c) Secretary Treasurer

I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

J. QUESTION PERIOD

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS

BC School Trustees' Association ("BCSTA") – Provincial Council. Trustee Ward provided an update on the recent Provincial Council meetings from feedback received as she was unable to attend due to illness. Motions brought to the Provincial Council all carried. A synopsis will be provided at the next Public Board meeting.

BCSTA – Fraser Valley. Trustee Ward thanked Chair Clarkson for providing his Chair Report to the FVBCSTA and further provided an update on her attendance at the meeting. Each Trustee Representative was requested to provide one topic to highlight from their District. Trustee Ward chose to report on the Environmental School. At the meeting, the Education Committee Representative, Sylvia Dyck, brought a motion received from the Annual General Meeting asking Boards to discuss the matter of the Integrated System of Early Care and Learning. The coalition of early learning providers is requesting Boards to commence discussions on the impacts of combining three Ministries into one. The next meeting for the FVBCSTA will be the Trustee Academy in December. Reports will be left with the Executive Assistant for anyone wishing copies.

Lastly, first draft of BCSTA's funding formula correspondence will be sent to the Ministry of Education on November 1, 2011.

L. OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Palis provided and read from an article found in a local real estate office regarding choices in the housing market as affected by schools in neighbourhoods.

Good News

Trustee Huber reminded everyone to stay safe this Halloween and commended schools who are taking proactive approaches to bringing food to the food bank in the place of purchasing candy and thanked all those community members who are organizing same. Trustee Carr asked everyone who lives close to a school, to be extra vigilant with activity.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Moved: Trustee Rempel

Seconded: Trustee Ward

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

CARRIED

Ken Clarkson, Chairperson

Wayne Jefferson, Secretary Treasurer



To: Board of Education

From: Secretary Treasurer
Wayne Jefferson

Re: **TEMPORARY BORROWING
RESOLUTION**

Date: November 9, 2011
(Public Board Meeting)

Decision

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board approve the following borrowing resolution:

WHEREAS Section 139 of the *School Act* and Regulation 10, provides that a Board may by resolution, with the approval of the Minister, borrow from time to time for a period not exceeding six months for purposes other than capital expenditures, by way of a temporary loan, such sums as the Board may deem necessary to meet current operating and debt services expenditures:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of Section 139 of the *School Act* and Regulation 10, the Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) authorize the Secretary Treasurer to request the approval of the Minister of Education for the borrowing of an amount not to exceed \$6,500,000. These funds would be in the form of a \$2,500,000 line of credit and additional funds of \$4,000,000 if required to meet current operating and debt services expenditures, but all money so borrowed shall be repaid not later than the 31st day of May, 2012.

Attachment

BOARD RESOLUTION RE TEMPORARY BORROWING - OPERATING

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 42
(MAPLE RIDGE-PITT MEADOWS)**

WHEREAS Section 139 of the *School Act* and Regulation 10, provides that a Board may by resolution, with the approval of the Minister, borrow from time to time for a period not exceeding six months for purposes other than capital expenditures, by way of a temporary loan, such sums as the Board may deem necessary to meet current operating and debt services expenditures:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of Section 139 of the *School Act* and Regulation 10, the Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) authorize the Secretary Treasurer to request the approval of the Minister of Education for the borrowing of an amount not to exceed \$6,500,000. These funds would be in the form of a \$2,500,000 line of credit and additional funds of \$4,000,000 if required to meet current operating and debt services expenditures, but all money so borrowed shall be repaid not later than the 31st day of May, 2012.

Approved by the Board of Education at a Public Board Meeting held on November 9, 2011.

Wayne A. Jefferson
Secretary Treasurer

Date



To: Board of Education

From: Superintendent
Jan Unwin

Re: **BRITISH COLUMBIA EDUCATION PLAN** Date: November 9, 2011
(Public Board Meeting)

Information

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

Last week the Ministry of Education released the BC Education Plan with a series of Action Plans and timelines for implementation. Although much of the document is still being crafted out, it is important to know the direction the Ministry of Education is expecting schools and districts to be moving in. Senior staff is currently working with Principals to do a self-assessment of where we are as a district in terms of alignment as well as where we need to go as a district to get more closely aligned.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board receive the attached BC's Education Plan for information.

Attachment

BC's Education Plan



Minister's Message

This is an exciting time of change for education in British Columbia.

We're starting from a strong position: motivated and talented students, outstanding teachers, committed parents, skilled administrators and dedicated education partners. We are also fortunate to live in a province that values education and gives young people opportunities to excel.

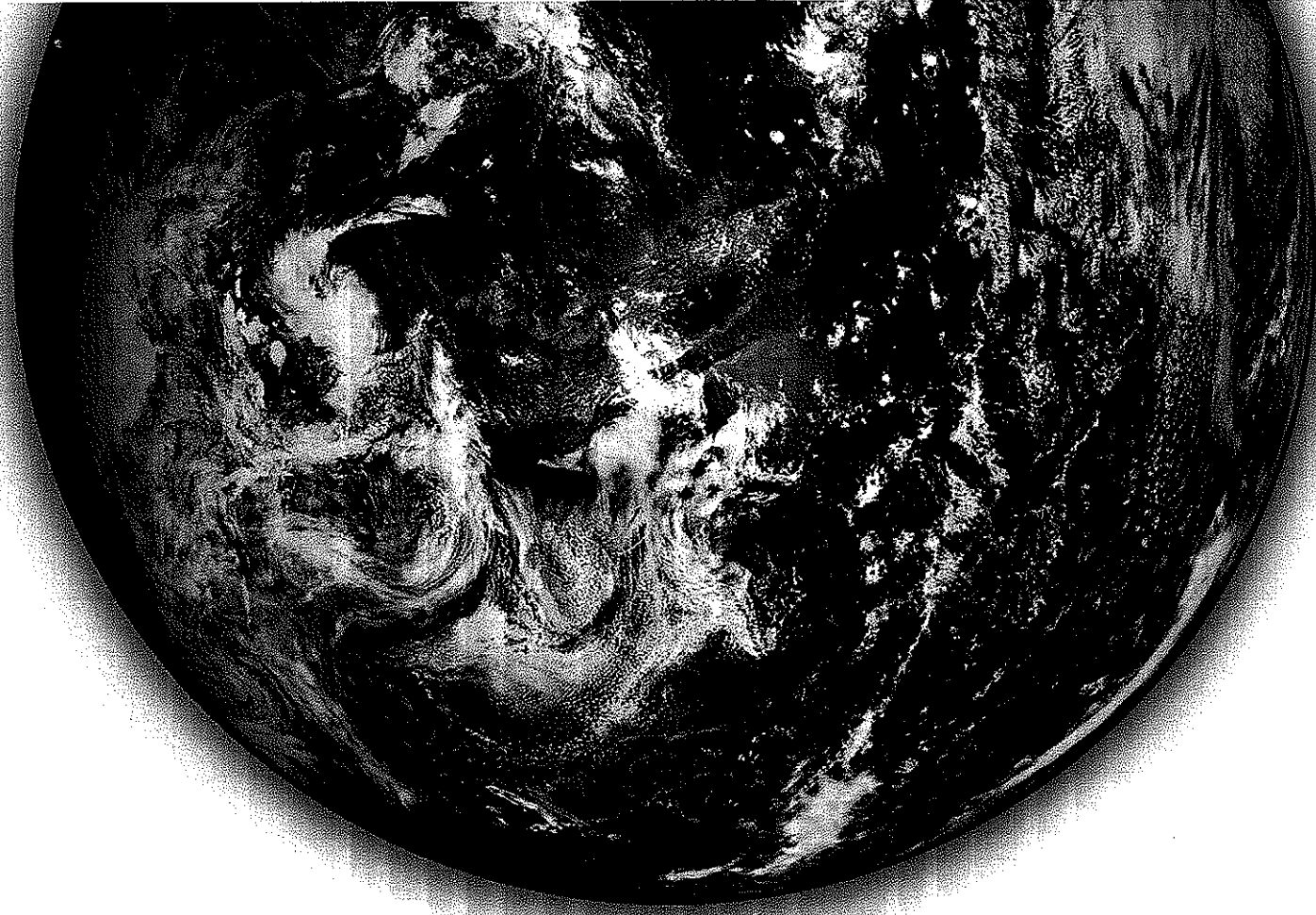
And yet our education system is based on a model of learning from an earlier century. To change that, we need to put students at the centre of their own education. We need to make a better link between what kids learn at school and what they experience and learn in their everyday lives. We need to create new learning environments for students that allow them to discover, embrace, and fulfill their passions. We need to set the stage for parents, teachers, administrators and other partners to prepare our children for success not only in today's world, but in a world that few of us can yet imagine.

Inspired by innovative change already taking place in B.C. communities and developed through many months of consultation with educators, students, parents and other British Columbians, BC's Education Plan responds to the realities and demands of a world that has already changed dramatically and continues to change.

Before us lies a tremendous opportunity. We know more now than we've ever known about how children learn. It is time to use that knowledge to change what we do so students can realize their full potential.

As both a parent and grandparent, I want an education system that gives all children the best opportunities to be successful in whatever career they pursue. I'm sure every British Columbian feels the same way. By working together, we can take what we know is a good education system and make it great. That's what BC's Education Plan is all about.

George Abbott
Minister of Education



The Challenge: Education In A Fast-Changing World

Most people agree that British Columbia's education system is a good one. Teachers are skilled, facilities are sound and students succeed.

Yet an education system designed in the very different circumstances of an earlier century can't possibly always meet the challenges students face – both now and in the future. In the social, economic and technological environment of the past, change was much more gradual than it is today. Many of the opportunities and jobs we're preparing our students for don't even exist today. So while we enjoy a strong and stable system, we need a more nimble and flexible one that can adapt more quickly to better meet the needs of 21st century learners.

We've all got a stake in preparing our young people for success in a changing world. Our challenge is clear. The world has changed and it will continue to change, so the way we educate students needs to continually adapt.

The Opportunity

Children are natural born learners, and teachers are passionate about teaching. We have a unique opportunity to forge that common ground toward a more innovative education system that meets the needs of B.C. families today and in the future, to keep our young people achieving and thriving in a dynamic, rapidly evolving world.

We need to build on the many strengths of our existing education system while modernizing education so it can adapt and respond to students' needs. And we need to involve British Columbians more directly in discussions and decisions about education.

We can make education more flexible so students and families benefit from the exciting knowledge economy we're part of. To do that, students must be at the centre of a more personalized approach to learning. They will still learn basic core skills, but they will also have more freedom to pursue their individual interests and passions within a particular topic. Teachers are fundamental

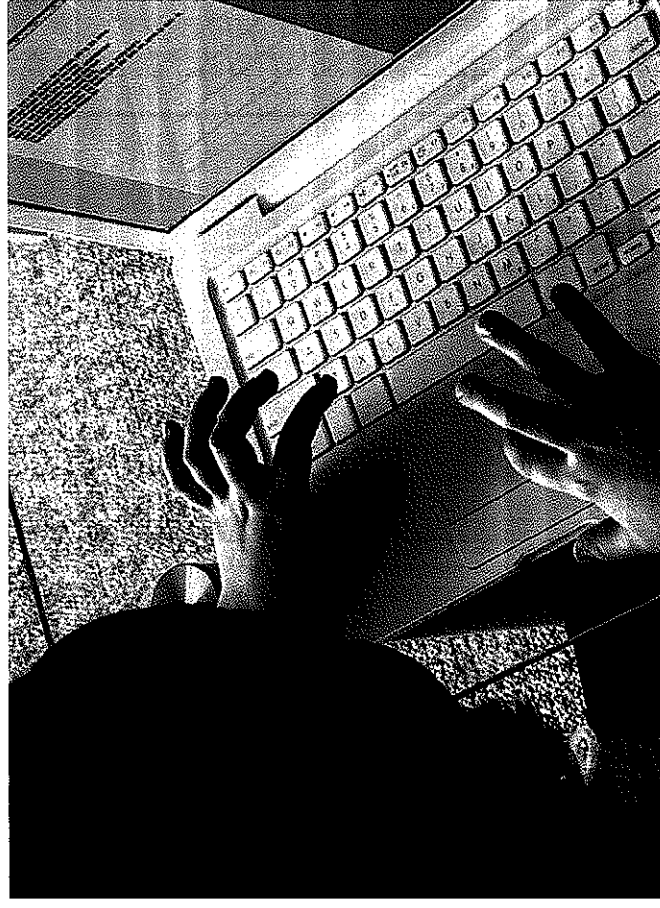
to student success. Teachers must be supported to work with students in a variety of roles: guide, mentor, coach, content expert. Our schools must be more adaptable in responding to student needs.

We must continue to work with Aboriginal communities, through partnerships like Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreements with school districts to focus on the needs of Aboriginal students and improve learning outcomes.

We must make better use of technology in education so our young people will be equipped to use it effectively and ethically.

We need more responsive and effective interventions for students who are struggling.

Parents must also be involved in planning their child's education and then helping them to achieve success. In partnership with their children's teacher and their child, parents will play an important role in supporting their child's learning.



Building on Our Strengths

BC's Education Plan will build on the strengths of our existing system while moving to adaptable education for the world of today and tomorrow. New legislation will be required for some of these changes, while others can be made through collaboration and engagement with all education partners.

STAYING SOLID ON THE BASICS



For all students, reading, writing and math skills will still be emphasized and students will still be required to meet core learning outcomes. B.C. students have a strong track record of success in international measures of these skills and BC's Education Plan will build on that success.

MORE REAL-WORLD SKILLS

While a solid knowledge base in the basic skills will be maintained, to better prepare students for the future there will be more emphasis on key competencies like self-reliance, critical thinking, inquiry, creativity, problem solving, innovation, teamwork and collaboration, cross-cultural understanding, and technological literacy. We can also connect students more directly with the world outside of school, with increased focus on learning these skills across topic areas.

IMPROVED STUDENT ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Students' progress will continue to be monitored through rigorous province-wide assessments. Effective classroom assessment practices are key to student success and will be even more vital in a more personalized learning environment. Educators will have more ability to decide how and when each student is assessed. New tools will be developed to provide greater access, richer information, and more consistency across the province on student progress. Regular reporting to parents both formally and informally will remain key.

IMPORTANCE OF TEACHERS

A great teacher has always been the key to creating outstanding educational experiences. Under BC's Education Plan, this will continue. To help students succeed in a rapidly-changing world, teachers will be empowered to shift from being the primary source of content to focus on helping students learn how to learn.

This Plan will make it easier for teachers to use their professional knowledge and discretion to guide students toward the skills and knowledge that will help them thrive in later life. By having the curriculum built around fewer but higher level outcomes, this plan gives teachers and students more time and flexibility to explore student's interests and passions.

EFFECTIVE TEACHING

Students, parents and teachers all need the teaching profession to be administered in a way that ensures high standards and puts the public interest first. To achieve these goals, this Plan will address widely-shared concerns about how our province's teaching profession has been regulated. It will make sure teacher regulation protects both students and the public interest. It will also ensure teachers get regular, meaningful feedback to inform how they teach.

This Plan opens the door for new ways of learning – not just for students, but for teachers as well.

GREATER FLEXIBILITY

Under BC's Education Plan schools will gain new flexibility to design programs that really work for all students. There will be more flexibility and choice regarding how, when and where learning takes place, and there will be more flexibility about how students are organized for learning. Public and independent schools, including speciality programs like traditional schools and academies, will continue to be options for parents and students.

FREEDOM TO ADAPT

This Plan will give students, families and educators more say on how, where, when and what students will learn. In many cases, the way classes and schools look might change. School calendars may change if boards of education see that as benefitting students. Almost certainly, more learning will take place outside of the school setting.

British Columbia's Response: Flexible, Adaptable, Excellence In Education

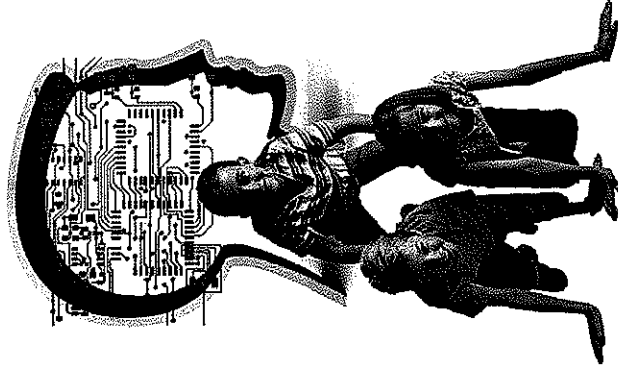
BC's Education Plan is based on a simple principle: every learner will realize their full potential and contribute to the well-being of our province.

To move our education system from good to great, the Plan has **five key elements**:

- 1) Personalized learning for every student
- 2) Quality teaching and learning
- 3) Flexibility and choice
- 4) High standards
- 5) Learning empowered by technology

1 Personalized Learning for Every Student ✖

Under the Plan, teachers, students and parents will work together to make sure every student's needs are met, passions are explored and goals are achieved. This means student-centered learning that's focused on the needs, strengths and aspirations of each individual young person. Students will play an active role in designing their own education and will be increasingly accountable for their own learning success. It's all about putting students at the centre of education. That means giving teachers and schools the flexibility to make



sure each student is well served by their educational program. Each student is unique and our education system will support each student's interests and ways of learning.

ACTION STEPS

- We will work with our education partners to identify the attributes of an educated citizen and how that will be articulated throughout the education program culminating in graduation.
- Curriculum will be redesigned to reflect the core competencies, skills, and knowledge that students need to succeed in the 21st century.
- A curriculum with fewer but higher level outcomes will create time to allow deeper learning and understanding.
- Increased flexibility will be key to making sure that student's passions and interests are realized, as well as their different and individual ways of learning.

2 Quality Teaching and Learning ✓

BC's Education Plan acknowledges the complexity of the teacher's role. Teachers will receive support as they continue to adjust their roles to match what students need, moment by moment, to design personalized education that opens the door to educational success for British Columbia's young people. Professional standards will be high, and we will bring in a new system to regulate the teaching profession.

ACTION STEPS

- We will work with our education partners to make sure that Professional Development days are used to enhance educators' knowledge base and professional expertise. It is important that teachers are able to refresh and develop new practices throughout their careers by participating in professional learning opportunities. On Pro D days, parents make alternative arrangements for their children and they need to be assured that these days are used as intended.
- We will work with universities to ensure teacher preparation programs give new teachers the knowledge and skills they require to support student learning.

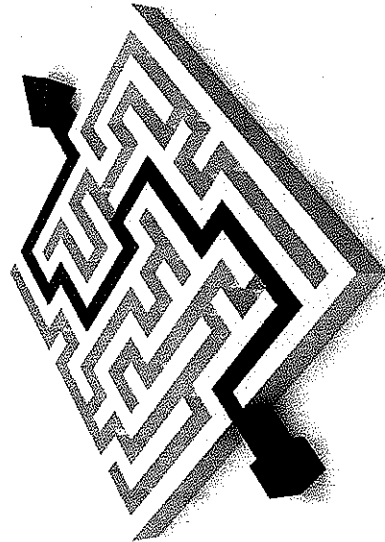
- We believe mentoring is key to supporting teachers' professional learning, both in their formative years and throughout their careers. Teachers will have increased access to learning opportunities by working with teacher mentors and each other.
- We will work collaboratively with educators, to increase transparency and accountability and to ensure that the interests of children are protected. New legislation will create a teacher regulation system that puts the public interest first. The goal is to raise the stature of the teaching profession and increase public confidence in the profession's disciplinary processes.
- Working British Columbians in most professions participate in performance evaluation sessions with their employer. Principals will be doing the same with teachers. Regular feedback to teachers will help focus their professional development opportunities.

3 Flexibility and Choice ↗

BC's Education Plan will mean more choice for students and families with respect to how, when and where learning takes place. Boards of education will also have more flexibility to organize classes and other learning experiences so they can better direct resources to support student learning. Districts will also have more flexibility to vary the school calendar to better meet their student needs. Students will continue to create blended learning opportunities through online learning and class-based environments. Enrolment in online courses has grown by more than 500% in the last five years.

ACTION STEPS

- Boards of education will be able to set their own school calendars to better meet the needs of their community.



- Parents and students will still have choice and opportunity to decide which school their child attends within the public and independent school systems.
- We will create better opportunities for parents to engage in their child's learning with more flexibility and choice with respect to what, how, when and where their child learns.
- We will expand our current learning credential program to better recognize learning that takes place outside of the classroom – like arts, sports, science and leadership programs – so that students are fairly acknowledged for this work.

4 High Standards ★★

What students know and what they are expected to learn with respect to knowledge and competencies is reflected in a strong core curriculum. Student performance with respect to provincial standards will be key to moving forward. Student progress will be reported to parents in a more meaningful, effective and consistent manner across the province, enabling parents to play a key role in shaping their children's education.

ACTION STEPS

- We will ensure our standards remain relevant and robust so that every graduate has every advantage to succeed in life.
- We will build on basic core curriculum skills but also make sure that students are well-versed in the competencies they need to succeed, like critical thinking and teamwork.
- All assessment activities, whether province-wide or classroom-based, will support ongoing student learning. Our provincial assessment programs will be reviewed to ensure they focus on key competencies and critical skills and knowledge. Classroom assessment tools, including performance standards and other assessment support material, will be developed with educators.
- Effective intervention strategies and supports will be available to teachers, students and parents to more quickly identify students who are struggling and to address their specific needs.

5 Learning Empowered by Technology

B.C. leads the country on internet connectivity – 85% of British Columbians use the internet on a regular basis.

BC's Education Plan will encourage smart use of technology in schools, better preparing students to thrive in an increasingly digital world. Students will have more opportunity to develop the competencies needed to use current and emerging technologies effectively, both in school and in life. Educators will be given the supports needed to use technology to empower the learning process, and to connect with each other, parents, and communities. Schools will have increased Internet connectivity to support learners and educators.



ACTION STEPS

- Learners, educators and families will have improved access to digital tools and resources that support both face-to-face and online learning.
- The Province will promote the use of technology for both students and educators.
- The Province's new agreement with TELUS to provide all telecommunications services for government will allow for improved access to the Internet in B.C. schools.
- An improved provincial student information and reporting system will help teachers plan a more personalized learning experience with students and teachers.



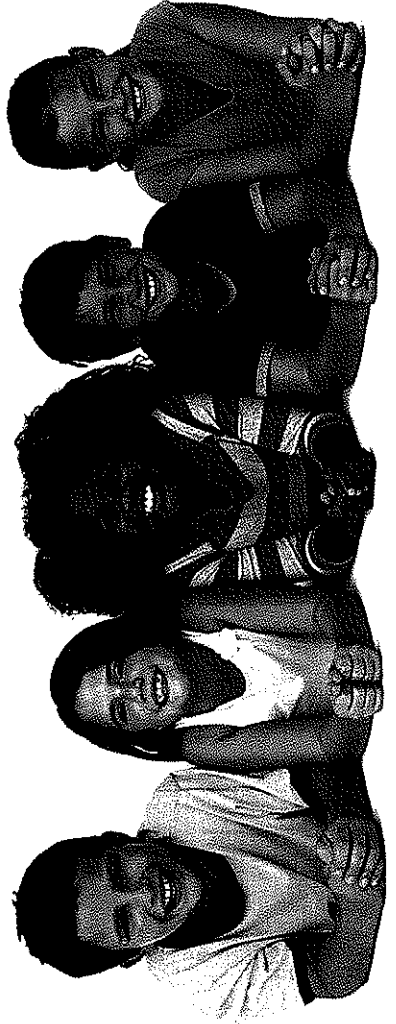
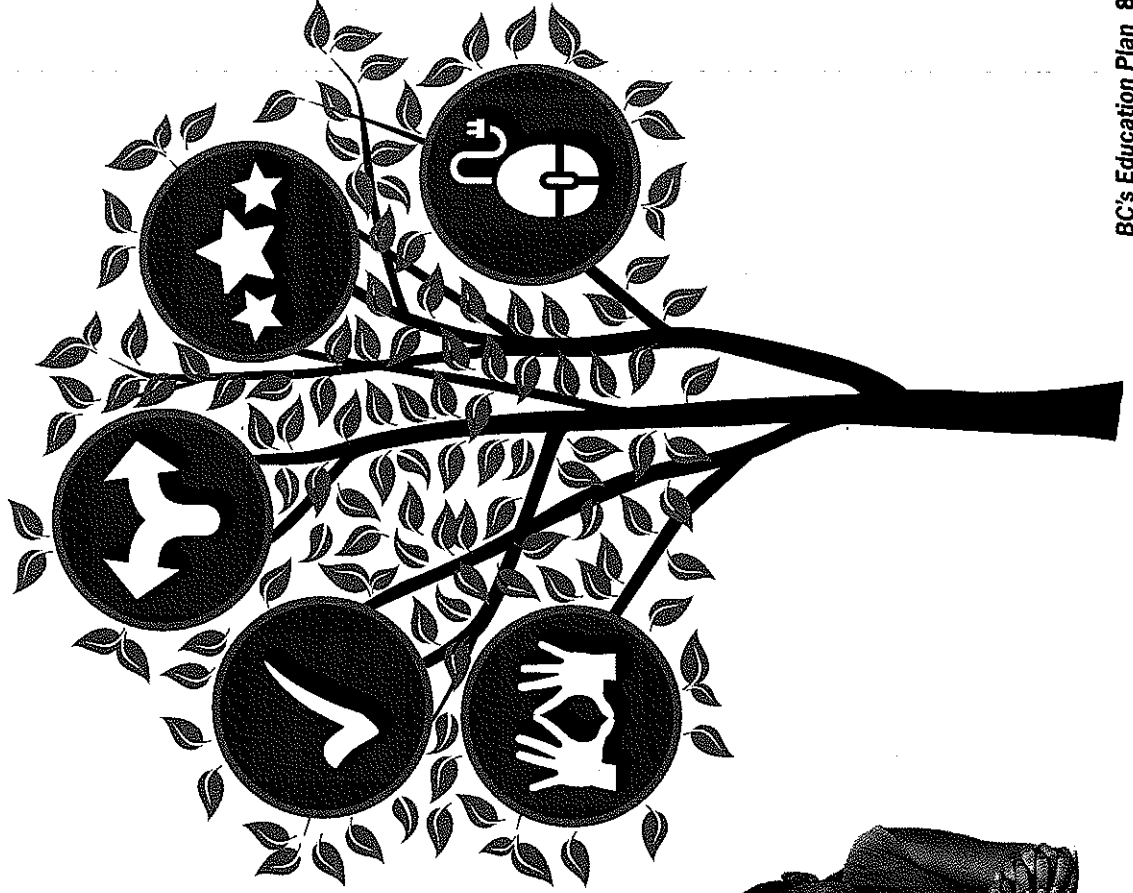
Taking The Next Steps

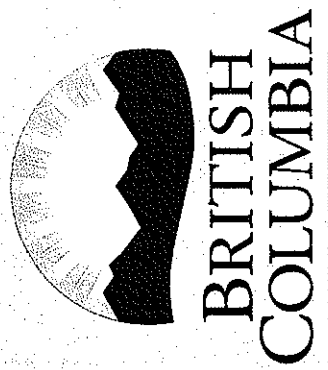
Under BC's Education Plan, ours will be an education system that's more flexible, dynamic and adaptable, to better prepare students for a bright future. We're not alone in recognizing the need for change. Jurisdictions around the world are re-examining how their education systems are designed and they are working to make them more responsive to the kind of learning children need now, and what they will need in the future.

The way to get from good to great is through personalized learning, supporting teachers, creating more flexibility and choice for families, maintaining high standards and embracing technology. It is an opportunity for every child, every student, every learner to do their very best in education.

Working with our education partners, and in consultation with the public, we will get from good to great as we bring personalized learning into classrooms. And we invite all British Columbians to get involved in this exciting transformation.

We are engaging students, parents, teachers, educators and community groups to help shape this new blueprint for education. We are bringing all education partners and the public into this dialogue to fully realize BC's Education Plan.





www.bcedplan.ca



To: Board of Education

From: Superintendent
Jan Unwin

Re: **LEARNING TECHNOLOGY PLAN**

Date: November 9, 2011
(Public Board Meeting)

Information

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The report provided at tonight's meeting is in response to the Superintendent's three year commitment to providing up-to-date information in correlation with engaging learners through the use of technology for 21st century learning.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board receive the Superintendent's Learning Technology Plan for information.



To: Board of Education

From: Acting Deputy Superintendent
Laurie Meston

Re: **ENROLLMENT REPORT**

Date: November 9, 2011
(Public Board Meeting)

Information

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

At the October 26, 2011 Public Board Meeting, the Board requested an enrollment report be brought back to the next meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board receive the Acting Deputy Superintendent's Enrollment Report for information.

Attachment

SD 42 - 1701 Enrollment Report
November 4, 2011

All 1701 Identified Students

| Head count | September 2010 | September 2011 | Difference |
|---|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Total School age grade 1 to 12 including grad and non grad adults | 13,912.00 | 13,758.00 | -154 |
| Kindergarten | 926 | 1,033.00 | +107 |
| | 14,838.00 | 14,791.00 | -47 |

| FTE | September 2010 | September 2011 | Difference |
|---|---------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Total School age grade 1 to 12 including grad and non grad adults | 13,363.75 | 13,177.00 | -186.75 |
| Kindergarten * | 691.00 FTE (926.00 HC) | 1,033.00 | +342.00 (+107.00) |
| | 14,054.75 (14289.75) | 14,210.00 | +155.25 (-79.75) |

* 470 kindergarten students counted as half time in 2010, and all kindergarten students are counted as full day in 2011, which causes an apparent increase in total FTE this year. Therefore, HC is added for kindergarten, in order to have similar criteria for both years and provide a more accurate picture of enrollment decline

Specifically Identified Student Groups (also included in the above student numbers)

| | September 2010 | September 2011 | Difference |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------|
| ESL | 283.5 | 307.0 | +23.5 |
| Aboriginal Ed | 1001.0 | 1081.0 | +80 |
| Special Education includes all Ministry categories | 1516.00 | 1586.00 | +70 |

UP IN KINDERGARTEN

From: Jodi Olstead
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2011 1:50 PM
To: Provincial Councillors; Board Chairs
Cc: Cttee-Fin; Board of Directors
Subject: 2012/2013 BCSTA Budget Feedback

Dear Provincial Councillors and Board Chairs,

As discussed at the October 22, 2011 Provincial Council meeting, the Finance Committee has requested feedback into the development of BCSTA's 2012/2013 operating budget. While no feedback was received at the October 22nd meeting, the Finance Committee wanted to ensure that Boards of Education have an opportunity to do so prior to development of the first budget draft, which the Committee will review in January for submission to the February 2012 Provincial Council. Additional feedback can be provided at the February meeting, or sent to my attention afterwards, prior to adoption of the budget at the April 2012 Provincial Council meeting.

I am therefore sending, on behalf of BCSTA's Finance Committee, a copy of Agenda Item 9.3 – 2012-2013 BCSTA Budget Planning, for your review with an invitation to provide feedback to the Committee via either mail to my attention at BCSTA, or via e-mail to me directly.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards.

Jodi Olstead, CGA
Director, Finance & Human Resources
BC School Trustees Association
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British Columbia
School Trustees
Association

ACTION ITEM #9.3

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING: October 22, 2011

STATEMENT OF ISSUE: 2012/2013 BCSTA Budget Planning

*Submitted by: Gordon Swan, Director
Chair, BCSTA Finance Committee*

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this agenda item is to:

1. Provide a review of 2011/2012 budget highlights;
2. Introduce factors that may impact the 2012/2013 budget; and
3. Invite input from Provincial Councillors to assist the Finance Committee in preparing a draft budget for 2012/2013.

Review of 2011/2012 Budget Highlights

1. Membership

BCSTA has full membership in 2011/2012.

2. Interest Revenue

This budget line, which had been reduced by \$33,000 in 2010/2011, was increased by \$10,000 in 2011/2012 to reflect a slight improvement in interest rates.

3. Government Grants

BCSTA has not received funding through government grants since 2007/2008; however, as part of BCSTA's long-term financial planning, the Board of Directors set aside the 2006/2007 Student Achievement Grant of \$150,000 to mitigate the impact of the loss of grant revenue over a period of several years. As a result, a total of \$35,000 in government grant funds was used to support the 2011/2012 operating budget:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| December 2011 Academy | \$ 10,000 |
| February 2012 Academy | 10,000 |
| AGM 2012 | 25,000 |
| Total..... | <u>\$ 45,000</u> |

As grant funds are no longer available, they will need to be phased out of BCSTA's operating budgets over the next couple of years.

4. BCSTA Meetings and Events

Based on the Vancouver Consumer Price Index (CPI) average of 1.92 percent for fiscal 2005/2006 through fiscal 2009/2010, inflation is projected to be approximately two percent for 2011/2012. Typically, these inflationary increases have the largest impact on the *AGM, Academy and Provincial Council* budget lines, but also affect the *Board of Directors* and *Standing Committee* budget lines.

The *AGM* and *Provincial Council* budget lines were each increased \$2,000 to reflect inflationary pressures.

5. Board of Directors

In 2006/2007, the Board of Director Honouraria Review Committee recommended that Board of Director honouraria be reviewed annually, with increases to be based on Vancouver's CPI.

Based on the recommendation of the Review Committee, Board of Director honouraria was increased a total of \$1,000 in 2011/2012. This increase was offset by cost savings achieved by holding online rather than in-person meetings whenever possible. This budget line therefore did not change in 2011/2012.

6. Standing Committees

The *Finance Committee*, *Education Committee*, and *Aboriginal Education Committee* budget lines were all decreased in 2009/2010 to reflect cost savings achieved by using an online meeting format and by holding meetings in conjunction with other BCSTA events. Further reductions to these budget lines were not recommended for 2011/2012.

At AGM 2010, *Extraordinary Motion 2. Increased Size of the Aboriginal Education Committee* was approved, increasing the size of the Committee from seven members to nine; consequently, the *Aboriginal Education Committee* budget line was increased a total of \$4,000 in 2011/2012.

7. Building

BCSTA's third five-year lease term with SD39 (Vancouver) began on September 1, 2009. To accommodate the increase to market lease rates, this budget line was increased \$20,000 in 2009/2010 and \$10,000 in 2010/2011, with any adjustment of the actual rate to be adjusted in the 2011/2012 operating budget, once the lease rate was negotiated.

With negotiations finalized, the new lease rate increased a total of \$28,000 per annum. As a total of \$30,000 was allocated for this increase, this budget line was reduced \$2,000 in 2011/2012.

8. Financial

No change to this budget line was recommended for 2011/2012.

9. Depreciation

Depreciation was increased \$4,000 in 2011/2012 to reflect the following offsetting factors:

- In order to keep member fees at a minimum for 2008/2009 and 2009/2010, BCSTA postponed the purchase of computer equipment and software until the 2010/2011 budget year. The purchase of these capital assets resulted in increased depreciation expense of \$6,000 in 2011/2012;
- The replacement of BCSTA's telephone system was deferred to 2011/2012, which will result in a projected \$3,000 increase in depreciation expense; and
- BCSTA's mailing system will be fully depreciated in 2011/2012, reducing this budget line by approximately \$5,000.

10. Supplies

This budget line was decreased \$3,000 in 2010/2011, reflecting the reduction in paper and toner costs that resulted from changing the *Education Leader* to an electronic publication; by using double rather than single-sided copies wherever possible; and by sending Board of Director, Standing Committee, and Provincial Council agenda packages electronically. In 2010/2011, it became apparent that savings were even higher than originally projected, and the 2011/2012 *Supplies* budget line was reduced an additional \$4,000.

11. Salaries/Benefits

BCSTA staff salary increases have been tied historically to teacher-negotiated settlements; however, a negotiated settlement has not been reached for the 2011/2012 fiscal year. The *Salary/Benefits* budget line for 2011/2012 therefore does not reflect a salary grid increase.

If the negotiated teacher contract does include a salary increase for 2011/2012, BCSTA's salary grid increase will be funded out of member equity in 2011/2012, with an adjustment to be incorporated in the 2012/2013 operating budget.

Salaries/Benefits was increased \$30,000 in 2011/2012 to reflect movement on the salary grid, rising benefit costs, and 2010/2011 staffing changes.

Action Item 9.3
2012-2013 BCSTA Budget Planning

For 2011/2012, the Finance Committee and Board of Directors determined that most cost-saving measures had already been achieved over the past three years:

- BCSTA reduced its staff complement from 13 to 12 FTEs;
- The Board of Directors and Committees are holding online rather than face-to-face meetings wherever possible, and are holding meetings in conjunction with other BCSTA events;
- All of BCSTA's publications, including meeting agenda packages, are now distributed in an online format, either using e-mail or BCSTA's website, thereby reducing BCSTA's paper, toner, courier and mailing costs;
- CSBA member fees were reduced \$25,000.

Given internal and external cost pressures, the number of budget cuts that had already been made, and the fact that member fees had not been increased in three years, putting additional pressure on budget lines, the Finance Committee and Board of Directors determined that additional budget cuts would affect BCSTA's ability to continue providing a high level of service to member boards. Rather than reduce member services, the Finance Committee and Board of Directors recommended a two-percent member fee increase, which was approved by the April 2011 Provincial Council.

2012/2013 Budget Discussion

At its June 22, 2011 meeting, the Finance Committee discussed a number of items likely to impact the 2012/2013 budget:

1. Student Enrollment Decline

As a result of declining enrollment, BCSTA member fees have been reduced over the past several years. For example, over the past five years, member fees have been reduced a total of \$71,000:

| Fiscal Year | Reduction in Member Fees |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2010/2011 | \$11,000 |
| 2009/2010 | 13,000 |
| 2008/2009 | 13,000 |
| 2007/2008 | 22,000 |
| 2006/2007 | 12,000 |
| Total | <u>\$71,000</u> |

However, in September 2010, full-day kindergarten programs were available to approximately 50 per cent of eligible children and as of September 2011 they are available to all eligible children. These FTEs will be added to the Ministry of Education's *Final FTE Enrollment* table, which, per Provincial Council directive, is the basis for calculating BCSTA member fees. As a result, the anticipated decrease in student enrollment is expected to be fully offset by the FTE increase resulting from the addition of full-day kindergarten students.

2011 enrollment data and the resulting impact on 2012/2013 member fees will be available in December 2011.

2. Membership

2007/2008 was the first year in which full member fees were allocated to the operating budget. Full membership has continued through to 2011/2012 and is expected for 2012/2013. If BCSTA does not have full membership in 2012/2013, member equity will be used to fund the loss of member fees for the first year of board withdrawal.

3. Member Equity

BCSTA does not currently have a member equity surplus. When a surplus exists, member equity is used to offset member, Academy, or AGM fees. For instance, in 2003 boards received a 50-percent reduction in AGM registration fees, and in 2009, boards of education received a two-percent member fee rebate.

4. Interest Revenue

Interest rates declined drastically in 2009/2010 and, as shown on page two, interest revenues were therefore reduced by \$33,000 in 2010/2011 with a \$10,000 correction in 2011/2012 reflecting a slight rate improvement. With the slow economic recovery, and some concern that the economic forecast may worsen, interest rates have remained low. However, an adjustment may be warranted prior to the adoption of the budget if interest rates change or are likely to change.

5. Government Grants

As shown on page two of this document, BCSTA has not received government grant funding since 2007/2008 and will be phasing grant support out of BCSTA's operating budgets over the next couple of years; however, grant funds are still available to support the 2012/2013 operating budget.

6. BCSTA Meetings and Events

Based on the Vancouver Consumer Price Index (CPI) average of 1.78 percent for 2006 through 2010, inflation is projected to be approximately two percent for 2012/2013. Inflationary increases have the largest impact on the *AGM*, *Academy* and *Provincial Council* budget lines. Hotel, meal, speaker and audio-visual costs continue to escalate, which will also impact the *AGM* and *Academy* budget lines.

7. BCSTA's Per Diem Rates

At its September 22, 2011 meeting, the Finance Committee reviewed BCSTA's per diem rates to determine if they remain comparable to rates of provincial education partner groups. An increase in per diem rates would have the greatest impact on the Provincial Council budget line, but would also affect the *Board of Director*, *Standing Committee*, *AGM*, and *Academy* budget lines.

Based on its review, the Committee determined that BCSTA's per diem rates remain comparable. The Committee also determined that a rate increase at this time would be inappropriate, given job action and budget cuts at the board level.

8. Board of Directors

As shown on page three, in 2006/2007, the Board of Director Honouraria Review Committee recommended that Board of Director honouraria be reviewed annually, with increases to be based on Vancouver's CPI.

If an adjustment is made in 2012/2013, based on the Vancouver CPI average of 1.78 per cent for fiscal 2006 through 2010, Board honouraria would increase by approximately \$1,000.

As any increase to this budget line resulting from an increase in honouraria would be offset by a reduction in meeting costs, no change to this budget line is recommended for 2012/2013.

9. Standing Committees

As shown on page four, in 2009/2010 the *Finance Committee, Education Committee, and Aboriginal Education Committee* budget lines were reduced to reflect:

- the use of online meetings using Elluminate whenever feasible, rather than holding in-person meetings; and
- holding meetings in conjunction with other BCSTA events.

In 2011/2012:

- the *Aboriginal Education Committee* budget line was increased \$4,000 to reflect the increase from seven to nine Committee members; and
- the Legislative Committee was given its own budget line.

No changes to the Standing Committee budget lines are recommended for 2012/2013.

10. Building

As shown on page four, BCSTA's third five-year lease term with SD39 (Vancouver), which provided for an increase to market rates, began on September 1, 2009. The *Building* budget line was consequently increased a total of \$28,000. No change to this budget line is recommended for 2012/2013.

11. Financial

BCSTA's five-year contract with its auditors allows for an annual increase, based on inflation. 2012/2013 will be the fifth year of the contract, and while audit costs have increased, the *Financial* budget line has not. In addition, BCSTA is providing more in-depth reporting and tracking to enable senior staff to better monitor budget lines and expenditures. As a result, software costs for the Finance Department have also increased. Total increases to this budget line are estimated at \$4,000.

12. Depreciation

In 2008/2009, BCSTA made the decision to defer the replacement of capital assets. However, as equipment has started to break down, a number of replacements have been made and the other replacements have been scheduled:

- BCSTA replaced the majority of its computer equipment in 2010/2011 and has moved its servers to a three-year rotation, with three of its nine servers to be replaced each year. Three servers will therefore be replaced in 2011/2012 and in 2012/2013;
- BCSTA's telephone system will be replaced in 2011/2012; and
- BCSTA's mailing machine will be replaced in 2012/2013.

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2012-2013 BCSTA Budget Planning

As BCSTA's document management system has not been scheduled for replacement until 2013/2014, it will not impact the 2012/2013 operating budget.

As a result of these capital asset purchases, the *Depreciation* budget is expected to increase approximately \$4,000 in 2012/2013.

13. Supplies

As shown on page five, the *Supplies* budget line was decreased \$3,000 in 2010/2011 and an additional \$4,000 in 2011/2012. Further reductions to this budget line are not recommended for 2012/2013.

14. Salaries/Benefits

As shown on page six, BCSTA's staff salary grid increases have been tied historically to teacher salary negotiations. As teacher salary negotiations are ongoing, a salary grid increase was not included in the 2011/2012 operating budget. If an increase to 2011/2012 salaries is required resultant to the teacher-negotiated settlement, the increase will be funded out of member equity in 2011/2012 and with an adjustment to be incorporated in the 2012/2013 operating budget. If a settlement has not been reached by the time the 2012/2013 budget is adopted, any staff salary grid increase for 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 would again be deferred.

While there are a number of factors expected to impact BCSTA's 2012/2013 budget, the Finance Committee, Board of Directors, and staff are committed to maintaining a high level of service to member boards while ensuring that prudent fiscal management guarantees the efficient and effective use of member dollars.

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:

October 26, 2011

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Call to Order | Meeting called to order at 3:40 p.m. |
| Motion of Exclusion | Approved |
| Correspondence | No correspondence |
| Ordering of Agenda | Approved as circulated |
| Confirmation of Minutes – September 28, 2011 | Approved as circulated |
| Superintendent Decision Item | Approved |
| Trustee Reports | |
| Other Business | |
| Adjournment | Adjourned at 3:51 p.m. |