



IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Board Chair – Kathie Ward
Vice Chair – Ken Clarkson
Trustee – Susan Carr
Trustee – Mike Huber
Trustee – Eleanor Palis
Trustee – Dr. Dave Rempel
Trustee – Stepan Vdovine

STAFF:

Superintendent – John Simpson
Deputy Superintendent – Jan Unwin
Secretary Treasurer – Wayne Jefferson
Executive Assistant – Tina Fuchs
Communications Officer – Seamus Nesling

OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order

The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Ordering of Agenda

ORIGINAL - Motion P377 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board order the agenda as amended.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Moved Deputy Superintendent's School Closure Update from Information Items to Decision Items
- Added question from French Immersion Advisory – Trustee Palis to add to the French Immersion Advisory Update

3. Correspondence

ORIGINAL - Motion P378 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive any correspondence for information.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. May 27, 2009 Public Meeting Minutes

ORIGINAL - Motion P379 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Stepan Vdovine) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the May 27, 2009 Public Meeting Minutes as amended.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Corrections:

- On page 7 of 9 - under Joint Leisure meeting – “there will be a meeting this month”.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Environment School & Community Learning Centre

Mr. Clayton Maitland (Vice Principal of Yennadon Elementary School), Ms. Jodi MacQuarrie (Yennadon teacher/librarian and Phd student SFU), and Mr. Mark Fettes (SFU Professor, Imaginative Education Research Group, Faculty of Education) made a presentation to the Board proposing to create a Maple Ridge Environmental School. The proposal had already been brought to the Education Committee prior to the Board meeting.

Mr. Maitland explained how they pieced together their information in order to come to a proposal. He also explained the background and the timeline of how it came to be as well as gave an overview of the areas that the Environmental school would focus on.

Some other points that were made were:

- Websters Corners could be a possible school location.
- Depending on the response from the community, the school could be open in the fall of 2010 or 2011.
- The Environmental school may attract students from other districts.
- They are currently researching other existing models – such as the school in south Langley.

They were looking for approval of the concept by the Board and if granted, will then immediately begin the next steps. The last round of grant applications need to be in by the 18 of September.

They then took some questions from the floor.

The Board Chair then invited anyone else to speak to any item on the agenda, at which time lead to the following questions:

1. *Kathy (DPAC) – had some questions around the dates of the school closure/amalgamation timelines, particularly the October 5th meeting. The Superintendent agreed to bring back some adjusted dates to the next public meeting on June 24, 2009.*
2. *Gladys (CUPE) – wanted clarification on the 3% Administrative Reductions- and asked if it was a Carpenter being cut or added, to which the Chair responded by saying a carpenter was being added.*
3. *Alison Patchett (DPAC) – wanted to comment on the Enviro-School presentation. She liked the idea, but explained that it is a hard pill to swallow when the District is currently talking about closing 2 other schools and then adding the program at a school that is not under consideration for closure. She also wanted to ask if staff is recommending that amalgamation with Glenwood does not look possible at this time. Her understanding is that parents were going to get information from staff and for staff were going to get information from parents. She thinks a decision is being made on a “fright or flight reflex” because they are not understanding the possibility of amalgamation. There are also safety concerns at Mountain View and 122 Avenue and parents don’t know that it could be addressed; their kids could possibly go to Glenwood but they are not thinking they can because nothing will be done in time for 2010.*

CHAIR REPORT

1. TripEd Transit Pass

ORIGINAL - Motion P380 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Eleanor Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the Chair Report for information.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Chair explained that a letter had been sent to her by the Vancouver TripEd Executive Committee advising that an opportunity has arisen through Translink’s Public Consultations Workshops this summer. The opportunity is to include a low cost group transit pass into their plan which would allow students and supervisors in K-12 to use public transit for field trips and other outings. The TripEd Executive Committee is asking for the Board’s endorsement by our sending a letter to Translink to show our support of this initiative. The deadline for letters being sent is June 30th

ORIGINAL - Motion P381 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board send a letter of support for the TripEd transit pass, to Translink before June 30th.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISION ITEMS1. Timeline

The Superintendent explained that the Board had asked for a draft timeline of consultation meetings during school closure/amalgamation process. Two potential meetings have been scheduled at each school, a couple weeks apart. The timeline is organized in such a way for the Board to have ample time to make a decision before Christmas, as they said they wanted to and this would give the minimum 60 days consultation period.

ORIGINAL - Motion P382 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Mike Huber) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the Superintendent's draft timeline of consultation meetings during the school closure/amalgamation process.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Appointment of Advisory Committee

The Superintendent reiterated that creating an Advisory Committee for the school closure/amalgamation process is advisable to make sure everything is covered and that the process is as transparent as possible.

Participants from the previous school closure are on the committee. There was some discussion at agenda prep as to whether to have Pitt Meadows involved in the discussions around two schools that are in Maple Ridge. A letter was sent to the Pitt Meadows Mayor saying that we respect their decision if they do not wish to send representatives for the committee and that we will be happy with whatever decision they make.

Discussion ensued around whether or not the Trustees felt that Pitt Meadows should be involved. For the most part, the Trustees agreed that they should be.

The Superintendent agreed to create a draft terms of reference for the school closure/amalgamation process and that he will bring it back to the next Board meeting on June 24th.

ORIGINAL - Motion P383 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the Superintendent's appointment of an Advisory Committee for the school closure/amalgamation process.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT DECISION ITEMS**1. School Closure/Amalgamation/Catchment Update**

The Deputy Superintendent distributed a hand out to everyone and reviewed the information that was gathered from the first meeting at Mount Crescent as part of the public consultation to determine the viability of amalgamating Mount Crescent Elementary with Glenwood. Out of a possible 157 affected families, there were approximately 70 people representing approximately 40 families in attendance.

Based on the feedback received, staff feel that an amalgamation with Glenwood is not a suitable option for this particular school as the data that was collected indicated that most families wished to move to the school that best meets their needs and is closest to their home. Only 7 out of 26 parents to choose a school, chose Glenwood and so it doesn't look like a complete amalgamation would play out and amalgamation cannot be forced. If Mount Crescent were to close, staff would recommend allowing parents to choose any school that is either in their home catchment or a school of choice that has room across the district.

The Deputy Superintendent advised that more information would be brought forward to the next Board Meeting on June 24, 2009.

ORIGINAL - Motion P384 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board review the information from the first meeting at Mount Crescent, consider the timeline for future meetings as presented by the Superintendent, and commit to making a decision on the future of Mount Crescent before Christmas 2009.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SECRETARY TREASURER'S DECISION ITEMS**1. Property Disposal Policy 2nd and Final Reading**

The Property Disposal Policy was put out for 30 days after the first reading and to date, no feedback has been received.

The Secretary Treasurer advised that the policy appears in order and being no feedback was received he recommends that the Board grant it a second and final reading.

The Communications Officer Seamus Nesling also advised that he added a place on the web where people can enter feedback if they wish for anything going forward, so it is now easier for people to give their input on things.

ORIGINAL - Motion P385 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the second and final reading of the Property Disposal Policy' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Budget 2009-2010

The Preliminary Budget for 2009-2010 was presented.

The Secretary Treasurer explained that a lot of quality time went into balancing this budget and it was not an easy task in order to make decisions that will protect the classroom.

The Superintendent thinks the Board represented its commitment to be as transparent as they could and spent a lot of time consulting with Partner Groups, reviewing proposals received, and altering initial proposals. Senior Team also took the direction of the Board by trying to keep cuts as far away from the classroom as possible, when possible. He thinks the budget is the best outcome that we could have anticipated.

The Deputy Superintendent weighed in by saying that it was only her 3rd year in the process, but that it was the worst year in terms of deficit. The process was certainly transparent and respectful but she also wanted to note that they are hoping get to the process earlier next year so that it is simpler.

The Vice Chair added that they were also pleased with the way everyone worked together and that the Partner Groups came forward with reasonable proposals and so we were able to meet a lot of them.

The Board Chair thanked the Partner Groups for their input this year and apologized for the short timeline.

The Budget has been broken into three groups (for Teachers, Unionized Support Staff, and Other) for the bylaws in case there are any trustees who feel that they may have a potential conflict of interest – this way they can excuse themselves.

At that time, Trustees Huber, Clarkson, and Rempel chose to abstain and therefore excused themselves for the Teacher portion of the budget/bylaws. A quorum was still present in order to proceed.

ORIGINAL - Motion P386 – 08/09

Member (Eleanor Palis) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT all decisions taken by the 2009/2010 Budget Committee during its deliberations regarding Teacher costs totaling \$75,702,813 and summarized in this report, be approved by the Board for implementation.'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P387 – 08/09

Member (Eleanor Palis) Moved, Member (Stepan Vdovine) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT pursuant to Part E, Bylaws and Resolutions, Section 3.01 subsection (d), the attached School

District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw No. 1 (Teachers) be given three (3) readings at this meeting (vote must be unanimous).¹ Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P388 – 08/09

Member (Eleanor Palis) Moved, Member (Stepan Vdovine) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw No. 1 (Teachers) be approved as read a first time.'¹ Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P389 – 08/09

Member (Eleanor Palis) Moved, Member (Stepan Vdovine) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw No. 1 (Teachers) be approved as read a second time.'¹ Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P390 – 08/09

Member (Susan Carr) Moved, Member (Eleanor Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw No. 1 (Teachers) be approved as read a third time and finally adopted.'¹ Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Trustees Clarkson, Huber, and Rempel then joined the meeting again.

ORIGINAL - Motion P391 – 08/09

Member (Eleanor Palis) Moved, Member (Stepan Vdovine) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT all decisions taken by the 2009/2010 Budget Committee during its deliberations regarding Unionized Support Staff costs totaling \$21,652,888 and summarized in this report, be approved by the Board for implementation.'¹ Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P392 – 08/09

Member (Stepan Vdovine) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT pursuant to Part E, Bylaws and Resolutions, Section 3.01 subsection (d), the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw No. 2 (Unionized Support Staff) be given three (3) readings at this meeting (vote must be unanimous).¹ Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P393 – 08/09

Member (Ken Clarkson) Moved, Member (Eleanor Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget

Bylaw No. 2 (Unionized Support Staff) be approved as read a first time.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P394 – 08/09

Member (Stepan Vdovine) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw No. 2 (Unionized Support Staff) be approved as read a second time.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P395 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Stepan Vdovine) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw No. 2 (Unionized Support Staff) be approved as read a third time and finally adopted.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P396 – 08/09

Member (Eleanor Palis) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT all decisions taken by the 2009/2010 Budget Committee during its deliberations regarding all Other costs totaling \$27,454,509 and summarized in this report, be approved by the Board for implementation.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P397 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Stepan Vdovine) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT pursuant to Part E, Bylaws and Resolutions, Section 3.01 subsection (d), the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw No. 3 (Other) be given three (3) readings at this meeting (vote must be unanimous).' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P398 – 08/09

Member (Ken Clarkson) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw No. 3 (Other) be approved as read a first time.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P399 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Eleanor Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw No. 3 (Other) be approved as read a second time.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORIGINAL - Motion P400 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Stepan Vdovine) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'THAT the attached School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw No. 3 (Other) be approved as read a third time and finally adopted.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was then advised that the Preliminary Budget for 2009-2010 and bylaws would be signed off by the Board Chair and the Secretary Treasurer and would then be submitted to the Ministry.

The Chair thanked Susanne and the Secretary Treasurer for all their hard work on the budget.

SECRETARY TREASURER'S INFORMATION ITEMS**1. Monthly Financials**

The Secretary Treasurer said that when looking at the requirement of receiving a monthly statement, we just completed April's yet we are now in June. He discussed this with the Assistant Secretary Treasurer, and wanted to advise the Board that it is too onerous to be reporting on a monthly basis, however the year will be completed in this manner. He thinks the Board should consider doing quarterly reports in summarative form because the monthly reports, even though commendable, are putting a lot of pressure on the staff and next year we will be going down one person as well.

The monthly financials show that we are looking at ending the year with small surplus and nothing has transpired since the completion of the report.

ORIGINAL - Motion P401 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'that the Board receive the monthly financials for information.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. 3% Administration Reduction

The Secretary Treasurer advised that the Board has surpassed the target that is set for the 3% administrative reduction. It is being brought to the Board Meeting to publicly show where these reductions were and that the Board protected the classrooms wherever possible.

A draft letter that the Secretary Treasurer will send on the Board's behalf to Ministry, was also brought forward for the Board's review.

Trustee Vdovine commented that he thinks the letter should the list of reductions attached to it.

ORIGINAL - Motion P402 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'that the Board receive the 3% Administrative Reductions update for information.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS - COMMITTEE & ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Education Committee

Trustee Palis submitted a written report.

A motion to approve supporting the Environmental School proposal was also moved.

ORIGINAL - Motion P403 – 08/09

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the Environment School Proposal presentation for information and accept the recommendation to prepare a survey for interest as soon as possible, as the deadline for further grant applications is September 18, 2009.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Aboriginal Education Committee

3. Human Resources Committee

4. Inclusive Education Committee

Trustee Clarkson submitted a written report.

5. Finance Committee

6. Anti-Vandalism Committee

The members of the Community Policing are attending a meeting on June 17. The Board Chair also wanted to advise that Trustee Clarkson would be attending the Ridge Meadows College graduation on her behalf.

7. Policy Advisory Committee

8. Communications Advisory

Communications Officer, Seamus Nesling, submitted a written communications update report, however it was not actually a Communications Advisory Committee report.

9. French Immersion Advisory

Trustee Palis submitted a written report.

Trustee Palis also advised that some French Immersion teachers are interested in providing a bussing service for students to attend French Immersion programs. If the Board is interested in looking into it, the criteria would be zero cost because it would be individually funded. The Board advised that they would need more information before making any decision regarding this but the Trustees agreed that they do not have a desire to go down the path at this time. Trustee Palis said that she would relay the Board's position on this proposal back to the French Immersion Advisory.

10. District Student Advisory

11. Social Wellness Committee

12. Nutrition Committee

The next meeting is on June 15.

13. Historical Committee

There is probably going to be a meeting on June 17.

14. Advocacy Committee

QUESTION PERIOD

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

TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. Ridge Meadows Education Foundation

The AGM is on June 18.

2. Joint Leisure Services

There is a meeting tomorrow (June 11, 2009) and Trustee Huber will be attending.

3. Social Planning Advisory

Trustee Huber gave a verbal update highlighting that the social planning awards nominations forms are on the website, and that the awards to recognize people and business/groups in the community who go above and beyond. He also wanted to mention an interesting fact that by 2020, almost 50% of the population of BC will be over the age of 65.

4. Municipal Advisory & Accessibility

The Committee has been addressing a lot of concerns in the schools because of the disability games coming up. It is also no cost to build accessibility into new buildings but it is a huge cost to go back and add accessibility to already existing buildings.

5. Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council

6. BCSTA Provincial Council

7. District Parent Advisory Council

8. Tzu Chi Foundation

9. Youth Society Committee

June 15 is the next meeting, which is the AGM.

10. External Representative Reports

11. Board Liaison Representative Reports

12. Other Trustee Reports

1. Good news items:

- Trustee Carr wanted to say she was at the Tzu Chi foundation event and they did a great job – she had never been to an event of theirs before. She also attended 2 grads to date and was very impressed so far. She also wanted to congratulate all the grads in the district, and point out that an amazing amount of scholarships have been awarded as well. She still has a couple more grads to attend.
- Trustee Palis, visited two more schools Yennadon & Laityview. She also attended three different dinners at SRT in the past week and a half and wanted to mention how great their food is. She was also at Westview's grad but not at SRT's.
- Trustee Huber attended a couple grads as well and two things stood out – one of the teachers who addressed the SRT grad class did an amazing job with his speech – he captivated the entire audience. The other thing he noticed and wanted to mention was the amount of emotion in the

room at the grads – it is impressive. All the teachers that could be there, were there, and all the kids after running to their parents, would then run to their teachers to thank them which was really nice to see.

- Trustee Rempel stated that the emotion involved that Trustee Huber speaks of, is all because of our teachers and the great job that they do. He also wanted to mention the amount of funding from the community and local businesses is outstanding and it compliments and shows how the community supports public education. It's unbelievable the amount of money put forward for our kids, and it shouldn't be forgotten.
- Trustee Ward commented about the Aboriginal Achievement Awards and how she was mesmerized by the drumming. It was also great to see each one of the students walk across the stage, and how they shine brightly for our district. Way to go to the staff for arranging and the to the students for their achievements.
- The Deputy Superintendent also wanted to mention that after the teacher spoke at SRT, Trustee Clarkson then sang his speech to the 500 people in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Chair

Secretary Treasurer