



**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 – Don Woytowich  
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 P353 – 08/09**

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) 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.**

Added 2 Presentations:

- CUPE Clerical Staff
- Fairview Late French Immersion

3. Correspondence

**ORIGINAL - Motion P354 – 08/09**

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Stepan Vdovine) 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.**

A letter had been received from the Ministry regarding Davie Jones' Community Connections partnership.

**ORIGINAL - Motion P355 – 08/09**

Member (Stepan Vdovine) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board move the letter from the Ministry to the Chair Report for discussion.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. April 29, 2009 Public Meeting Minutes

**ORIGINAL - Motion P356 – 08/09**

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the April 29, 2009 Public Meeting Minutes as amended.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Correction:

- Mr. Ron Lancaster title should be corrected to "Coordinator of Work Experience and Trades."

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. Youth Philanthropy Presentation – by Cathie Watkins

Ms. Watkins, Vice Principal at Samuel Robertson explained the background of the Youth Philanthropy project and that is about getting students involved in grass roots community charities.

Three grade 10 girls from SRT then made a presentation about "*Jessie's Hope*", a non-profit organization that educates, supports, and advocates for services around the issue of eating disorders in the province of BC since 1985.

The girls explained that if they were to win \$5000 for their project, they would put the money towards programming for *Jessie's Hope*, as there is a struggle with getting enough sponsors.

[www.jessieshope.org](http://www.jessieshope.org)

2. CUPE Clerical presentation - by Kris Crawford

Ms. Crawford spoke on behalf of all the Clerical staff across the District, regarding reduction of clerical hours at the Secondary level. The CUPE Clerical staff are urging the Board to seriously reconsider the proposed reductions to clerical staff and to consider other proposals instead.

She explained that the demands have grown while allocated support continues to decrease. They are requesting that the Board not decrease clerical staff by 0.5, but only by 0.25 at the very most otherwise their suggestion is to make this reduction to the clerical support that is presently allocated to the

libraries. She also highlighted some other potential areas of savings that could help with the budget cuts.

3. Fairview Late French Immersion – by Karen Olson parent from Fairview

Ms. Karen Olsen, a parent from Fairview along with a couple of other parents from the school would like to try and reinstate the late French immersion at Fairview.

The parents are wondering why the program was terminated so quickly and they claim that it came as a shock and that the parents were not given any notification prior to it being terminated.

They also feel that enrollment will drop off at Fairview, if the late French immersion program is taken away and that it's also hard for a lot of parents to get their children to Golden Ears and they also think there should be something on the west end of town.

They believe that the program was given up on too quickly and they were not given adequate time to promote the program and not all students register early on as well.

They also explained that some people have banked on the late French Immersion program and they now can't go back to the early program. Dedicated teachers there, deserve the support, they are invaluable in that school.

French Immersion Advisory Representative, Trustee Palis, then explained that as much as they want to keep the programs going, they felt the value of the program at Golden Ears. She also stated that as far as she is aware, all the communication measures were taken in order to promote it and consider it, and that the decisions were not made impulsively - a lot of considerations were taken into account prior.

4. Appeals Committee Presentation - by Laurie Meston

As Chair of Appeals Committee, the Board Chair stepped aside to participate with Ms. Meston on behalf of the Appeals Committee and so Vice Chair, Ken Clarkson, stepped up as Board Chair for the duration of the presentation.

Director of Instruction, Laurie Meston reviewed the Committee's accomplishments to date as well as the steps in the appeals process.

She explained that the Committee wanted to clarify the appeals process and create resources that would help parents and schools resolve issues.

The Appeals Committee presentation was a collaborative approach. The entire committee which was made up of representation from CUPE, MRTA, PVP Association, Aboriginal Education, DSAC, DPAC, Don Woytowich, Stewart Sonne, Laurie Meston, and Kathie Ward, worked tirelessly to put together a document that can be easily followed, has common language, and that hopefully will meet the needs of all in the district.

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It is important that these folks get the recognition they deserve, as this was a long process that has resulted in a fabulous draft. They believe that when it is in place throughout the District, parents, students, and staff will feel empowered as they deal with whatever problems or concerns they are having. The appeals process is in a "draft" format and they are accepting input into the documents, to improve on any areas.

**ORIGINAL - Motion P357 – 08/09**

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

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Board Chair then invited anyone else to speak to any item on the agenda, at which time there were none.

**CHAIR REPORT**

1. Correspondence

A letter from the Ministry had sent a letter to advise that Davie Jones has been successful with their Community Connections partnership, which was a good news story.

**DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT DECISION ITEMS**

1. Maintaining a Local School Calendar

**ORIGINAL - Motion P358 – 08/09**

Member (Eleanor Palis) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the Deputy Superintendent's report on Maintaining a Local School Calendar.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Deputy Superintendent submitted a report on maintaining a local school calendar including extended day and year-round schooling, as well as the related Procedure and Policy.

School Districts are no longer required to submit to the Ministry of Education individual yearly school calendars.

It was recommended that the procedure which was received by the Board on May 10, 2006, be reviewed and streamlined. The recommended amendment would be to limit the scope of the procedure to only include the principal's report on the outcome of their yearly consultation process with the PAC, SPC and staff. The Board Chair requested that it be clear in the procedure that streamlining is only for existing schools, if a new school is changing their calendar then they will need to follow the entire procedure.

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These alternate calendars have been in place for many years and the process of submitting a lengthy report that in all cases is only slightly altered from year to year. The District is really working towards streamlining all things that they do so that they can continue to focus on teaching and learning. A shorter, more streamlined approach to this procedure would be beneficial to schools.

**ORIGINAL - Motion P359 – 08/09**

Member (Ken Clarkson) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board approve the Deputy Superintendent's recommendation to amend the Maintaining a Local School Calendar procedure in order to limit the scope of the procedure to only include the principal's report on the outcome of their yearly consultation process with the PAC, SPC and staff.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**SECRETARY TREASURER'S DECISION ITEMS**

1. Budget Discussions

**ORIGINAL - Motion P360 – 08/09**

Member (Ken Clarkson) Moved, Member (Mike Huber) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the Secretary Treasurer's update on the Budget discussions.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Secretary Treasurer advised that there was nothing new to report and that they are just continuing to get feedback. Most of the proposals that have been put forward are still up for consideration.

Partner groups have until May 21 to submit input and to offer alternatives to the cuts that have been proposed in the draft preliminary budget. The Board felt it was important to meet with partner groups after May 21 so that there would be clarity around the process. The Board will approve a draft budget on May 27 however the Board can potentially accept input right up until the last board meeting in June.

**ORIGINAL - Motion P361 – 08/09**

Member (Ken Clarkson) Moved, Member (Stepan Vdovine) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board direct Staff to arrange for a meeting with all Partner Groups to communicate final budget decisions, prior to the first meeting in June.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Alternative Schools Survey

At the last board meeting Staff were directed to create a survey to administer and so Staff is now bringing forward 2 draft surveys to the Board, for input and for a proposed timeline.

**ORIGINAL - Motion P362 – 08/09**

Member (Stepan Vdovine) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board direct Staff to coordinate the implementation of the survey, by using a number of methods and including costs, prior to the end of June.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT'S INFORMATION ITEMS****1. Coordinated Timetable Survey Results**

Mr. Stewart Sonne, Director of Secondary and Adult Education, presented the Coordinated Timetable Survey Results as well as explained the survey. He highlighted some things that would work well and other things that may propose issues.

**ORIGINAL - Motion P363– 08/09**

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the report on the Coordinated Timetable Survey results, for information.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**2. School Closure/Amalgamation/Catchment/Riverside**

The Deputy Superintendent presented the Board with an update as this will be a standing agenda item at the Board meetings, as the process continues.

There was no new information to report at this time.

Riverside will be open for September 2009 and the school is already staffed. The majority of responses from the public consultation was that the school not close until 2010.

**ORIGINAL - Motion P364– 08/09**

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Susan Carr) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the Deputy Superintendent's report on school closures/amalgamation/catchment/Riverside, for information.' Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **INFORMATION ITEMS – SECRETARY TREASURER**

### 1. Purchasing Policy

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion P365– 08/09**

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Eleanor Palis) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the Secretary Treasurer's report on the Purchasing Policy, for information.'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Secretary Treasurer was advised at a past Board meeting to bring this policy back to the Board for information.

### 2. BC Hydro Position

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion P366– 08/09**

Member (Dave Rempel) Moved, Member (Ken Clarkson) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board receive the Secretary Treasurer's report on the BC Hydro Position for information.'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0.

**The motion CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Secretary Treasurer presented the final agreed to job description for the BC Hydro Energy Manager Position. The position will be paid for entirely by BC Hydro and it is a 5-yr contract position.

## **COMMITTEE BUSINESS - COMMITTEE & ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### 1. Education Committee

### 2. Aboriginal Education Committee

Trustee Palis submitted report

### 3. Human Resources Committee

Trustees Clarkson and Palis stated that they had attended a behavioral interviewing workshop.

### 4. Inclusive Education Committee

### 5. Finance Committee

### 6. Anti-Vandalism Committee

### 7. Policy Advisory Committee

### 8. Communications Advisory

9. French Immersion Advisory

10. District Student Advisory

The DSAC meeting that was scheduled for the day prior had been cancelled.

11. Social Wellness Committee

12. Nutrition Committee

The next meeting will take place on May 25 at 3:30 pm.

13. Historical Committee

14. Advocacy Committee

There will be a meeting on Tuesday, May 19, at 9 am at Whonnock.

## **QUESTION PERIOD**

### **1. Public Questions**

A question was raised around Riverside closure dates and the criteria from a Riverside Parent wanting to plan ahead for his child– it was addressed by the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent and reiterated that Riverside will remain open for September 2009.

Concern was voiced about the lack of choice for schools for some people who live too far from the new school of choice. It was advised that this will be handled on a case by case basis and that students from Riverside who are trying to get into Alloutte for this year, have been waitlisted and that Glenwood is currently not a school that is being considered for closure or amalgamation.

### **2. DPAC Questions**

There was a question around the common timetable survey and bussing which was addressed by the Superintendent.

### **3. Employee Group Questions**

The MRTA raised a question about whether or not there was still time available for them to meet with the Board on an individual basis to discuss their input on the Budget. The Secretary Treasurer agreed that he could meet with them individually if necessary to answer some of their questions.



## TRUSTEE REPORTS

### 1. Ridge Meadows Education Foundation

There is a meeting in June.

### 2. Joint Leisure Services

There is a meeting scheduled for the following night after the Board meeting.

### 3. Social Planning Advisory

Trustee Palis submitted a report.

### 4. Municipal Advisory & Accessibility

Trustee Huber advised that there had been a meeting and that most of the focus was put on the upcoming nominations for the awards to recognize employees who go beyond the standards. There are also venue tours taking place for the upcoming Disability Games and it is progressing very well

### 5. Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council

There is a meeting at end of the month.

### 6. BCSTA Provincial Council

There will be a meeting sometime in October.

### 7. District Parent Advisory Council

The AGM on is going to be on June 1<sup>st</sup> in the Resource Center, from 7-9 pm.

### 8. Tzu Chi Foundation

Had a meeting on May 12, and they are currently planning the May 28 celebration from 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm, which hopefully the Trustees can attend. There will be invitations sent and information is available to the public.

### 9. Youth Society Committee

They are going to meet next month because this month they went to the Home Show instead of having meeting. They had a booth sponsored by McDonald Realty which helped to raise money along with the Shuttle donations.

10. External Representative Reports

11. Board Liaison Representative Reports

12. Other Trustee Reports

1. Good news items:

- Trustee Rempel advised that Mr. Doug Hoey came and made an excellent presentation to the Rotary Club regarding Aboriginal Education.
- Trustee Palis said that Garabaldi interviews took place and were a great experience for the kids.
- The Deputy Superintendent advised that Davie Jones will be making a presentation to the Board in June regarding their “Odyssey of the Mind” project.
- The Superintendent shared that typically at this time of year it isn’t unusual for the District to have lost 75 to 90 kids from the schools. He advised that the completion rates are not in yet, but that out of all the 6 Secondary schools in the District, so far only 5 kids have been lost, which is wonderful.
- The Board Chair had attended the Open House at Pitt Meadows Secondary, and she went into the science wing, was great for her to be able to walk through the school and talk with some of the teachers and student to see some of the work that they have been doing.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

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Chair

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Secretary Treasurer