



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SUNSHINE COAST BOARD OF EDUCATION
(SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 46)**

Held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011
At the School Board Office, Gibsons, B.C.

PRESENT: TRUSTEES: S. White, Chair; L. Pratt, Vice-Chair; F. Heppell;
J. Scott; G. Russell; D. Mewhort

STAFF: P. Bocking Superintendent of Schools
Stewart Hercus, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Nicholas Weswick, Secretary-Treasurer
C. McPhedran, Administrative Assistant

#23 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair White opened the meeting by acknowledging that it was taking place on the traditional territories of the Squamish Nation. He welcomed Coast Reporter C. Wood, DPAC secretary, S. MacKenzie and Alternative School principal, C. Spence.

He extended an official welcome to the district's Secretary-Treasurer, N. Weswick.

#24 Presentation

a) Celebrating Education – Alternative Program, Carolyn Spence, Principal

Kim Johnson and Shannon Paul, students of the Alternative School, spoke to the Board of their positive experiences with the Alternative Program. They reported that the one-on-one instruction and the structuring of programs with the focus on the student's individual abilities all help to give them confidence and direction in planning for their future goals. They gave a brief description of the Culinary Arts, Salon and Marine Industries Services Training (MIST) programs.

b) “The REACH Initiative – or Re-Integrating Existing Assets in Community Hubs” Chad Hershler, Executive Director, *deer crossing* – The Art Farm

Chad Hershler provided a presentation to the Board, outlining the REACH Initiative. The art farm is a not-for-profit arts organization on the Sunshine Coast. Its mission is to create meaningful change for individuals and communities by facilitating collaboration between artist, innovators and the natural world.

#25 Public Question Period

There were no questions at this time.

#26 Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: Russell/Pratt

“THAT the agenda of the November 8, 2011 be adopted as circulated.”

Carried.

#27 Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings

MOTION: Russell/Pratt

“THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 11, 2011 and the Record of the Closed Meeting of October 11, 2011 be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

#27 Reports

a) **Superintendent’s Report**

Strategic Plan Update

i) Numeracy and Literacy

Superintendent Bocking spoke to his report.

ii) Student Achievement

Superintendent Bocking spoke to the Board regarding the need for student assessment and reviewed the definition of Formative and Summative Assessment.

The Board commented on and asked questions about the data found in the Achievement Contract. It was noted that the Early Learning data was very encouraging showing a definite link between what the district has done through the Early Learning Programs and the end results.

Superintendent Bocking spoke about Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) Reporting.

There was discussion regarding the six-year completion and grade 12-graduation rate. The Board asked Superintendent Bocking to find out the Ministry’s

definition of eligible versus first-time graduation rate and also the correct percentage of students going on to post secondary training.

Discussion followed on the 'next steps'. Superintendent Bocking is looking forward to having discussions with teachers. He went on to say that a comprehensible plan, which is understood by every one, is important.

b) Other Reports

i) BCED Plan

Superintendent Bocking provided a short web presentation on the BCED Plan. The ministry is welcoming feedback.

ii) Annual Facilities Grant Funding Formula

In response to a request from the October board meeting, Secretary-Treasurer Weswick summarized the Funding Formula for the Annual Facilities Grant.

c) Information Items

- i) Cheques Issued – larger cheques issued in month of October.

d) Board/Committee Report

i) Chair's Report

Chair White gave a verbal report. He spoke of his recent opportunity to speak to Minister of Education, G. Abbott at the Provincial Council Meeting, stating that he made a case for the Gibsons Elementary School rebuild. He announced that Mr. Abbott would be confirming his visit to the district in the near future.

He reported on the recent Parks and Recreation Consultation session with the SCRD that he attended with Trustee Russell.

ii) Vice Chair's Report

Trustee Pratt spoke to her report.

iii) Education Committee Notes – October 29, 2011

Report as submitted.

iv) Finance, Facilities & Transportation Notes – October 29, 2011

Report as submitted. The next meeting will be at the Sechelt Learning Centre on November 17, 2011 at 1 p.m.

MOTION: Russell/Pratt

“THAT the reports be received.”

Carried.

#28 Correspondence

- (a) Minister G. Abbott, Letter to Board Chairs (149087)
- (b) Minister G. Abbott, Education Plan (Ref. 149551)
- (c) Minister G. Abbott, Teachers Act outgoing (Ref. 149548)

MOTION: Scott/Pratt

“THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) draft a letter of support to C. Hershler for the REACH Initiative.”

Carried.

MOTION: Russell/Pratt

“THAT the correspondence be received.”

Carried.

#29 New Business

There was no new business.

#30 Questions and Inquiries From the Public Relating to the Board Meeting

L. Perpet asked further on the approximate 7 percent decline in the graduation rate for special needs students.

R. Emerson, CUPE representative, thanked the Board for their three years of service. She commented that libraries are excellent places to learn and that funding will need to increase to bring them up to the level they once were.

#31 Next Meeting

MOTION: Russell/Pratt


“THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) approve the date of December 6, 2011 for the Inaugural Board Meeting.”

Carried.


#32 Adjournment

MOTION: Russell/Pratt

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



Chair



Secretary-Treasurer