



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
SUNSHINE COAST BOARD OF EDUCATION  
(SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 46)  
Held on Tuesday, December 11, 2012  
At the School Board Office, Gibsons, B.C.**

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PRESENT: TRUSTEES: S. White (Chair), B. Baxter (Vice-Chair), L. Dixon,  
D. Mewhort, L. Pratt, G. Russell, C. Younghusband

STAFF: P. Bocking, Superintendent of Schools  
G. Kitchen, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
N. Weswick, Secretary-Treasurer  
E. Reimer, Administrative Assistant

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#33. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Chair White opened the meeting and acknowledged that it was taking place on the traditional territory of the Squamish Nation.

#34. Presentation

(a) Celebrating Education

Healthy Buddies – V. Ryden

Valerie Ryden made an engaging presentation on the Healthy Buddies program. Healthy Buddies is a locally developed program that promotes healthy living through peer teaching. With instruction from a teacher, children in grades 4-6 “buddy” and teach younger children healthy living using materials from the program’s resource box. The unique program addresses health as moving vigorously, eating well and feeling good about one’s self. The program was first developed 12 years ago as a partnership between psychologists, BC Children’s Hospital and local teachers in reaction to raising obesity rates in children. A study on the program’s positive results, including increased healthy living knowledge and lower BMI in participants, has been published in Pediatrics journal. Ms. Ryden pointed out that the easy-to-use bins have been designed to address mandated learning outcomes, and that the contents are both engaging for kids and professional for teachers.

(b) Open Source Software – C. MacInnes S. Morton & N. Smith

SPIDER program teachers; Cindy MacInnes, Sean Morton and Nick Smith, presented on the benefits of open source software and resources. Ms. MacInnes began the presentation by offering some background information on the SPIDER online learning program. She indicated that SPIDER teachers began the Open Source

Inquiry project to gather information from School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) employees on their exposure and understanding of open sources software, as well as to increase awareness. Mr. Morton and Mr. Smith in turn presented on how open source software would aid in removing technology barriers for students. They explained that opens source software are free, user-driven programs that are available to download, change, modify and improve. Unlike proprietary software, the programs can be tailored and modified to suit the needs of the users. It was also reported that a switch to open source software could provide an alternative to piracy for students who might not otherwise be able to afford required software.

Chair White thanked the presenters and welcomed the audience, recognizing those who were attending in a district leadership position as well as CUPE, SCTA and DPAC representatives.

#35. Public Question Period

J. Walls, a teacher at Pender Harbour Secondary, questioned the board regarding a letter from Minister Don McRae, regarding skill and trades training which had been included in correspondence in the October board package. Mr. Walls inquired how the board planned to direct management to implement these programs.

Chair White responded that the board has been consistent in providing feedback to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government services that the district needs budgetary support for trades training. He also pointed out the board approved Strategic Plan includes a goal to expand career and apprenticeship programs.

Superintendent Bocking reiterated the districts commitment to advancing training for skilled trades and indicated that a dedicated principal has been appointed to bring career and apprenticeship programs forward.

#36. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: Younghusband/Pratt

“THAT the agenda of December 11, 2012 be adopted as circulated.”

Carried.

#37. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings

MOTION: Baxter/Younghusband

“THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 13, 2012 and the Record of the Closed Meeting of November 27, 2012 be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

#38. Reports

(a) Executive Report

(i) Strategic Plan Update: Aboriginal Education

Superintendent Bocking spoke to his written report. He indicated that aboriginal education is a district priority and reported that the Board will be meeting with the Sechelt Indian Band in January 2013 to discuss the Enhancement Agreement.

(ii) Other Reports

1. Superintendent's December Report

Superintendent Bocking highlighted items from his written report, including an update on DPAC and the Parent Teacher Communication Committee. He recognized Diane Wagner's great efforts in creating a district Facebook page that celebrates the successes of students and staff.

a. ERASE Bullying

Assistant Superintendent Kitchen took a minute to provide supplemental information on the provincial ERASE Bullying website (<http://www.erasebullying.ca/>). The website includes an anonymous reporting tool where students and parents can report incidents of bullying. Information provided through the tool is then forwarded to appropriate teams at school districts. The website is also a valuable resource to parents.

Superintendent Bocking took a moment to recognize outgoing District Principal D. Galazka for his hard work and wished him well in his future endeavors. Congratulations were given to V. Clarke for her appointment as District Principal, Student Support Services.

2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Submitted as written.

(iii) Information Items

1. Larger cheques written in the month of November 2012.
  - a. Corrected report for September 2012
  - b. Corrected report for June-August 2012

Trustees engaged in a discussion regarding the Executive reports. Trustee Dixon requested information regarding aboriginal completion rates be disseminated to parents. Trustee Russell requested additional information on completion rates be

provided at the January 2013 meeting of the board. A discussion took place regarding the development of the short-term international program.

(b) Board/Committee Reports

(i) Board Report

Chair White submitted the report as written and invited Secretary-Treasurer Weswick to provide additional information on the unrestricted surplus plan.

Secretary-Treasurer explained that the board had already allocated \$600,000 directly to schools at the September board meeting. After consultation with CUPE local 801 and SCTA representatives, a plan was created for the remaining \$304,191.

MOTION: Russell/Baxter

“THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) approve the unrestricted surplus plan.”

Discussion followed.

Opposed: L. Dixon  
Carried.

Chair White asked for input from the board prior to striking the Ad Hoc Trustee Honorarium Committee. He indicated that policy dictates that the trustees strike a committee during the second year of each term to review trustee honorariums.

MOTION: Baxter/Russell

“TO defer discussion of trustee honorariums for at least one year, until there is no longer a Co-operative Gains Mandate and public sector wage freeze.”

Discussion followed.

Opposed: D. Mewhort, L. Pratt  
Carried.

Chair White asked for feedback on the draft submission to the BC Coast Ferries consultation. No changes were suggested.

(ii) Education Committee Notes – November 28, 2012

Trustee Younghusband submitted the report as written. She thanked committee members for the rich conversation at the meeting and highlighted key points from the report.

(iii) Ad Hoc Superintendent Evaluation Committee Notes – November 21, 2012

Trustee Mewhort provided information on the Superintendent Growth Plan and Evaluation Program being presented by the committee for ratification. He clarified that the evaluation process consists of three parts:

1. Annual performance plan
2. Annual growth plan
3. Summative evaluation and report – every three years.

Trustee Mewhort noted that there were minor housekeeping/formatting issues that would be corrected in the final version of the plan; in addition, the following changes would be included:

- “F) Expectations” – added to the Superintendent’s Summative Report
- “Satisfactory or Less than Satisfactory” – added to the Superintendent’s Summative Report
- “Improvement Plan” to be included in package

MOTION: Younghusband/Pratt

“TO adopt the Superintendent Growth Plan and Evaluation Program as amended”

Carried.

MOTION: Russell/Pratt

“TO receive the reports.”

Carried.

#39. Correspondence

- (a) M. Pearson – Concerns re: Davis Bay Elementary
- (b) J. Stelter – Concerns re: Davis Bay Elementary
- (c) UBCM – Final School Community Connections Grant
- (d) Minister D. McRae – ERASE Bullying Announcement (Ref: 162654)
- (e) Minister D. McRae – Cooperative Gains Mandate (Ref: 163945)
- (f) RCCS – February 6<sup>th</sup> Presentation by Dr. Kimberly Schonert-Reichl
- (g) N. Nuraney – Artists in Education 1 Funding Grant

Chair White requested board feedback prior to responding to the letters from Davis Bay Elementary parents. A discussion followed.

Secretary-Treasurer elaborated on the savings plan described in the letter from Minister D. McRae (Ref: 163945). He reported that the request could present significant ramifications for the budget. Trustees engaged in heated discussion regarding the Minister’s request with a general consensus on the insufficiencies of the required timelines and that the province should be providing additional funding for any proposed increase.

MOTION: Mewhort/Baxter

“THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) respond to the Minister’s letter (Ref: 163945) in the strongest possible terms.”

Carried.

MOTION: Russell/Youngusband

“THAT the correspondence be received.”

Carried.

#40. New Business

(a) Regulation 1745 – Responding to a Threat of Potential Violent Behaviour

Assistant Superintendent Kitchen reported that the new regulation was ready for circulation.

(b) Capital Project Bylaw 116215 (School Bus Replacements)

1) MOTION: Baxter/Mewhort

“THAT School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) Capital Project Bylaw No. 116215 in the amount of \$78,001 be read for a first time.”

Carried.

2) MOTION: Baxter/Pratt

“THAT School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) Capital Project Bylaw No. 116215 in the amount of \$78,001 be read for a second time.”

AMENDED: “THAT School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) Capital Project Bylaw No. 116215 in the amount of \$78,011 be read for a second time.”

Carried.

The Board unanimously agreed to move to a third reading.

3) MOTION: Baxter/Pratt

“THAT School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) Capital Project Bylaw No. 116215 in the amount of \$78,011 be read for a third time, passed and adopted.”

Carried.

#41. Next Meeting

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held at the School Board Office on January 8, 2013.

The Operations Committee meeting scheduled for December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 has been cancelled.

#42. Questions and Inquiries From the Public Relating to the Board Meeting

M. Baba inquired if the school district has any bylaws or regulations that govern where tax payers' money is spent. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick responded that the district has a regulation that that favors local purchasing if proposals or prices are equal otherwise. However, local preference cannot supersede the district's responsibility to achieve the best value for the taxpayer (3.11).

C. Smith asked for clarification on the funds designated to health and safety training in the unrestricted surplus plan. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick responded that the majority of funds would be going towards harassment awareness training.

I. Jaques inquired as to the nature of the professional arts activities that would be taking place with the funding provided by the ArtStarts grant. Superintendent Bocking clarified that the funds support professional artist visits to district schools.

#43. Election of Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick assumed the role of Chair for the purpose of the election of the Chair.

Nominations were received for Trustees Mewhort, White and Russell. After the third call for nominations was completed, Trustee Mewhort declined his nomination. Trustees White and Russell accepted their nominations and an election took place. Upon voting, Trustee White was announced as Board Chair.

#44. Election of Vice-Chair

Nominations were called for Vice-Chair. Nominations were received for Trustees Baxter and Pratt. After the third call for nominations was completed, Trustee Pratt declined her nomination and Trustee Baxter was acclaimed to the position of Vice-Chair.

#45. Election of Board Representatives

(a) B.C. Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA)

Nominations were called for BCPSEA Trustee Representative. A nomination was received for Trustee Mewhort. After the third call for nominations was completed, seeing no other nominations, Trustee Mewhort was acclaimed to the position of BCPSEA Trustee Representative.

(b) B.C. School Trustees' Association Provincial Council (BCSTA)

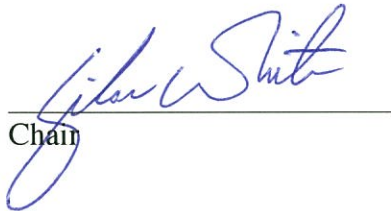
Nominations were called for BCSTA Provincial Councillor. Nominations were received for Trustees Younghusband and Pratt. After the third call for nominations was completed, Trustee Younghusband declined her nomination and Trustee Pratt was acclaimed to the position of BCSTA Provincial Councillor.

#46. Adjournment

MOTION: Pratt/Mewhort

“TO adjourn”

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

  
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Chair

  
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Secretary-Treasurer