



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

Held on Tuesday, November 13, 2012
At the School Board Office, Gibsons, B.C.

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

#22. Call to Order

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

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

#23. Presentation

(a) Celebrating Education

There was no Celebrating Education presentation.

(b) Importance of Immunization – J. Rzepa

J. Rzepa, Team Leader Public Health and Prevention for Vancouver Coastal Health, presented on immunization trends and coverage rates on the Sunshine Coast. Ms. Rzepa indicated that school entry immunization rates were at 59% in 2011/12. The Regional Vancouver Coastal Health's goal is to increase this rate to 90%. Ms. Rzepa listed strategies that might help to improve this rate, including the re-implementation of the "kindergarten fair" for immunizations and an education campaign. It was noted that if vaccine coverage rates fall, the potential exists for a disease to rapidly spread in the under-immunized or unimmunized population. For additional information on the benefit of immunizations, Ms. Rzepa suggested visiting <http://www.immunizebc.ca>.

Chair White welcomed the audience and recognized the following individuals; C. Woods, Coast Reporter; M. Baba, CUPE Local 801; C. Smith, CUPE Local 801; S. Mackenzie, DPAC; and Erin Brooks-Wilson, DPAC.

#24. Public Question Period

There were no questions asked at this time.

#25. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: Russell/Younghusband

“THAT the agenda of November 13, 2012 be adopted as circulated.”

Carried.

#26. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings

Trustee Russell requested a correction on page 6 of the draft minutes: “The ~~committee~~ Board will be seeking input from the public in the future.”

MOTION: Russell/Baxter

“THAT the amended minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 9, 2012 and the Record of the Closed Meeting of October 9, 2012 be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

#27. Reports

(a) Executive Report

(i) Strategic Plan Update

1. Superintendent’s Report on Achievement

Superintendent Bocking spoke to his report and applauded the work being done in the district, which is reflected in the district’s higher than average results in every category, including completion rates.

Superintendent Bocking also highlighted the district’s six, seven and eight year completion rates. Chair White indicated that seeing that these reports were now being provided by the Ministry that the motion on the floor to resubmit a request that they be provided could be rescinded (motion passed at the June 12, 2012 Regular Board Meeting). There were no objections to rescinding the motion.

A discussion followed regarding the results of the Student Safety Survey included in the report. Board members questioned the results of the question posed to grade 10 and 12 students, “Do you know what your school’s expectations are for student behaviour?” It was suggested that the question be re-worded to provide more accurate results.

MOTION: Baxter/Pratt

“THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) approve the Superintendent’s Report on Achievement as presented.”

Carried.

(ii) Other Reports

1. Superintendent’s November Report

Superintendent Bocking reviewed his written report. A discussion followed.

a. Elementary School Report Card Templates

Small formatting changes were made to the Elementary School report card templates that had been previously. As the substance of the report cards was not altered, the revised report cards were included for informational purposes.

It was noted that the Learning Improvement Plan (LIF) summary was not included in the agenda package and a copy was provided. Assistant Superintendent Kitchen elaborated on the plan, noting that \$380,446 had been distributed based on feedback from principals. The remaining funds, \$46,880, are being held in reserve for future needs.

2. Enrolment Results

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick spoke to his written report. He reported that enrolment for the district was slightly higher than projected and translated to an additional \$44,000 in funding.

He also reported that he and Superintendent Bocking are currently engaging in consultations with PACs and principals at Sechelt area schools concerning over-capacity issues at West Sechelt Elementary. He indicated that school-by-school consultations are being arranged prior to beginning a public consultation process early in the new year, with no Sechelt-wide student redistribution changes taking place until September 2014, however boundary changes could be possible.

Secretary-Treasurer noted an error in his written report; under the heading Carbon Neutral Capital Program, the report should read “School District No. 46 will submit the maximum **allowable** required number of projects available.”

(iii) Information Items

1. Larger Cheques Issued in the Month of October 2012.

(b) Board/Committee Reports

(i) Board Report

The report was provided as written. Trustees Pratt and Younghusband provided additional feedback on their experiences at We Day.

MOTION: Pratt/Younghusband

“THAT School District 46 further investigate becoming an official educational partner with We Day and Free the Children.”

Carried.

1. Strategic Plan 2012-2015

Chair White highlighted the Strategic Plan, which had been reviewed at the October 23rd Committee of the Whole meeting. He noted that the Strategic Plan included was missing two previously approved changes; on page 6, bullet point 5 should read “Maintaining and enhancing **distributed** ~~distance~~ learning initiatives” and on page 8, bullet point 7 should read, “Expanding our **post-secondary** partnership with Capilano University.”

MOTION: Mewhort/Pratt

“THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) adopt the 2012–15 Strategic Plan.”

Carried.

Chair White spoke to a request from the BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) for feedback into the development of their 2013/2014 operating budget. He indicated that BCSTA’s rationale in the past has been not to increase membership fees due to a declining enrolment.

The Board agreed with this practice and requested a motion to provide the following input to BCSTA.

MOTION: Mewhort/Pratt

“THAT considering enrolment is still in decline in School District No. 46, there should continue to be no BCSTA fee increase.”

Carried.

(ii) Education Committee Notes – September 26, 2012

Trustee Younghusband highlighted the committee’s discussion regarding outdoor education and requested the following recommendation:

MOTION: Younghusband/Baxter

“THAT the Board direct administration to implement an outdoor environmental education model that includes partnership with community agencies and businesses.”

A discussion followed and the following friendly amendment was offered.

AMENDMENT: Russell/Mewhort

“THAT the Board direct administration to *develop* an outdoor environmental education model that includes partnership with community agencies and businesses.”

Opposed: Mewhort, Dixon, Baxter,
Pratt, Younghusband
Defeated.

The original motion was then debated and carried.

Opposed: Russell
Carried.

(iii) LGBT Ad Hoc Committee Notes – October 30, 2012

The report was submitted as written and the following recommendations were requested:

MOTION: Baxter/Russell

“That the LGBT Ad Hoc committee recommend education for staff, specifically on gender identity and sexual orientation, and that resources be made available.”

Carried.

MOTION: Baxter/Pratt

“That School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) develops a brochure on Policy 2760 Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation.”

Carried.

Trustee Baxter thanked committee members for their work and indicated that seeing that the committee has concluded their work, there would be no further meetings.

(iv) Ad Hoc Superintendent Evaluation Committee Notes – October 17, 2012

The committee notes were submitted as written.

(v) BCSTA Provincial Council Report

Trustee Pratt spoke to the report and highlighted BCSTA’s “#MeTooBC” campaign to bring public education to the forefront for the upcoming election. She also reported that April 28th has been designated Public Education Day in BC.

MOTION: Russell/Youngusband

“THAT the reports be received.”

Carried.

#28. Correspondence

- (a) Minister D. McRae – Seismic Mitigation Project (Ref. 162159)
- (b) Teachers’ Pension Board of Trustees – Teachers’ Pension Plan Actuarial Valuation Report
- (c) District of Sechelt – Sechelt Learning Centre Resolution of Support
- (d) Sunshine Coast Regional District – Sechelt Learning Centre Resolution of Support

MOTION: Pratt/Mewhort

“THAT the correspondence be received.”

Carried.

#29. New Business

- (a) Draft Regulation – 3750 Portable Soccer Nets

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick provided information on the draft regulation.

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

E. Brooks-Wilson asked how many schools benefited from LIF funds and the reason for the funds' reserve. Assistant Superintendent Kitchen indicated that the funds were distributed primarily to K-7 schools and that the Ministry had suggested that districts hold some funds in reserve, up to 30%.

E. Brooks-Wilson also commended the Board for wanting to be aware of the programs being offered through the district and pointed to the JUMP Math program, indicating that it is not approved at the Board level.

M. Babba requested clarification on the emergency preparedness issue discussed at DPAC, specifically what preparations were being done and when the plan would be made available to staff. Assistant Superintendent Kitchen reported that after considerable review, a plan has been put into place and emergency and first aid supplies are housed in storage containers at all schools. He also indicated that the district office took part in a test run of the plan last year. M. Babba requested that the emergency plan be made available to staff, including those working after school hours, and that specific emergency procedures be made clear for those working outside of school hours. Assistant Superintendent Kitchen indicated that procedures may not have been developed yet for staff working outside of school hours and that the issue will have to be addressed. A discussion took place regarding access to the storage containers. E. Brooks-Wilson will ask PACs to report on the number of keys available for these storage containers.

Y. McGillivray cautioned that in developing an outdoor education program, the Board of Education should keep in mind the recent Supreme Court ruling against School District No. 44.

#31. Next Meeting

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held at the School Board Office on December 11th, 2012.

The Operations Committee meeting scheduled for November 15th, 2012 has been cancelled.

MOTION: Pratt/Youngusband

“THAT the committee agendas be approved.”

Carried.

#32. Adjournment

MOTION: Youngusband/Pratt

“TO adjourn”

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.


Chair


Secretary-Treasurer