



**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 46 (SUNSHINE COAST)**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE NOTES**  
**Held on Thursday, September 24, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.**  
At the School Board Office – Gibsons, BC

---

**PRESENT:** Betty Baxter, Dave Mewhort, Greg Russell, Lori Pratt, Christine Younghusband, Lori Dixon, Patrick Bocking, Greg Kitchen, Nicholas Weswick, Carolyn Smith, Marnie Baba, Erica Reimer (Recording Secretary)

**REGRETS:** Silas White

---

Vice-Chair Baxter chaired the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. and the agenda was renumbered.

1. Ministry Update

Superintendent Bocking reported back on the ministry update received at the BCSSA Conference in August. A copy of his full presentation is attached to these minutes. Topics discussed included:

- Bargaining
- BCeSIS
- Effective learning environments
- Graduation and completion rates
- District scholarships
- Upcoming review of the provincial assessment program (FSA)
- Renaming of ESL (English as a Second Language) to ELL (English Language Learning)
- Calendar flexibility
- Aboriginal Education
- ERASE bullying

The committee engaged in a conversation on how to best evaluate graduation rates and student success, noting that the investigation into individual situations can lead to a richer understanding of why students may or may not graduate.

2. Report Back on 2012-13 Unrestricted Surplus

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reported back on survey results for requested information on the use of 2012-13 unrestricted surplus funds, how their use supported their school plan and how consultation took place. The results of the survey were included in the meeting package

and discussed by the committee. It was noted that information from Roberts Creek Elementary was excluded from the report in error and would be provided at a future meeting.

A discussion took place regarding involvement of CUPE staff in school-based budget decision-making. It was noted that CUPE staff are welcome at all staff meetings, but many do not elect to participate because they do not receive pay for that time.

It was suggested by a member of the CUPE executive that consultation occur during the paid hours of all CUPE staff. It was further suggested that additional advocacy for such consultation take place at a ministerial level to support full consultation.

### 3. Communications Plan

Superintendent Bocking presented a working communications plan for the school year that lists discussion topics and management reports to future board and committee meetings. A discussion ensued as to whether the plan would be made available to the public on an ongoing basis. It was decided that the plan would act as a guide for agenda setting meetings but would not be a public document as it would likely change depending on meeting needs and emergent issues.

A reminder was made that board committee meetings are open to the public. Additional information regarding meeting dates and times can be found on the school district's website at: <http://www.sd46.bc.ca/index.php/2013-14-board-meetings>.

### 4. Policy Review

The committee reviewed a video, presented by the Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia, that "...assesses school board structures and activities as well as the Ministry of Education's support for school district governance and accountability." The video can be found online at <http://www.bcauditor.com/pubs/2013/report2/school-district-board-governance-examinations>.

The committee discussed documents included in the meeting package including a list of policies to be reviewed and concluded that there is a need to reinstate the board's policy committee. The following recommendation was made:

#### **Recommendation:**

#### **"That the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) strike a Policy Committee"**

The committee went on to prioritize policies to be addressed at a future meeting:

1. Correct the lack of matches between policies and regulations, as listed in the Policy Review document in the meeting package.
2. Review the "Role of Trustee", specifically addressing conflict of interest (both for trustees and at the organizational level), donations and volunteerism.
3. Review the "Role of Board Committees", including the addition of a Policy Committee and related terms of reference (Policy 5.8)

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.



# **Committee of the Whole**

**September 24th, 2013**

## BCSSA CONFERENCE

- \* Tone for the year: positive!
- \* Keywords:
  - \* Student Success
  - \* Collaboration
  - \* Inquiry

# Ministry of Education

- ✿ Rod Allen, Superintendent of Achievement for Minister Fassbender
- ✿ 19 new superintendents this year, almost 1/3.
- ✿ They are quite focussed on bargaining right now.
- ✿ Excited but concerned about possible distractors.

# Education in B.C.

- ✿ International profile: we do very well and others are flabbergasted with what happens in bc.
- ✿ Teachers maintain high quality in the classrooms. Our kids are strong on the basics: we are in the top 5 in the various assessments.
- ✿ We don't sit on our laurels: we continue to work on transforming our educational systems. They are envious of this.
- ✿ Others in the world see us as highly successful. We have the courage to be continually striving to do better in BC.

# LEARNING

- \* Amazing to see the focus on learning last year in the province after a challenging year of political challenge.
- \* Keep distractors to a minimum. We need to keep focused on students and their learning.

# SUPPORT

- \* For BC, government will support, or enable, educational change. We will not follow the "worst example", but support the best example.

# DISTRACTORS

- ✳ Cooperative Gains Mandate: 75% of public sector have settled: not education. Must find salary increases from within the sector.

Government view: why not?  
Everyone else has settled.

## BCPSEA/BCSTA/ CUPE/GOV

10 year agreement: this is an enabler.

Gov bargaining directly with BCTF. BCSPSEA role has changed.

Public administrator (Marchbank) in place of the directors.

This is interim. Trustees are there in an advisory capacity.

Spokesperson (Cameron) appointed to lead discussions with support staff and teachers.

Provincial reply to savings plan was 60 times "no". Gov still wants it. Cameron has said that there needs to be a Savings Plan.

This is a major distractor, potentially, for student learning (CUPE and BCTF).

# BCeSIS

- At the end of the process
- FUJUSTU is lead proponent. Completing negotiations.
- September 2014 for lead districts to get started on the cycle.
- Doing this because it can support student improvement. Biggest issue is for the product

# Learning Environments

- \* Learner centred focused on learning with the key role for teachers
- \* Structured and well-designed
- \* Profoundly personalised
- \* Inclusive
- \* Social

# SOME CONSIDERATIONS

- grad rate - completion rate is very challenging for calculation. They have changed it and we have grad and completion rates.
- adjusted eligibility for adult dogwood
- Move towards district scholarships: keep money the same but more at the district level.
- LIF
- Early learner supports: stay focused on foundational pieces (READING)
- ESL now English Language Learning - more respectful of learners.
- Reviewing the provincial assessment program: FSA as they are? Not necessarily. Looking at a better way.
- Calendar flexibility - why determine from the centre?

# WHAT IS AN EDUCATED CITIZEN?

## New curriculum

- \* Advisory group on provincial assessment. BCTF interested in conversations: excellent dialogue to date.
- \* Consultation on grad requirements.
- \* Defined essential competencies for all students.
- \* Flexible, reduce prescription, essential learnings, key concepts and enduring understandings, explicit 21st century competencies.
- \* Cross curricular, aboriginal learnings and world views.
- \* Develop assessment and evaluation programs that align with changed emphases in curriculum.

# GRADUATION

- \* 13/14: field based dialogue. September: begin post-secondary transitions consultation.
- \* October to December: partner and field sessions to refine directions
- \* March 31 2014 Target for recommended changes.
- \* Ensure communication is good with people: we're still doing this and moving forward. Keep checking in with political direction.
- \* Post secondary people can be an issue: "they need the 96% in physics", for example.
- \* Phasing out Passport to Education but keeping the funds the same. Going to a different process. Shifts to the district awards scholarships over three years.

# TEACHING AND LEARNING

- ★ABCDE: discussions about how to ensure graduating teachers are ready to teach. Speak to university advisors about this.
- ★Special education: 10 school districts are piloting a COMMON VISION based on RTI/UDL, Early Intervention Practices, Transitions.
- ★One Pro-D day is to have a focus on Careers

# ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

- 53 districts have signed at least one Enhancement Agreement
- Common threads: increased success, integrated content, shared responsibility.
- Results: over last 10 years completion rates have increased 11%
- September 19 is Educational Day (DeDe DeRose leading). Web casting is a part of it as well.

# ERASE

- Lots of work done, 4000 people trained., 85,000 visits to ERASE bullying website.
- 5 year, four level support.

# MINISTRY INTENTIONS:

- \* stay focused on learning
- \* expand and develop new skills and trades pathways
- \* field testing k to 9 curriculum.
- \* be a champion for transformation
- \* be bold

## FINAL COMMENT

"We are the people we have been waiting for."

## Through a different lens (SD67)

- Identify students who did not complete schools. The indicators were:
  - grade
  - aboriginal
  - grade 4 fsa
- They need independent and personal interventions.
- Focus on literacy: e.g. reading and completion.
- SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS: an adult who cared about them as a person.
- Design a program for the at risk learner, ( k to 12). Deliver it to the whole class.
- <http://differentlensblog.blogspot.com>

## SD8 LEARNS

- Any time, any place learning

Focus areas: Early learning, leadership development, learning networks, mobile shift, capacity building

# LEADERSHIP @ VANCOUVER DSB

## STRUCTURES

- Professional Growth Plan Focus Groups
- Book clubs
- inquiry groups
- Separate meetings only for principal growth.
- Human Capital, resonates with professional autonomy
- Social Capital: relations amongst people. How the quantity and quality of interactions and social relationships among people affect student success.
- Trust!

# School District No. 46

- \* Tons of excellent activities happening district-wide and in all schools. Some of the more evident:
  - \* Reading: We are determined that all students will read.
  - \* School Completion: We are determined that all students will graduate or know the reasons why.
  - \* Social Responsibility: We are determined that all of our students will learn in safe, accepting schools.