



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

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Held on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.
At the School Board Office – Gibsons, BC

PRESENT: TRUSTEES: Betty Baxter, Chair; Lori Dixon; Greg Russell; Lori Pratt;
Christine Younghusband
STAFF/OTHERS: Patrick Bocking, Superintendent; Greg Kitchen, Assistant
Superintendent; Nicholas Weswick, Secretary-Treasurer; Erica Reimer, Recording
Secretary
REGRETS: Trustees Dave Mewhort and Silas White

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m.

1. 2015/16 Calendar Consultation Plan

Assistant Superintendent Kitchen distributed a preliminary draft consultation plan for review and feedback. The committee discussed the proposed timelines and made several suggestions. The committee agreed that the consultation should look at multiple calendar options, including ideas such as a balanced school year or a four-day school week, in addition to the question of a two-week spring break. Trustees indicated a preference to calendar options that support student learning and initiatives in the Strategic Plan. It was further suggested that the district ensures a broad audience for the consultation that would include chambers of commerce and tourism bureaus, in addition to staff, students and parents. Assistant Superintendent Kitchen agreed to bring a revised plan including the suggested changes to the May board meeting.

2. Job Action Update

Superintendent Bocking provided an update regarding the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF) job action. He indicated that BCTF members will partially remove services in a stage one of job action. This includes refusal of supervision during recess, lunch, and before and after school hours, in addition to not meeting with principals. There is a possibility of rotating strikes in the future depending on progress made in bargaining. He reported that a teleconference call with principals had taken place the morning of the committee meeting to discuss logistics and plans for supervision during lunches and at the end of the school day. A letter to parents will be distributed.

3. External Committee Reports

Trustee Dixon reported on meetings with Vancouver Coastal Health's Healthy Schools, which includes representation from the SCTA, CUPE, and parent representatives. The committee hopes to provide schools with information on the benefits of immunization and healthy nutrition. Topics discussed by the committee have included Langdale

renovations, school nurses, and the interface between Vancouver Coastal Health and the school district.

Trustee Russell indicated that minutes from the SCR D Transportation Committee and the Sunshine Coast Youth Action and Awareness Committee (SCYAAC) are shared regularly through the Trustees' Notebook.

Trustee Pratt reported on initiatives through Voice on the Coast to attract and retain young people and families to the Sunshine Coast. She noted that the board has increased substantially over the past year.

Trustee Younghusband reported on her position as liaison to the Sechelt Indian Band noting potential partnerships with a new program being designed by Candace Campo that aligns with the Strategic Plan.

Trustees were encouraged to continue to submit minutes and meeting synopses for distribution through the weekly Trustees' Notebook. External committee liaisons will be asked to report again in the fall. The committee suggested future revisions to the policy outlining the Role of the Trustee to support and encourage reporting from external liaison positions.

4. BCSTA Membership

Trustees reviewed materials provided in the meeting package and weighed the benefits of maintaining membership in the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) to the annual cost of membership. It was noted that the district has a strong presence in BCSTA with several trustees sitting on committees and working groups. It was further suggested that additional discussion to support the board's BCSTA representatives would be beneficial. Trustees concluded that, despite inadequate advocacy for trustee governance of BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA), significant value was received from BCSTA and that the board should maintain membership with the association.

The committee agreed to table the following agenda item (*Policy: Role of the Chair*) and continue discussion regarding trustee professional development funds. A request was made to remove non-related materials from the meeting package available on the district's website. Trustees noted the benefits of professional development to enhance their roles and abilities as publically elected officials. The committee agreed that an accountable framework to support the use of professional development funds would be beneficial.

Recommendation:

“To strike an ad hoc committee to create a framework for trustee professional development and report back to the board in June with policy. Trustees Pratt, Dixon and Russell volunteer for the committee.”

Next meeting: May 27, 2014

- Policy review: Role of the Chair