



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

Held on Tuesday, December 10, 2013  
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

REGRETS: Student Trustee M. Treuheit

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#31. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

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

#32. Presentations

a. Celebrating Education: Cool School – C. Smethurst, R. Boutilier and J. Wallace

Gibsons and Elphinstone Community School Coordinator, Christina Smethurst, provided a brief overview of the “Cool School” program, which runs afterschool on Tuesdays at Elphinstone Secondary. Cool School instructor, Roy Boutilier, spoke to the history of the program, which provides hands-on trades education opportunities to students. The program is self-funded with the assistance of Howe Sound Pulp and Paper and the Gibsons and Elphinstone Community School. There are six instructors who volunteer their time to teach students woodworking, automotive, forging, casting and metal work. The program is well received with anywhere from 25-30 students attending Cool School sessions on Tuesdays. The program provides students with substantial experience and is beneficial for those moving to BCIT or other trades training programs in their post-secondary careers.

b. Wi-Fi – L. Barnett

Lesley Barnett submitted for consideration the results of a petition advocating for the hard wiring of all internet connections within schools and the adoption of a stringent alternate technology plan. Ms. Barnett provided additional information by way of a written statement, which she read for the board. Information was provided to trustees supporting her request.

Chair White noted that Wi-Fi would be discussed at the upcoming Operations Committee meeting of December 19, 2013.

#33. Public Question Period

A West Sechelt resident, Brent Watson, requested information regarding the proposed catchment adjustments for West Sechelt Elementary.

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick provided a response, noting that the proposed adjustments would be discussed further at the Operations Committee meeting scheduled for December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

#34. Adoption of the Agenda

**MOTION:** Mewhort/Pratt

“THAT the agenda of December 10, 2013 be adopted.”

Carried.

#35. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings

**MOTION:** Mewhort/Baxter

“THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 12, 2013 and the Record of the Closed Meeting of November 26, 2013 be adopted as circulated.”

Carried.

#36. Reports

a. Executive Report

i. Strategic Plan Update:

1. Superintendent’s Report on Achievement

Superintendent Bocking indicated that the Education Committee had discussed the *Report on Achievement* at their November meeting and responded to questions from the board. Superintendent Bocking agreed to report back on the graduation rates from June 2013 as well as Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) results to the Education Committee.

2. Community Partnerships

Superintendent Bocking spoke to his report and noted that the list of community partners provided in the meeting package is result of a brainstorming session with principals. He indicated that it was not an official list.

ii. Other Reports

1. Superintendent’s Report

The report was submitted as written.

Assistant Superintendent Kitchen reported that the district is seeking input on the school year calendar, the survey is available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5MDK23K> until January 24, 2014.

Assistant Superintendent Kitchen also reported that the district anticipates signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Child and Family Development and the RCMP. The memorandum defines the district’s relationship with the RCMP and outlines procedures to share information to ensure the safety of students.

Superintendent Bocking reported that as a result of an earlier board motion, district schools will become official partners with We Day and Free the Children. District schools have committed to taking on one local action and one global action each year as part of the partnership.

**MOTION:** Pratt/Mewhort

“THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) endorse partnership of School District No. 46 and Free the Children”

Carried.

2. Administrative Regulations to be Received:

- a. Reg 3470 – Renovations

**MOTION:** Pratt/Baxter

“THAT Regulation 3470 (Renovations) be received.”

Carried.

iii. Information Items

1. Larger Cheques Written in the Month of November 2013

The report was submitted as written.

b. Board/Committee Reports

i. Board Report

The report was submitted as written. Chair White highlighted the ratification of the CUPE agreement that will be in place until June 2014.

Trustee Pratt reported back on the BCSTA Trustee Academy.

1. Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services

Chair White reported back on the recommendations of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services, which included a positive response from the committee to fund the costs of K-12 funding, as well as provide additional funding for students with special needs and trades education programs.

ii. Committee of the Whole – November 26, 2013

The notes were submitted as written.

**MOTION:** Baxter/Pratt

“THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) approves Policy 7 (Trustee Donations) as follows:

7 *TRUSTEE DONATIONS*

*In recognition of Policies 3, 3.7, 3.12 and 3.15, the Board of School Trustees of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) believes that for effective and ethical governance, the office of trustee must be clear of any perception of favouritism or conflict of interest; and furthermore that our schools, programs, employees and students must be clearly separated from individual political or personal interests. Consequently, the Board of Trustees of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) supports individual trustees making general, anonymous, un-targeted donations to the school district as a whole.*

Trustees debated the motion. Trustee Russell requested that a statement be recorded in the minutes:

“I understand the value of having general policy as guidelines, but a trustee’s rights, responsibilities and obligations are governed by the School Act, not by board policy. As such, board policy should not be inconsistent with the School Act (or other acts of law) and should always reflect what is in the best interests of the students of the School District.”

Upon voting, the motion carried.

Opposed: Dixon, Russell  
Carried.

**MOTION:** Baxter/Younghusband

“THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) revise the Terms of Reference for the Education Committee in Policy 5 (Role of Board Committees) as follows:

(i) Education Standing Committee

*Terms of Reference: The Education Committee shall review and consider the governance of education issues including curriculum; programs; education policy; student assessment; and student achievement.*

Carried.

iii. Education Committee Notes – November 27, 2013

The notes were submitted as written. Trustee Younghusband requested that “Community Partnerships” and “Completion Rates” be added to a future meeting agenda.

**MOTION:** Younghusband/Pratt

“THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) approve the Work Experience 10 Board/Authority Authorized Course.”

Carried.

**MOTION:** Younghusband/Baxter

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

Carried.

iv. Operations Committee Notes – November 21, 2013

The notes were submitted as written.

**MOTION:** Pratt/Younghusband

“THAT the reports be received.”

Carried.

#37. Correspondence

a. N. Parker – SD46 Student Trustee at OSTA-AECO

**MOTION:** Russell/Younghusband

“THAT the correspondence be received.”

Carried.

#38. Questions and Enquiries from the Public Relating to the Board Meeting

- A member of the audience asked for additional information regarding the community partnership list. Superintendent Bocking provided a response, noting the goal of the exercise was illustrate how comprehensive our connections with the community are.
- A member of the audience requested clarification on the reasoning behind the decision to only allow trustees to make untargeted donations. Chair White provided a response.

#39. Next Meeting

The next public board meeting will be held on January 14, 2014.

**MOTION:** Pratt/Baxter

“TO approve the committee agendas.”

Carried.

#40. Board Elections

a. Board Chair

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

Nominations were called for Board Chair. A nomination was received for Trustee Baxter. After the third call for nominations was completed, and seeing no other nominations, Trustee Baxter was acclaimed to the position of Board Chair.

b. Vice-Chair

Nominations were received for Trustees Pratt and Younghusband for the position of Vice-Chair. After the third call for nominations was completed, an election took place. Upon voting, Trustee Pratt was announced as Vice-Chair.

c. Board Representatives:

i. BC Public School Employers’ Association

Trustee Baxter assumed the role of chair for the remainder of the elections.

Nominations were called for BCPSEA Trustee Representative. Nominations were received for Trustees Mewhort and White. Trustee White declined the nomination and Trustee Mewhort was acclaimed to the position of BCPSEA Trustee Representative

ii. BC School Trustees’ Association (BCSTA) Provincial Councillor

Nominations were called for BCSTA Provincial Councillor. Nominations were received for Trustees Younghusband and White. Trustee Younghusband declined her nomination and Trustee White was acclaimed to the position of BCSTA Provincial Councillor.

**MOTION:** Pratt/Younghusband

“TO destroy the ballots.”

Carried.

#41. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Pratt/White

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



Chair



Secretary-Treasurer