



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

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE NOTES

Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 9:30 a.m.
School Board Office - Gibsons, BC
494 South Fletcher Road
Gibsons, BC

TRUSTEES: M. Hampvent (Committee Chair), S. Haines, S. Leech, P. Ruth

STAFF: P. Bocking, Superintendent; N. Weswick, Secretary-Treasurer; R. Collison, Manager of Facilities; P. Luporini, District Principal; L. Leskie, CUPE Local 801; J. Budgell, CUPE Local 801; K. Daub, CUPE BC; S. Knauff, CUPE Local 801; J. Shelemey, SCTA; S. Woodruff, Coast Reporter; E. Pednaud, Better Fields Committee, D. Robens, Better Fields Committee; E. Reimer, Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

REGRETS: P. Bishop, Director of Instruction; K. Kerr, Director of Instruction

1. Call to Order

Trustee Hampvent called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The agenda was reordered; "Process Related to Ministerial Announcement" was removed from the agenda and "School Fields" was moved to item 4 on the agenda.

2. Cameras on Buses

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reported back with statistics received from the RCMP relating to failure to stop for a school bus. The RCMP also provided the following information regarding the usefulness of video evidence:

"To answer your question, any type of video evidence would be helpful for traffic prosecution of a traffic violation. However it would not prevent the witness from attending court. The viewing of the video by an officer is one component of the evidence and would support the writing of the ticket however the driver must be able to provide evidence stating that they were the driver of the bus from where the video was extracted. They could confirm that an offence happened based on

"x". ex. the stop arm was down, or the red lights were activated as it's likely the video will not capture the actions taken by the bus driver."

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reached out to the Powell River school district for information on the impact of cameras on buses. Unfortunately, the Powell River school district has not collected data but reported that they felt the installation of cameras was a worthwhile expense.

The district tested several dual lens dash cameras but noted that dual lens cameras do not have sufficient resolution to capture license plates. The district is considering installing two separate cameras, one lower resolution interior camera and a higher resolution exterior camera. Thirdwave Bus Services will consider how to install the cameras, when the time comes, in a manner that is secure and protects both the camera and footage from theft or damage. The district will likely engage in a privacy impact assessment given the nature of the surveillance. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reported that the district plans to move forward with the installation of cameras, provided the district and Thirdwave can address any privacy concerns.

The committee discussed the possibility of installing extended stop arms, which act as a physical barrier preventing cars from passing a bus when utilized. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reported that the extended stop arms are still in a trial phase and have not been approved for use in British Columbia. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick noted that the contractor owns the buses and the installation of any device must be negotiated with the service provider.

3. Unspent AFG Funds

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reported that recent roofing and dust collector projects, funded under the Annual Facility Grant (AFG), had come in under budget and approximately \$200,000 in funding was available for additional upgrades should the board approve a spending plan. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick spoke to his written report which suggested prioritization for use of the funds, and requested board support for the plan which would prioritize the funds for use for:

- Priority 1: Seismic upgrades to items within the district building that could pose a hazard in the event of an earthquake, for example lighting fixtures, projectors, clocks, etc. The district suggests engaging a consultant to assess and identify risks. As such, costs relating to mitigation are as yet unknown.
- Priority 2: Solar PV array at Gibsons Elementary School. The return on the investment could result in additional savings on an operational level.

- Priority 3: Install wood fiber at school playgrounds to eliminate the need to “fluff” the pea gravel currently used to cushion students in the event of a fall, which currently uses approximately 5 days of staff time per month.
- Priority 4: Improved maintenance of fields to ensure the community is supported.

The committee discussed the suggested priorities and two options were presented as potential recommendations to the board:

Option 1: "That the report be presented as written for consideration of use of unspent AFG funds."

Option 2: "That the funding plan be re-prioritized to support grounds and fields before solar PV."

4. School Fields

Mr. Pednaud and Mr. Robens, members of the community based Better Fields Committee, provided a verbal report to the committee and noted the following:

- The SCR D is hosting a meeting in the final week of January to determine needs and to create a plan relating to the use of fields on the coast.
- The Better Fields Committee would like to collaborate with local governments to improve fields.
- The Elphinstone Secondary fields have been identified as a potential pilot project for the improvement of fields. The Better Fields committee has suggested, in addition to turf improvements, the installation of lights, bleachers, and access to change rooms and washrooms.

Mr. Robens identified ways in which the improvements would align with the board’s strategic plan.

Secretary-Treasurer reported that the Joint-Use Agreement contains a capital component whereby the SCR D can, and has in the past, committed funds to support community enhancements at school district sites.

It was further noted that the school district maintains approximate 114 acres at 13 schools, and currently spends approximately \$325,000 on field maintenance, including staffing.

Recommendation: “To convene a Joint Use Committee meeting with the SCR D to establish terms of reference, taking into consideration public involvement, and to develop a regular meeting schedule.”

5. Budget Discussion

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick spoke to a budget presentation, available on the district website at <https://sd46.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019-11-Ops-Presentation.pdf>. The committee discussed student enrolment, overall teacher FTE, overall staffing, and a comparison of funding and spending for special education.

The committee discussed the ongoing Funding Model Review process and speculated on potential changes to the funding model. The ministry has announced that the final report will be announced in March 2020.

More information on the Funding Model Review process is available at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/resource-management/k-12-funding-and-allocation/funding-model>.

6. Regulations for Review:

6.1 Reg. 5040 – Fundraising

The item was deferred to the December Operations Committee due to time limitations.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.