

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

Wednesday, October 14, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
School Board Office - Gibsons, BC
494 South Fletcher Road
Gibsons, BC

TRUSTEES: S. Leech, Vice-Chair, A. Amaral, Trustee, M. Hampvent, Trustee, S. Haines, Trustee, S. Girard, Trustee, T. Ste. Marie, Trustee

STAFF: P. Ruth, Board Chair, P. Bocking, Superintendent, N. Weswick, Secretary-Treasurer, P. Bishop, Director of Instruction, K. Kerr, Director of Instruction, E. Reimer, Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary), A. Grunenber, Student Trustee

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

Chair Ruth acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the unceded territories of the Sechelt and Squamish Nations. Due to COVID restrictions, the meeting was attended by trustees and staff only, with some trustees attending via video conference. The meeting was live-streamed to the district's YouTube channel to enable public participation.

2. Celebrating Education: Welcome Back to School - P. Bocking

Superintendent Bocking shared a compilation of pictures of students and staff during the recent return to school.

3. Process for Questions from the Public

Questions and enquiries from the public were invited by email to questions@sd46.bc.ca for discussion at the end of the meeting.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved: Haines

Seconded: Amaral

MOTION: "THAT the agenda of October 14, 2020 be adopted."

Carried

5. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings and Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes - September 9, 2020
- b. Record of Closed Meeting - September 9, 2020

Moved: Amaral

Seconded: Ste. Marie

MOTION: "THAT the Regular Meeting September 9, 2020 and the Record of Closed Meeting of September 9, 2020, be approved."

Carried

6. Reports

- a. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Bocking reported on:

- Students are returning to school, thriving in an environment of kindness, and adapting to changes implemented due to the pandemic,
- Option 2 transition phase students are being asked to determine their intention to continue the school year either in-class or on-line learning by November 9th,
- StrongStart programs continue to take place outside with a registered attendance in place,
- The district participated in Orange Shirt day on September 30th,
- Several university virtual events are scheduled for secondary students,
- The district recognized teachers on World Teachers Day,
- Staff participated in the first of four professional development session with Shelley Moore to support inclusive education,
- Vancouver Coastal Health and School District No. 46 hosted a virtual Town Hall live on Facebook,
- Exposures at schools within Vancouver Coastal Health's regional area (Vancouver, Richmond, North and West Vancouver and along the Sea-to-Sky Highway, Sunshine Coast and BC's Central Coast) are being reported to their website,
- Schools participated in "Active Transportation Week".

Superintendent Bocking shared three short poems from the recent Coastal Voices anthology of student writing. Special thanks went out to Jane Davidson and John Lussier for their continuing work in compiling and publishing the anthology.

b. Strategic Plan Reports

1. Goal 1.c. - Core Competencies

Director Kerr reported on:

- The connection between core competencies and the first people's principals of learning.
- Ways in which younger students are prompted to reflect on their own core competencies.
- The integration of core competencies in competency based individual education plans (CB-IEP).

2. Goal 1.k. - Fine Arts

Superintendent Bocking spoke to his written report and indicated that the district Fine Arts committee will develop a plan for implementation. Additional reports will follow as the year progresses.

3. Goal 3.c. - Collaboration and Partnerships

Director Kerr reported on the district's involvement in the intergovernmental local action team that supports children and youth.

c. Administrative Regulations in Circulation:

1. Reg 2140 - Visual Identity: Circulating until Dec. 23, 2020

The regulation is entering the circulation phase and was reviewed by the Committee of the Whole at the meeting taking place on September 22nd.

d. Administrative Regulations to be Received

1. Reg. 1230 – Process for Administrative Regulations

The regulation was edited to allow for a ten-week circulation phase.

2. Reg. 3090 - Food in Schools

e. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick spoke to his written report.

Moved: Haines

Seconded: Amaral

MOTION: "TO write a letter to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure in support of improvements to highway safety for students attending Langdale Elementary."

Carried

1. Enrollment Report

The board reviewed early enrollment numbers. The shift in educational practices for the 2020-21 school year has resulted in a net decrease in funding of approximately \$1,000,000 at “brick & mortar” schools as a result of the online learning option. The Sunshine Coast Online program, operated by SPIDER, generated additional funding and added staffing to address in increased demand.

A number of schools have seen enrollment shifts and are not being asked to reorganize classes or adjust staffing. This has resulted in the need to provide schools with supplemental funding in order to support the existing staffing levels.

2. Federal Funding and Unrestricted Surplus

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reported on the consultation process for the federal Safe Return to School funding and reported on the plan, in which the cleaning and custodial supplement, outdoor learning facilities, and school enrollment decline funding constitute the largest line items.

Trustees requested an opportunity to discuss the plan in detail at an upcoming meeting and to address recent requests from PACs for additional support for food programs.

The board agreed to consider the recommended motion in order to distribute funds to schools in a timely manner.

Moved: Haines

Seconded: Amaral

MOTION: "THAT the Board of Education of School District No.46 (Sunshine Coast) approve both the recommended plan for the Federal Safe Return to Class fund as well as the distribution of \$500,000 of Unrestricted Surplus to schools."

Carried

3. Proposed Bylaw Amendments for Electronic Voting

The board agreed to a further amendment to Bylaw 50:

50.3 When a trustee cannot be present in person but is participating in the meeting via telephone or other electronic means, the Chair may permit ~~that trustee~~ all trustees to vote by electronic ballot, in a manner that preserves the secrecy of the ballot.

Moved: Amaral

Seconded: Haines

MOTION: "THAT the amendments to bylaw 50 (Inaugural Meetings) be read for the first time."

Carried

Moved: Amaral

Seconded: Ste. Marie

MOTION: "THAT the amendments to bylaw 50 (Inaugural Meetings) be read for the second time."

Carried

Trustee agree unanimously to move to a third reading.

Moved: Amaral

Seconded: Haines

MOTION: "THAT the amendments to bylaw 50 (Inaugural Meetings) be read for a third time, passed and adopted"

Carried

Moved: Amaral

Seconded: Haines

MOTION: "THAT the amendments to bylaw 55 (Presiding Officers) be read for the first time."

Carried

Moved: Amaral

Seconded: Hampvent

MOTION: "THAT the amendments to bylaw 55 (Presiding Officers) be read for the second time."

Carried

Trustee agree unanimously to move to a third reading.

Moved: Amaral

Seconded: Haines

MOTION: "THAT the amendments to bylaw 55 (Presiding Officers) be read for a third time, passed and adopted"

Carried

Moved: Amaral

Seconded: Haines

MOTION: "THAT the amendments to bylaw 60 (Voting) be read for the first time."

Carried

Moved: Amaral
Seconded: Hampvent

"THAT the amendments to bylaw 60 (Voting) be read for the second time."

Carried

Trustee agree unanimously to move to a third reading.

Moved: Amaral
Seconded: Girard

MOTION: "THAT the amendments to bylaw 60 (Voting) be read for a third time, passed and adopted"

Carried

4. Larger Cheques Written in the Month of September 2020

The report was submitted as written.

f. Board Report

Trustee Ste. Marie shared a request for a letter of support for the Bridge to Independence Program being offered by the Sunshine Coast Community Services Society. The program aims to provide supports to youth aging out of vulnerable care.

Moved: Ste. Marie
Seconded: Amaral

MOTION: "THAT the board write a letter to the Sunshine Coast Community Services Society Youth Services Team for their Vancouver Foundation grant to support youth on the Sunshine Coast."

Carried

1. BCSTA Report

Trustee Haines highlighted a motion that would be heard at the upcoming Provincial Council in support of active travel initiatives.

Chair Ruth provided details on the upcoming virtual Trustee Academy taking place on November 26-27, 2020.

2. BCPSEA Report

Trustee Haines reported on an exempt compensation wage freeze and requested an opportunity to discuss at an upcoming committee meeting.

3. Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Grunenberg reported that the Elphinstone and Chatelech Secondary have appointed grade 11 representatives to the DSLT. The first meeting is scheduled to take place on October 15.

g. Committee of the Whole Notes - September 22, 2020

The notes were submitted as written.

h. Education Committee Notes - September 22, 2020

The notes were submitted as written.

i. Operations Committee Notes - September 22, 2020

Trustee Hampvent highlighted:

- Review of summer work,
- Discussion regarding transportation consultant's report,
- Decision to consult parents to address concerns/gaps in service relating to transportation.

j. Ad Hoc Equity Committee - September 30, 2020

Moved: Hampvent

Seconded: Ste. Marie

MOTION: "THAT the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Equity Committee be defined as follows;

"The committee shall develop a policy outlining the board's commitment to creating a safe, welcoming, respectful, inclusive and affirming environment for all individuals.

This policy will enable the board to create and promote a vision among our students, staff and community that expects equity, inclusion and an affirmation of anti-racism."

Carried

Moved: Hampvent

Seconded: Girard

MOTION: "THAT the scope of the Ad Hoc Equity Committee be defined as described in the notes of the meeting taking place on September 30, 2020"

Carried

k. Receipt of Reports

Moved: Girard

Seconded: Amaral

MOTION: "THAT the reports be received."

Carried

7. Questions and Enquiries from the Public Relating to the Board Meeting

A member of the public asked if there the school district was continuing to do business with Old Republic given that the company has not yet refunded families for trips canceled due to the pandemic. Superintendent Bocking responded that the district is no longer connected with the company.

A member of the public asked if the board would consider live-streaming meetings to Facebook in order to increase viewership. Chair Ruth reported that the board is considering all opportunities and will look at the pros and cons of live-streaming to Facebook.

A member of the public asked if the district had considered any changes to transportation for courtesy riders residing inside the Langdale Elementary walk limit. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick responded that the district had loosened restrictions where it could be done in a safe way, without increasing risk to eligible riders.

A member of the public asked, in regards to enrollment changes, if higher enrolment in the online learning program resulted in lower staffing levels overall. Superintendent Bocking indicated that staffing at schools is being maintained at the present time.

A member of the press asked for an update on the status of the civil claim against the topsoil company. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick indicated that the claim is pending.

A member of the press asked what "transportations improvements" referred to in the Federal Safe Return Funding plan and which sites were selected for outdoor facilities. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reported that funds were intended to provide an additional bus and driver, and that the location of outdoor learning facilities had not yet been determined.

A member of the public asked if additional funds would be allocated to schools that have a principal teaching in multiple classrooms in order to limit exposure between cohorts. Superintendent Bocking responded that safety protocols are in place to limit exposure and that funding was determined by principals in consultation with finance.

8. Next Meeting

The next public board meeting will be held on November 4, 2020.

a. Committee Agendas

Moved: Hampvent

Seconded: Amaral

MOTION: "TO add both the draft federal funding spending plan for a more robust discussion at the October Committee of the Whole as well as the BCPSEA request for a decision around the exempt compensation wage freeze to the Committee of the Whole."

Carried

Moved: Amaral
Seconded: Ste. Marie

MOTION: "TO extend the meeting."

Carried

Moved: Amaral
Seconded: Ste. Marie

MOTION: "TO approve the committee agendas as amended."

Carried

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Moved: Amaral
Seconded: Haines

MOTION: "TO adjourn."

Carried

Signed original on file

Pammila Ruth - Board Chair

Nicholas Weswick - Secretary-Treasurer