

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 46 (SUNSHINE COAST)
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE NOTES**

Tuesday, October 27, 2020, 12:00 p.m.
School Board Office - Gibsons, BC
494 South Fletcher Road
Gibsons, BC

TRUSTEES: P. Ruth (Committee Chair), A. Amaral, S. Girard, S. Haines,
M. Hampvent, S. Leech, T. Ste. Marie

STAFF: P. Bocking, Superintendent; N. Weswick, Secretary-Treasurer;
K. Kerr, Director of Instruction; J. Shelemey, SCTA President;
J. Evans, CUPE 801 President; E. Reimer, Executive Assistant
(Recording Secretary)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m.

2. Implementation Plan: Year 2

Superintendent Bocking presented on items and actions being implemented in the 2020-21 school year, in support of the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan. A copy of the presentation is available at <https://sd46.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020-10-CoW-Presentations.pdf>.

3. Goal 3.a. - Communication

Communications Officer, Stephanie Murawsky, shared the various communication tools being used by the district: including YouTube, Facebook, the district website, MailChimp, and Zoom.

4. Goal 3.b. – Visioning and Planning

As part of the Implementation Plan presentation, earlier on the agenda, the committee discussed how to improve conversations with local governments on the Sunshine Coast.

Chair Ruth highlighted the following:

- BCSTA Chairs meeting take place frequently,
- Meeting with Minister & Deputy Minister
- Recent Chair/Vice-chair meeting with the SCRD
- VCH webinars available throughout the COVID crisis

- Recent South Coast Branch meeting

The committee requested that the topic come back to the December Committee of the Whole for additional conversation on local government partnerships.

Trustee Hampvent asked for an update on the Joint Use meeting with the SCRCD that was postponed earlier in the year. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick indicated he would look into the matter and report back.

5. Policy Review (standing item)

a. Role of Board (Policy 2)

Trustees were reminded to provide any suggestions for changes to policies to the chair and recording secretary prior to the meeting for inclusion in the meeting package. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick noted that references to related policies were included in the revisions to Role of the Board.

RECOMMENDATION:

“To approve the revisions to Policy 2 - Role of the Board”

6. Federal Funding Discussion

The committee discussed the federal funding plan that was approved at the October board meeting. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick indicated that the plan would be brought back to committee after the second round of funding is announced in January to inform the board or to request further authority, if required.

Staff is moving forward with:

- Additional custodial hiring,
- Enrolment decline funds to schools,
- Distributing resources related to food to community schools, considering the number of vulnerable students.

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick acknowledged that the request to approve the plan at the board, without prior discussion at the committee level, was outside of normal processes due to a variety of reasons, including stakeholder requests to get the funding out to schools as quickly as possible.

7. Exempt Compensation Wage Freeze

The committee discussed a request that boards voluntarily extend the public sector executive compensation freeze to superintendent wages, which are normally set by boards of education.

Trustees commented that:

- The request has the potential to limit the autonomy of the board.
- BCSTA is advocating to BCPSEA, PSEC and the minister of finance to exempt the K-12 sector in the compensation freeze.
- That public education is funded by tax payer dollars and that negative tension could result from an exemption to the K-12 sector only.

The committee agreed to wait for further information from the ministry and/or BCSTA prior to committing to a response.

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reported that the compensation freeze was limited to certain staff titles, specifically the secretary-treasurer, the superintendent and second level education-side positions (Deputy/Assistant/Associate Superintendent).

8. Communication Plan (standing item)

The plan was shared with trustees as a late item and will be included in the online meeting package for reference.

9. Adjourn

Adjourned at 2:13 p.m.