

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 85 (VANCOUVER ISLAND NORTH)**

April 8, 2013

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Leighton Wishart, Chairperson of the Board of Education, at the School Board Office, Port Hardy, B.C. at 6:05 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Jeff Field, Trustee
Lawrie Garrett, Trustee
Eric Hunter, Trustee
Werner Manke, Trustee
Carol Prescott, Trustee
Danita Schmidt, Trustee

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES
34/13**

Field/Garrett:
That the minutes of the March 11, 2013 meeting be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

**ADDITIONS TO THE
AGENDA**

openStudent
Two Capital Projects Bylaws
Canada-Wide Science Fair Field Trip

**ADOPTION OF
AGENDA
35/13**

Schmidt/Manke:
That the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

**CANOE
REDEDICATION
PRESENTATION**

District Principal of First Nations Programs Kaleb Child shared the renovation project to the District's 50 foot First Nations canoe that was originally carved fifteen years ago. Mr. Child is planning to have the canoe rededicated on May 9th during a celebration and BBQ lunch at Carrot Park with canoe rides for all PHSS, NISS and Eke Me-Xi students who attend.

**TRANSITIONS PILOT
PROJECT**

Superintendent Scott Benwell shared a letter and proposal for the Transitions Pilot Project written in partnership with Jan Lindsay, President of North Island College.

**BELL SCHEDULES –
HIGH SCHOOLS**

Dr. Benwell shared the new bell schedule for both high schools beginning September 2013. The schedule is the result of much consultation with administration, staff, and partner groups.

THOUGHTSTREAM

Dr. Benwell shared the first THOUGHTstream responses regarding the strategic plan. Nearly 500 community members participated in the process, generating 1042 individual thoughts. Dr. Benwell asked trustees to create statements from the thoughts collected to bring back to the May Committee of the Whole meeting for discussion.

**BOARD MEETING
SCHEDULE 2013-2014
36/13**

Schmidt/Hunter:
That the 2013-2014 Board meeting schedule be approved.
CARRIED

**NISS FIELD TRIP –
VILLAGE ISLAND
37/13**

Manke/Hunter:
That the NISS field trip to Village Island on May 27, 2013 be approved.
CARRIED

**EKE ME-XI FIELD
TRIP – WHALE
WATCHING
38/13**

Field/Schmidt:
That the Eke Me-Xi whale watching tour in Victoria on May 26, 2013 be approved.
CARRIED

**PHSS/NISS/EKE ME-XI
FIELD TRIP – CANOE
REDEDICATION
39/13**

Garrett/Prescott:
That the canoe trips for District high school students during the canoe rededication ceremony at Carrot Park on May 9, 2013 be approved.
CARRIED

**CANADA-WIDE
SCIENCE FAIR**

Prescott/Manke:
That the field trip to the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Lethbridge Alberta on May 11-19, 2013 be approved.
CARRIED

**DISBURSEMENTS
MAR. 2013
40/13**

Manke/Garrett:
That the March 2013 disbursement statements be approved.
CARRIED

ELECTORAL AREAS

Secretary-Treasurer John Martin shared letters from the Mayors of Port McNeill and Port Hardy regarding trustee electoral areas as well as two new electoral area options and a summary of table discussions from the community meetings. Trustees discussed the options at length.

41/13

Field/Manke:
That the Western Zone be amalgamated with Port Hardy and TriBands and have three trustees representatives with voting at large.
DEFEATED

42/13

Hunter/Garrett:
That the Board continue discussions on electoral areas and that matter be brought back to the next regular meeting of the Board in advance of a vote.
CARRIED
Trustee Field opposed
Trustee Manke opposed

**CAPITAL PROJECTS
BYLAWS**

Mr. Martin asked the Board for the approval of two capital project bylaws: a Carbon Neutral Capital Program to undertake an energy study on heating systems at PHSS, Sunset and Sea View, and the

2013-2014 Annual Facility Grant. The Annual Facility Grant will be used for a heating upgrade at NISS.

It was unanimously agreed to by all trustees that both Capital Project Bylaws would receive all three readings at this time.

43/13 Field/Manke:
That Capital Project Bylaw 126605 receive 1st reading.
CARRIED

44/13 Schmidt/Field:
That Capital Project Bylaw 126605 receive 2nd reading.
CARRIED

45/13 Hunter/Manke:
That Capital Project Bylaw 126605 receive 3rd reading.
CARRIED

46/13 Manke/Schmidt:
That Capital Project Bylaw 126669 receive 1st reading.
CARRIED

47/13 Garrett/Prescott:
That Capital Project Bylaw 126669 receive 2nd reading.
CARRIED

48/13 Garrett/Schmidt:
That Capital Project Bylaw 126669 receive 3rd reading.
CARRIED

OPENSTUDENT Mr. Martin informed the Board that SD 63 (Saanich) will be forming a non-profit society for the licencing and government of openStudent and that our District will be able to sit on its Board. SD 63 has asked for a \$18 - \$20 per student investment in openStudent, the equivalent of two years' regular fees.

49/13 Field/Manke:
That the Board invest \$30,000 in openStudent.
CARRIED

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT
50/13 Wishart/Manke:
That the Board accept in principle the development of a policy on LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Questioning) and form a working committee with partner groups to develop this policy.
CARRIED

51/13 Wishart/Manke:
That the housekeeping changes to **PM 5-80 Interviews, Interrogations or Searches** be approved.
CARRIED

**TRUSTEE SHARING –
EVES SCHOOL VISIT**

Trustee Manke encouraged trustees to become involved in the District Science Fair Committee and the Canada-Wide Science Fair.

Trustee Prescott participated as a judge at the first annual “Cougar’s Den” at Sea View School and enjoyed seeing the work of all of its young entrepreneurs.

Trustee Field enjoyed the school visit and the Learning Commons. Trustee Field helped serve breakfast to PHSS students and staff on the last day of classes before spring break.

Trustee Schmidt was impressed with the use of both traditional and new literacy supports in the classrooms during the visit to Eagle View. She also enjoyed the formal school plan presentation.

Trustee Garrett was a judge at the Sointula and Sunset science fairs and would like to see more community involvement in classrooms. He too enjoyed the school visit to Eagle View.

Chairperson Wishart enjoyed the visit to Eagle View and appreciated seeing the use of new technology as well as traditional learning methods in the classroom.

Trustee Hunter thought the school plan presentation by the Principal was well done and was very interested in the MindUp program.

**DPAC
REPRESENTATIVE**

DPAC Co-Chair Penny Mills reported that the next DPAC meeting will be on April 24 from 12:00 to 1:00 at the School Board Office.

**VINTA
REPRESENTATIVE**

VINTA President Fred Robertson stated that he is looking forward to local bargaining and is concerned that BCPSEA needs to approve the District’s bargaining plan.

Mr. Robertson shared his concern about the loss of almost seven FTE teachers to the District next year, the Provincial Government’s consistent reduction in funding to the public school system, the District’s spending priorities, and the administrator-teacher ratio.

**CUPE
REPRESENTATIVE**

CUPE Local 2045 President Jody Welch informed the Board that CUPE National has approved the merger with Local 401 and that they are waiting for final approval by the Labour Relations Board. Ms. Welch explained that there will be a local rep elected to be a 2nd Vice-President of Local 401 and that there will still be a local bargaining committee. Roger Oakley will be the new National Representative.

**ADJOURNMENT
52/13**

Schmidt:
That the regular meeting of April 8, 2013 be adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

CARRIED

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer