

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

**April 13, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

Eric Hunter, Trustee  
Jeff Field, Trustee  
Werner Manke, Trustee  
Carol Prescott, Trustee  
Danita Schmidt, Trustee  
Lyn Skrlac, Trustee

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**RECOGNITION OF  
TRADITIONAL  
TERRITORIES**

Chairperson Wishart opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional territories of the Kwakiutl First Nation and the Kwak'waka speaking peoples.

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES  
33/15**

Hunter/Prescott:  
That the minutes of the March 9, 2015 meeting be adopted.  
**CARRIED**

**ADDITIONS TO THE  
AGENDA**

Two Field Trips  
Bill 11  
UVic 5<sup>th</sup> Year Program

**ADOPTION OF  
AGENDA  
34/15**

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

**REGIONAL  
MEETINGS  
PRESENTATION –  
KALEB CHILD**

District Principal of First Nations Programs, Kaleb Child reported on the recent Regional Meetings he helped to facilitate in Port Hardy, Cranbrook, Kelowna, and Burnaby in partnership with the Ministry of Education. The focus of the meetings was Aboriginal Perspectives and Worldwide Views in the Classroom. Superintendent Scott Benwell thanked Mr. Child for his success, hard work and dedication.

**CANOEING FIELD  
TRIP – SES, CES, AND  
35/15**

Field/Manke:  
That the field trip request for Sunset, Cheslakees and North Island Secondary students to participate in canoeing activities as part of “Canoe Day” on May 22, 2015 in Port McNeill be approved.  
**CARRIED**

**SUNSET FIELD  
PRESENTATION –  
DARBY  
GILDERSLEEVE**

Manager of Transportation and Maintenance Darby Gildersleeve presented plans to address the drainage issue on the upper Sunset Field. He explained that, with the generous donation from the local Rotary Club, work on the field will begin soon.

- CORRESPONDENCE** A summary of the recent BCSTA regional conference call as well as a thank you letter to Parksville were shared for the Board's information.
- SD85 DL** Dr. Benwell reported that the SD85 Distributed Learning School is no longer meeting the needs of students in the District. He recommended the closure of SD85 DL.
- 36/15** Prescott/Skrlac:  
That SD85 Distributed Learning no longer accept new registrations and close effective June 30, 2015 yet still provide support to currently registered students to complete active courses.  
**CARRIED**
- ABES PRINCIPAL** Dr. Benwell was happy to report that Jen Turner has accepted the principal position at Alert Bay Elementary School effective August 1, 2015. Ms. Turner is an experienced educator and administrator and is currently the principal of Denman and Hornby Island Community Schools in the Comox Valley School District.
- QUATSINO SCHOOL USE** Secretary Treasurer John Martin shared a request from the Quatsino Volunteer Fire Brigade to have policy waived in order to allow for a beer garden at Quatsino School as part of Quatsino's 120th Anniversary Celebration.
- 37/15** Field/Prescott:  
That the policy be waived, with conditions, to allow for a beer garden to be held at the Quatsino school during the Quatsino 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on September 5, 2015.  
**CARRIED**
- DISBURSEMENTS: MARCH 2015** Schmidt/Hunter:  
That the March 2015 disbursement statements be approved.  
**38/15 CARRIED**
- 2015-2016 BUDGET** Mr. Martin reported that the spring staffing process is underway and progressing well. He explained that planned savings were sufficient to meet the saving requirements of the Ministry for both this year and next and stated that he will have a draft budget to trustees soon.
- DRAGON BOATING – EVES FIELD TRIP** Field/Hunter:  
That the Dragon Boating field trip request for grades 5 to 7 students at Eagle View Elementary for six days in May and June and six days in September and October be approved on condition that a second parent meeting be held and high risk waiver form be completed prior to the September and October dates.  
**39/15 CARRIED**
- NISS TRAVEL CLUB – GREECE TRIP** Field/Prescott:  
**40/15**

That the NISS Travel Club field trip request to travel to Greece with a group of grade 9-12 students during the 2016 Spring Break be approved in principle.

**CARRIED**

**MY EDUCATION BC  
TRAINING**

Assistant Superintendent Carol Robertson reported on training sessions for District staff to assist with the August implementation of MyEd BC, the replacement student information system for BCeSIS.

**EXCLUDED  
COMPENSATION  
LETTER  
41/15**

Trustee Skrlac requested that the excluded staff compensation freeze be brought up at the upcoming BCSTA AGM.

Skrlac/Schmidt:

That the Board write a letter to the Minister regarding the excluded staff compensation freeze.

**CARRIED**

*Unanimous*

**LETTER – ADMIN.  
SAVINGS**

Mr. Martin will write a letter to the Minister, as moved at the April regular meeting of the Board, regarding funding and co-governance concerns.

**POLICY  
COMMITTEE**

Trustee Field reported that PM 2-315 Student Retention was discussed at the Policy Committee meeting and that no changes were recommended at this time. PM 2-295 Student Admission was also discussed and will be brought to the October Policy meeting for further discussion.

New draft policies PM 2-25 Animals in Schools and PM 2-26 Service Animals in Schools received first reading at the February 16, 2015 policy meeting and were circulated for feedback. A change of wording to "...will be removed" from "...should be removed" was made to PM2-25, Reg. 2. It was recommended that both policies receive second and third reading.

**42/15**

Field/Wishart:

That policy PM 2-25 Animals in Schools receive second reading.

**CARRIED**

**43/15**

Field/Wishart:

That policy PM 2-25 Animals in Schools receive third reading.

**CARRIED**

**44/15**

Field/Wishart:

That policy PM 2-26 Service Animals in Schools receive second reading.

**CARRIED**

**45/15**

Field/Wishart:

That policy PM 2-26 Service Animals in Schools receive third reading.

**CARRIED**

- BILL 11** Trustee Manke requested that Bill 11 be brought to a committee of the whole meeting for discussion.
- UVIC 5<sup>TH</sup> YEAR PROGRAM** Trustee Schmidt shared information regarding an indigenous education program being offered by the University of Victoria starting in July that would lead to a TQS category 5 or 5+ qualification upgrade.
- TRUSTEE SHARING**
- Chairperson Wishart enjoyed the structure of the school visit to Woss where he learned about bears from his student partner.
- Trustee Manke also appreciated the format for the day and the in-depth learning that was demonstrated by students.
- Trustee Hunter learned about music from his student partner and helped her to add sound to her PowerPoint presentation.
- Trustee Field learned about the forest ecosystem and stated how much he always enjoys visiting the district's smallest school and the opportunity for one-on-one interaction.
- Trustee Prescott was happy to share that students at Sea View School have asked her to make a square for their First Nations button blanket. She also reminded trustees about the loonie auction happening at A.J. Elliott on April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Trustee Schmidt stated that she would like to see students who participate in Board approved field trips present to the Board afterwards.
- Trustee Manke was pleased to report that the District Science Fair was another success. He stated that the energy and time invested in the Science Fair is well spent and that the event should continue to be well supported.
- BCSTA** The BCSTA AGM begins on Thursday.
- FNEC** The next FNEC meeting is scheduled for June 11<sup>th</sup>.
- DPAC REPRESENTATIVE** There was no DPAC representative.
- VINTA REPRESENTATIVE** VINTA President Shawn Gough reported that the BCTF recently passed a motion opposing Bill 11 on a number of grounds. He asked the Board to be active in promoting awareness of the democratic infringements contained within the Bill.
- He questioned the Board on the advisability of hiring an additional excluded staff member but recognized the need.
- CUPE** There was no CUPE representative.

**REPRESENTATIVE**

**ADJOURNMENT**  
**46/15**

Schmidt:  
That the regular meeting of April 13, 2015 be adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Chairperson of the Board

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Secretary-Treasurer