

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

January 14, 2013

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Leightan Wishart, Chairperson of the Board of Education, at School Board Office, Port Hardy, B.C. at 6:00 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
01/13**

Hunter/Manke:
That the minutes of the December 10, 2012 meeting be adopted.
CARRIED

**ADDITIONS TO THE
AGENDA**

Christmas Cards

**ADOPTION OF
AGENDA
02/13**

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

CARRIED

**ABORIGINAL
EDUCATION
ENHANCEMENT
AGREEMENT REPORT**

District Principal, First Nations Programs Kaleb Child presented the 2011-2012 Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement Report on behalf of the First Nations' Education Council for Board approval. Mr. Child explained that the document is intended to inform the Ministry as well the greater community and extended partnerships of the work that is being done with aboriginal and all learners.

Superintendent Scott Benwell requested that a map of the traditional territories be displayed in the Board Office foyer in recognition of the First Nations communities served by SD85.

03/13

Field/Schmidt:
That the Board approve the 2011-2012 Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement Report.

CARRIED

MANDATE LETTERS

Board Chair Leightan Wishart presented the Board with letters to the Minister from Boards across the Province rejecting the Co-operative Gains Mandate.

**YAYUMA THANK YOU
LETTERS**

Superintendent Scott Benwell shared thank you letters from Gwa'Sala-'Nakwaxda'xw students for attending their Yayuma. Dr.

Benwell expressed his deep appreciation for the event and encouraged everyone to attend in the future.

OPENSTUDENT

Secretary-Treasurer John Martin shared a letter and brochure from Saanich School District regarding openStudent, a student information system replacement currently in development that could replace BCeSIS

Mr. Martin asked that a letter of support be written to Saanich School District, the developers of openStudent, stating the District's interest in the product and that a team be sent to Saanich in order to learn more.

04/13

Manke/Prescott:

That the Board write a letter to Saanich School District expressing the District's interest in openStudent and that a District team be sent to Saanich to learn more.

CARRIED

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Chairperson Leighton Wishart shared Christmas cards sent to the Board from students at Sunset Elementary School.

2013-2014 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Superintendent Scott Benwell presented the 2013-2014 School Calendar for Board approval.

05/13

Field/Manke:

That the Board approve the 2013-2014 School Calendar.

CARRIED

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

A revised Community Consultations schedule was shared with the board for Strategic Plan and Trustee Electoral Area discussions. The first meeting will be in Port Alice on Wednesday, January 16 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

“CONNECTIONS” WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE PILOT PROGRAM

Dr. Benwell was pleased to report that the Regional District of Mount Waddington passed a motion to provide \$15,000 to assist the District with the start-up of the “Connections” workplace based experience pilot program.

ISLAND LEADERSHIP COALITION

Assistant Superintendent Katherine McIntosh announced that the Island Leadership Coalition has been resurrected. District school-based leaders have been invited to join other Vancouver Island school district teams in a two year program that will focus on the skills and attributes required to lead innovation and change in the public school system.

SCHOOL-BASED IN-SERVICE JAN. 21

Ms. McIntosh explained that as part of the Ministry's new ERASE initiative, the District is required to devote one day a year to the topic bullying prevention. Schools that have not already done so, will use

the January school-based in-service day to work with District's Safe-Schools Coordinator, Kelly Amodeo and various partner groups to strengthen their prevention, intervention and response plans to bullying.

**VINTA PRO-D/
DISTRICT IN-
SERVICE
FEB. 15**

Ms. McIntosh extended an invitation to all Trustees to attend the Pro-D/District In-service Day on February 15th. Ms. McIntosh explained that the entire day will have a focus on Aboriginal Education. School District employees will come together to develop a deeper understanding of how our instructional practices and resources directly influence the achievement of our students with aboriginal ancestry.

**DISBURSEMENTS
DEC. 2012
06/13**

Field/Manke:
That the December 2012 disbursement statements be approved.
CARRIED

AMENDED BUDGET

Secretary-Treasurer John Martin presented the Board with the proposed amended budget for 2012-2013. Mr. Martin asked that Trustees review the document and that the 2011-2012 Amended Budget Bylaw be brought to the February meeting to receive three reading.

**BCPSEA-BCTF
AGREEMENT IN
COMMITTEE**

Board Chair Leighton Wishart shared the letter that was sent to BCSPEA supporting the BCPSEA-BCTF Agreement in Committee.

BOARD COMMITTEES

Board Chair Wishart presented a list of 2013 Board Committees. Trustee Prescott was appointed Alternate Board Representative for the First Nations Education Council.

TRUSTEE SHARING

Trustee Garrett liked the conversational format of the new school plan presentation format.

Trustee Field helped at PHSS's annual Christmas Pancake Breakfast on the last day of classes before the holiday break. He also attended the Fort Rupert PAC meeting last week.

Trustee Manke enjoyed the school visit to Woss and appreciated that the teacher had individual goals for each of her students. Trustee Manke enjoyed the Sunset Christmas Concert put on by Vice-Principal Dan Baker.

Trustee Schmidt has been enjoying weekly lunches in "Brigette's Room" at PHSS and noted that many recent Eagle View graduates are becoming comfortable at the high school and have been attending the lunches as well.

Trustee Hunter enjoyed the Alert Bay Elementary School production

of “Sally Brown’s Christmas”.

Board Chair Wishart was moved by the Woss School’s adoption of a child in Ethiopia and the students’ idea to fundraise to donate a camera to their adopted child’s school so that they would be better able to communicate back and forth.

**DPAC
REPRESENTATIVE**

DPAC Co-Chair Penny Mills had no DPAC report to present.

**VINTA
REPRESENTATIVE**

VINTA President Fred Robertson invited everyone to attend the Pro-D/District In-Service Day on February 15. He stated that all of the Band schools in the district will be attending as well and he is looking forward to it.

Mr. Robertson was disappointed that the implementation date for the BCPSEA-BCTF Agreement in Committee of January 9th was delayed. Mr. Robertson thanked the Board for its letter supporting the Agreement in Committee as well as the letter sent to the Minister stating the Board’s inability to meet the constraints imposed by the Cooperative Gains Mandate and Savings Plan.

Mr. Robertson stated his interest in openStudent and his disappointment with the District’s current student information system, BCeSIS.

**CUPE
REPRESENTATIVE**

CUPE Local 2045 representative, Judy Fyles acknowledged the Board for its Cooperative Gains Mandate and Savings Plan letter to the Minister.

Mrs. Fyles announced that CUPE is currently undertaking discussions that may affect the structure of the local union. There will be more to report in the upcoming weeks.

**ADJOURNMENT
07/13**

Prescott:
That the regular meeting of January 14, 2013 be adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

CARRIED

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer