

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

March 14, 2016

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Leightan Wishart, Chairperson of the Board of Education, at North Island Secondary School, Port Hardy, B.C. at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance:

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

WELCOME	Chairperson Wishart opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional territories of the Kwakiutl First Nation and the Kwak'waka speaking peoples.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES 25/16	Hunter/Prescott: That the minutes of the February 14, 2016 meeting be adopted. CARRIED
ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA	No additions
ADOPTION OF AGENDA 26/16	Schmidt/Skrlac: That the agenda be adopted as circulated. CARRIED
FRAMEWORK FOR ENHANCING STUDENT LEARNING	Superintendent Scott Benwell reported on the regional Framework for Enhancing Student Learning meeting that took place in Nanaimo on March 4 th . He and a team of district administrators and teachers attended the meeting facilitated by Neil Smith. A special grant from the Ministry was received to cover the costs involved.
THOUGHT EXCHANGE	Dr. Benwell announced that the District is reviewing its Strategic Plan and will be using Thoughtexchange to consult with families, staff, students and community members.
DISBURSEMENTS FEBRUARY 2016 27/16	Field/Skrlac: That the February 2016 disbursement statements be approved. CARRIED
DAY OF MOURNING 28/16	Secretary-Treasurer John Martin shared information regarding the National Day of Mourning on April 28 th , a day set to recognize workers killed or injured on the job. He recommended that schools fly flags at half-mast on that day, as is done in some other districts. Prescott/Schmidt:

That the Board support the National Day of Mourning by asking schools to set flags to half-mast on April 28th.

CARRIED

Chairperson Wishart offered to order resource materials for schools to help with the messaging to students and families.

SPED AUDITS

Assistant Superintendent Carol Robertson reported on the audit of student services files that she is currently conducting with all schools.

ASIST TRAINING

Ms. Robertson announced that eight staff, including herself and the District Director of Instruction Kaleb Child, will have the opportunity to attend suicide interventions skills training. The two-day workshop is being offered at a cost of only \$40 per person.

ROSE

Mr. Robertson discussed the ROSE evening and asked the Board to consider an alternative way to honour longtime employees and retirees. The event is poorly attended and is costly to the District in both expense and time invested in planning of the event. Trustee Skrlac reminded trustees that when ROSE was first introduced, the agreement in place was that the event would be hosted in turn by VINTA, CUPE and the School Board Office.

29/16

Hunter/Skrlac

That retirees and longtime employees be recognized for their service at the last Professional Development Day of the year.

30/16

Prescott/Field:

That the previous motion be tabled until such time as there can be consultation with CUPE and VINTA representatives.

CARRIED

**EVES / FRES DRAGON
BOAT FIELD TRIP
31/16**

Field/Manke:

That the Eagle View Elementary and Fort Rupert Elementary Dragon Boat field trips planned for April, May and September be approved.

CARRIED

CANOE FIELD TRIPS

Director of Instruction Kaleb Child presented a request for blanket approval for use of the District First Nations canoe by schools. He compared the blanket approval process to the current process for high risk field trips to Mt. Cain and Camp Homewood. The request would have schools comply with all aspects of Board Policy as it pertains to high risk field trips and adhere to standards and limitations detailed in the request that govern safety protocols, location of use and emergency preparedness planning. Applications for canoe field trips would require full planning and procedures documentation for approval by the Assistant Superintendent, but would not be limited to Board meeting timelines for final approval.

32/16

Field/Schmidt:

That the Board give blanket approval for use of the District canoe by schools limited to the scope of the request submitted by the Director of Instruction.

CARRIED

**SCHOOL CLOSURE
BYLAW**

Mr. Martin reported on the Woss Lake community consultation meeting. The school has a projected enrolment of four students for September 2016. He presented School Closure Bylaw No. 1-2016 for second reading.

33/16

Schmidt/Skrlac:

That School Closure Bylaw No. 1-2016 receive second reading.

CARRIED

**SCHOOL GUEST
SPEAKER TOPIC**

Trustee Prescott shared a parent's concern regarding a recent school performance. Mr. Martin noted that under PM 2-290 Selection of Learning Resources, it is the responsibility of teachers and administrators to select resources that are appropriate. He clarified that the policy recognizes that appropriate resources may also be controversial in nature.

**MOU- BCSTA AND
MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION**

Chairperson Wishart asked trustees for feedback to be forwarded to the BCSTA regarding the MOU between the BCSTA and Ministry of Education.

TRUSTEE SHARING

Trustee Manke attended the Heritage Fair at Sea View. He enjoyed seeing the students enthusiastic to share their family histories. He attended the Sunset Science Fair and noted that it was well attended by members of the community. He enjoyed the school visits to both Sunset and Cheslakees and stated how very proud we should be of what we have to offer students and families.

Trustee Field also enjoyed both school visits. He appreciated Cheslakees Kindergarten students' sharing at workstations as well as the school tour he was given by two students at Sunset.

Trustee Schmidt was at PHSS for Pink Shirt day. She enjoyed the Speed Control musical presentation and stated how excited and engaged the students were. She commented that during the Cheslakees school visit, one little boy was so excited to share his learning that he didn't want to stop.

Trustee Prescott had a wonderful time with students at Cheslakees school and stated how obviously proud the teachers were to share the successes of all of their students. She attended the Sea View Heritage Fair where she enjoyed making butter and whipped cream with students.

BCPSEA

Trustee Field will be attending the May 11th regional meeting in Courtenay.

- BCSTA** Trustee Schmidt reported on the Provincial Council meeting and shared motions that were passed and defeated as well as late motions to be brought to the AGM. SD 85 student dancers were invited to perform for 15 minutes, but it was decided that the group would perform at next year's AGM instead.
- FNEC** Trustee Schmidt reported that the new BAA course, Kwakwaka'wakw Worldviews and Perspective 12, was well received at the FNEC meeting.
- DPAC REPRESENTATIVE** There was no DPAC representative.
- VINTA REPRESENTATIVE** There was no VINTA representative.
- CUPE REPRESENTATIVE** CUPE Local 401 2nd Vice-president Jody Welch confirmed that she would like to be included in the consultation process regarding any change to the ROSE dinner.
- ADJOURNMENT** Schmidt:
34/16 That the regular meeting of March 14, 2016 be adjourned at 7:40 p.m.
CARRIED

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer