

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

**March 10, 2014**

**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  
Carol Prescott, Trustee  
Danita Schmidt, Trustee

Absent: Werner Manke, Trustee

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**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES  
18/14**

Hunter/Prescott:  
That the minutes of the February 17, 2014 meeting be adopted.  
**CARRIED**

**ADDITIONS TO THE  
AGENDA**

Capital Project Bylaw  
openStudent

**ADOPTION OF  
AGENDA  
19/14**

Prescott/Garrett:  
That the agenda be adopted with additions.

**CARRIED**

**2014-2015 SCHOOL  
CALENDAR  
20/14**

Prescott/Schmidt:  
That the 2014-2015 school calendar be approved.

**CARRIED**

**BC SUPREME COURT  
DECISION**

Secretary Treasurer John Martin reported that a stay was granted on the recent Supreme Court ruling that struck down Bills 22 and 28. There was no news yet from the Court of Appeals.

**PRO-D DAY, FEB. 21**

Mr. Martin commended Fred Robertson and Kevin Ogren for their work organizing the recent Pro-D Day.

**SR.  
ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Martin was pleased to announce that Carol Robertson has been hired as the Assistant Superintendent effective August 1, 2014.

**DISBURSEMENTS  
FEB. 2014  
21/14**

Field/Hunter:  
That the February 2014 disbursement statements be approved.

**CARRIED**

**HEALTH AND  
SAFETY TRAINING**

Mr. Martin reported on the Health and Safety training that occurred February 25-26 as part of the District's annual commitment to health and safety training.

**JOINT HARASSMENT  
TRAINING**

Mr. Martin reported on the annual harassment training workshops held on March 4-5 for new teachers in the District.

**CAPITAL PROJECT BYLAW** Mr. Martin reported that the District received \$150,000 in Carbon Neutral Capital Program funds that will be used to help pay for the heating upgrades at NISS. He presented the Board with Capital Project Bylaw No. 126733 and it was unanimously agreed to by all trustees that the bylaw would receive all 3 readings at this time.

**22/14** Hunter/Garrett:  
That the Capital Project Bylaw No. 126733 receive 1<sup>st</sup> reading.  
**CARRIED**

**23/14** Prescott/Schmidt:  
That the Capital Project Bylaw No. 126733 receive 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.  
**CARRIED**

**24/14** Prescott/Schmidt:  
That the Capital Project Bylaw No. 126733 Bylaw receive 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.  
**CARRIED**

**SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION** Trustees were asked to complete their Superintendent evaluations before the April board meeting.

**TRUSTEE ELECTORAL AREAS** Mr. Martin had no news to report yet from the Ministry regarding trustee electoral areas.

**OPENSTUDENT** Mr. Martin was disappointed to announce that Saanich School District has decided not to continue development of openStudent due to the millions of dollars it would cost to integrate with the new BC Service Card as now required by the Ministry of Education. Mr. Martin reported that Aspen SIS would likely be the District's replacement for BCeSIS.

**25/14** Prescott/Field:  
That the Board write a letter to the Provincial Government expressing the Board's disappointment in the Government's decision to spend BC tax dollars on a student information system based out of the United States instead of supporting local employment.  
**CARRIED**

**TRUSTEE SHARING** Trustee Prescott found both school visits to be uplifting and informative. Students were engaged and the general atmosphere was very positive.

Trustee Field enjoyed both school visits. He was happy to learn that Eagle View students will be using the PHSS shop and that the principals at the high schools are working together to find creative ways to offer academic courses with low course selection requests.

Trustee Garrett enjoyed the February Pro-D Day. He attended the Action Schools session in the morning and the outdoor education session in the afternoon.

Trustee Hunter enjoyed his visit to Eke Me-Xi Learning Centre and found it refreshing and unique. He reported on the recent BCSTA Provincial Council meeting.

Trustee Schmidt spent Friday at a math symposium with many of the students from the UVic Language Cohort.

Chairperson Wishart was pleased that PHSS staff held parent-teacher conferences at each of the local bands for those parents of First Nations students who were more comfortable meeting there.

**BCPSEA**

Trustee Field reported on a conference call he participated in regarding teacher bargaining and the staff planning process. He also reported on the recent VISTA conference.

**DPAC  
REPRESENTATIVE**

No DPAC representative.

**VINTA  
REPRESENTATIVE**

VINTA President Fred Robertson expressed his disappointment with the termination of openStudent and stated he would be happy to write a letter to the Ministry expressing this.

Mr. Robertson reported that an 89% successful strike vote was taken last week, but that no one wants to go on strike. He stated that now is the time to make headway with bargaining and commended the Board for doing a good job maintaining services with decreased funding. He also stated that the Provincial Government will need to bring money to the bargaining table if there is to be resolution at the table. If strike notice is served, it will be a staged approach.

**CUPE  
REPRESENTATIVE**

CUPE Local 401 representative Colleen Martin thanked the Board for supporting openStudent and the need to keep jobs in BC. She also thanked the Board for the opportunity to discuss CUPE's concerns with proposed budget cuts and stated how positive, cooperative and engaged everyone at the meeting was.

**ADJOURNMENT  
26/14**

Schmidt:  
That the regular meeting of February 17, 2014 be adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Chairperson of the Board

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Secretary-Treasurer