

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

**May 12, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Leighton Wishart, Chairperson of the Board of Education, at North Island Secondary School, Port McNeill, B.C. at 6:10 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

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**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES  
38/14**

Field/Hunter:  
That the minutes of the April 14, 2014 meeting be adopted.  
**CARRIED**

**ADDITIONS TO THE  
AGENDA**

Media Access  
Connected Classrooms  
Long-Service Awards

**ADOPTION OF  
AGENDA  
39/14**

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

**LONG-SERVICE  
AWARDS**

Chairperson Wishart presented trustees with long consecutive service awards on behalf of the BCSTA.

**CANADA-WIDE  
SCIENCE FAIR  
40/14**

Field/Prescott:  
That the field trip to the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Windsor Ontario, on May 10-17, 2014 be approved.  
**CARRIED**

**NISS FIELD TRIP –  
VILLAGE ISLAND  
41/14**

Prescott/Field:  
That the NISS field trip to Village Island on May 23, 2014 be approved.  
**CARRIED**

**BOARD MEETING  
SCHEDULE 2014-15  
42/14**

Prescott/Schmidt:  
That the Board Meeting schedule for 2014-2015 be approved.  
**CARRIED**

**ABORIGINAL DAY  
CANOE ACTIVITY  
43/14**

Hunter/Field:  
That the canoe activity for district students planned for June 20<sup>th</sup> to help celebrate Aboriginal Day be approved.  
**CARRIED**

**DISBURSEMENTS**  
**APRIL 2014**  
**44/14**

Field/Manke:  
That the April 2014 disbursement statements be approved.

**CARRIED**

**2014-15 DRAFT**  
**BUDGET**

Secretary-Treasurer John Martin presented the Board with a Draft 2014-2015 Budget and asked trustees to go over the document carefully. He will be asking for three readings to approve the 2014-2015 Budget Bylaw at the next regular Board Meeting.

**MEDIA ACCESS**

Trustees were informed that the school / district has the right to protect students from media access while on school grounds but does not have the authority to do so outside of school grounds.

**CONNECTED**  
**CLASSROOMS**

Mr. Martin informed the Board that the connected classrooms project had been delayed due to unforeseen circumstances, but he was pleased to report that the studios at NISS and PHSS are complete and will be operational for the next school year.

**TRUSTEE SHARING**

Trustee Prescott enjoyed her visit to Alert Bay school and was pleased to see such a collaborative and cohesive group of educators. She was also impressed with the interaction with the school and the community.

Trustee Garrett enjoyed the school visit and the school plan presentation. He attended excellent workshops at the BCSTA AGM and was pleased to see a group of resolutions passed that support issues around youth mental health.

Trustee Field was impressed with the emphasis on leadership at Alert Bay school as well as the interaction with community.

Trustee Hunter felt the school principal was poised and confident.

Trustee Schmidt announced that the North Island UVic Masters Cohort's convocation ceremony will be held on June 10<sup>th</sup>. She was disappointed at the BCSTA AGM that there was no recognition of traditional territories.

Trustee Manke enjoyed spending time at Woss Lake school and emphasized the importance of individual teacher time received by students.

**BCPSEA**

Trustee Field reported on the regional BCPSEA meeting he attending in Courtenay on May 5<sup>th</sup> regarding teacher and CUPE bargaining and the steps the employer might take during the strike. When asked for input, SD85 put forward the idea of an appropriate small reduction in salary, but no response to this was offered by BCPSEA representatives.

- BCSTA** Mr. Martin will be attending the upcoming BCSTA AGM with Trustees. Dr. Benwell will no longer be attending, choosing to remain in District.
- DPAC REPRESENTATIVE** No DPAC representative.
- VINTA REPRESENTATIVE** VINTA President Fred Robertson reminded trustees that there is pressure on teachers during strike action and that teachers are motivated to settle. He stated that there has been no discussion around class size and composition at the table and that there is still a large distance between both parties, not just on salary.
- He stated that things are going as well as they can be so far in the District. He agreed that every school district is underfunded and stated that people are leaving the public school system in favour of private education. He also stated that the government will have to put money on the table in order to reach a settlement with teachers and expressed his concern that fundamental services for students are disappearing.
- Mr. Robertson congratulated the North Island UVic Masters Cohort on their completion.
- Chairperson Wishart, on behalf of the Board, congratulated Mr. Robertson on his upcoming retirement in June and thanked him for his work with the Board.
- CUPE REPRESENTATIVE** No CUPE representative.
- ADJOURNMENT** Schmidt:  
**45/14** That the regular meeting of May 12, 2014 be adjourned at 7:02 p.m.  
**CARRIED**

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Chairperson of the Board

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Secretary-Treasurer