

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

November 9, 2015

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Leightan Wishart, Chairperson of the Board of Education, at North Island Secondary School, Port McNeill, B.C. at 6:05 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

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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 83/15 | Hunter/Manke: That the minutes of the October 13, 2015 meeting be adopted. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> |
| ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA | OAG Report Routine Capital Bylaw |
| ADOPTION OF AGENDA 84/15 | Schmidt/Manke: That the agenda be adopted with additions. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> |
| CORRESPONDENCE | Chairperson Wishart shared a letter from the Deputy Minister requesting input on government services. He also shared an email from Fujitsu acknowledging concerns with MyEducation BC. |
| STRATEGIC PLAN | Superintendent Scott Benwell recommended that the Board check in and revisit the Strategic Plan that was developed in 2013 by initiating in another Thoughtexchange in the spring. |
| OECD | Dr. Benwell shared "Schooling Redesigned", an OECD publication that discusses the 7+3 Principles of Learning with a goal around equity for all learners. |
| DISTRICT CLASS SIZE AVERAGES | Dr. Benwell shared SD85's class size averages as of October 15. He shared a graphed comparison of SD85 with other districts' class size averages and the provincial averages. |
| BCSSA / FNE SC | Dr. Benwell announced that he will be presenting at the BCSSA Fall Conference and that Director of Instruction Kaleb Child will be |

presenting at the FNEC annual conference. Mr. Child invited trustees to attend the gala on the evening of the 26th during which time a number of SD85 learners and educators will be dancing as part of the event.

OAG REPORT

Dr. Benwell shared the Office of the Auditor General's Report on Aboriginal Education in BC. He invited trustees to attend a conference call with the Auditor General's Office staff on December 1st to unpack the document and discuss it in more detail. He also shared a graph that shows the improvement of aboriginal student completion rates from 2000 to 2013. He noted that SD85 remains below the equity line between non-aboriginal and aboriginal student completion rates.

**DISBURSEMENTS:
OCTOBER 2015
85/15**

Schmidt/Hunter:
That the October 2015 disbursement statements be approved.
CARRIED

**ROUTINE CAPITAL
BYLAW**

Secretary-Treasurer John Martin presented the Routine Capital Project Bylaw No. 126988 for approval. The bylaw will provide \$400,000 in funding to incorporate the NISS gym and shop into the new heat loop from the arena. It was unanimously agreed to by trustees that the bylaw receive all 3 readings at this time.

86/15

Schmidt/Hunter:
That the Capital Projects Budget Bylaw No. 126988 receive 1st reading.
CARRIED

87/15

Schmidt/Hunter:
That the Capital Projects Budget Bylaw No. 126988 receive 2nd reading.
CARRIED

88/15

Schmidt/Hunter:
That the Capital Projects Budget Bylaw No. 126988 receive 3rd and final reading.
CARRIED

BCPSEA

Trustee Field reported on the October Symposium.

BCSTA

Trustee Hunter shared a synopsis of the BCSTA Provincial Council meeting.

FNEC

Trustee Schmidt reported that SD85 has seen an increase in aboriginal learners this year. She shared FNEC's concern for the equitable and fair distribution of resources and supports for all schools and reported on the "elders in residence" initiative as well as construction of the new Eke Me-Xi building. She informed trustees that a meeting will be held at U'mista on December 10th to discuss lack of enrolment in Kwak'wala and Shared Understandings courses. The next FNEC meeting is scheduled for December 1st.

TRUSTEE SHARING

Trustee Wishart attended the 1st Annual Meeting of the Minister and Board Chairs as well as the next day's BCSTA Board Chair meeting.

Trustee Manke expressed his concern with data that suggests that grade 8 students are not arriving prepared for high school. He was impressed by the samples of grade 8 work that were visible around the school during the PHSS visit.

Trustee Skrlac announced that she had officially retired and had sold The Flower Shoppe and celebrated her 47th wedding anniversary by attending the day's meetings.

Trustee Prescott attended the 21st annual cross country meet in Sointula. She also participated with NISS staff in "Meet the Team" evenings in both Sointula and Alert Bay and felt that the initiative was very worthwhile and much appreciated in community. She plans to attend the Sea View Remembrance Day ceremony.

Trustee Field enjoyed the PHSS visit and seeing things happening at the school. He attended the EVES and FRES PAC meetings and commended PAC parents for all of their hard work.

Trustee Schmidt was excited to see sandboxes at EVES being built in partnership with PHSS woodworking classes.

Trustee Hunter attended the District cross country meet. He appreciated the work put into the PHSS school plan and felt that the principal did a thorough job presenting the data.

**DPAC
REPRESENTATIVE**

Ms. Miranda Berry introduced herself as the new DPAC Chair and stated that she looks forward to working with the Board.

**VINTA
REPRESENTATIVE**

VINTA President Shawn Gough reaffirmed that MyEducation BC has not been working perfectly for schools and felt that the system being offline for five days during the high schools' reporting period to be very inconvenient. He reminded trustees that class size averages were just averages, including classes higher and lower in size.

Mr. Gough discussed the November 23rd Pro D Day that will focus on assessment practices and supports. He intends to meet with the Superintendent to discuss a planning day for two additional non-instructional days in order to facilitate the implementation of the new K-7 curriculum. He also reminded trustees about reviewing long block in the spring.

Mr. Gough stated that he will be attending the CAPSLE conference in Toronto in May and hopes there may be more District representation at the conference in addition to himself.

**CUPE
REPRESENTATIVE**

There was no CUPE report.

**ADJOURNMENT
89/15**

Schmidt:
That the regular meeting of November 9, 2015 be adjourned at 7:15p.m.
CARRIED

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer