

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

October 21, 2013

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 6:06 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
84/13**

Hunter/Garrett:
That the minutes of the September 9, 2013 meeting be adopted.
CARRIED

**ADDITIONS TO THE
AGENDA**

Strategic Plan
NISS Field Trip
5 Year Capital Plan
Long-Term Financial Projection
Trustee Electoral Areas
BCSTA Motion
Correspondence (2)

**ADOPTION OF
AGENDA
85/13**

Field/Prescott:
That the agenda be adopted as amended.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Wishart shared a report from the BC Ombudsperson as well as an educational funding document from the BCTF.

**2013-2014 SCHOOL
PLAN APPROVALS**

All 2013-2014 school plans were circulated to Trustees for approval. Individual school plans will be presented throughout the year during scheduled Trustee school visits.

86/13

Hunter/Manke:
That all 2013-2014 school plans be approved.
CARRIED

**FOOD SECURITY
RESEARCH PROJECT**

Superintendent Scott Benwell shared his support for the Food Security Community Engagement and Research Project.

**DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER**

Dr. Benwell was pleased to share the first edition of “Info Brief”, a short digital publication meant to give staff and partner groups a brief snapshot of what’s happening in the district.

FNESC CONFERENCE

Dr. Benwell and District Principal Kaleb Child will be co-presenters

at this year's First Nations Education Steering Committee Conference on December 13-15. They will be sharing their ideas on "Owning the Change".

LEARN MAGAZINE

Dr. Benwell announced that the District's Aboriginal Education programs will be featured in an upcoming issue of LEARN Magazine, published by the Teacher Regulation Branch.

NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION

Assistant Superintendent Katherine McIntosh reported on the success of the annual New Employee Orientation that took place September 26th at the U'mista Cultural Centre in Alert Bay.

ENROLMENT

Ms. McIntosh reported that the District's September 30th enrolment was well above projection, with overall enrolment only down approximately 11 students from the previous year.

T.T.O.C. WELCOME DINNER

Ms. McIntosh was happy to report that the TTOC welcome dinner October 8th was well attended and hopes to make it an annual event.

QTL

Ms. McIntosh was pleased to inform the Board that this district was one of 6 districts in the Province to be selected by the Ministry of Education to receive funding and participate in the Quality Teaching and Learning initiative.

ILC

Ms. McIntosh reported that the District will participate again this year in the Island Leadership Coalition.

NISS FIELD TRIP

Ms. McIntosh presented a request from NISS Vice-Principal Rena Sweeney for Board approval of a science-focused field trip to Cluxewe on November 19-20. The plan for the field trip includes canoe trips for NISS, PHSS, Sea View, and Eagle View students as well as an overnight campout for NISS students.

87/13

Field/Garrett:

That the science field trip to Cluxewe on November 19-20, 2013 be approved with the proviso that students who will be spending the night must do so in the cabins on site.

CARRIED

**DISBURSEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 2013
88/13**

Field/Garrett:

That the September 2013 disbursement statement be approved.

CARRIED

**LEMARE LAKE
LOGGING REQUEST**

Mr. Martin presented a request from Lemare Lake Logging for Board policy to be waived to allow alcohol to be served at Lemare's annual Christmas Dinner and Dance at Sunset gymnasium on December 7, 2013.

89/13

Hunter/Manke:

That the policy be waived to permit the serving of alcohol at the

Lemare Christmas party to be held in the Sunset gymnasium
December 7, 2013.

CARRIED

5 YEAR PLAN

Mr. Martin presented a 5 year capital spending plan that includes the replacement of two school buses and mechanical upgrades to PHSS. Discussions and planning with the Regional District are still ongoing regarding the proposed heating upgrade to NISS which is not included in this 5 year plan.

90/13

Field/Garrett:
That the 5 year capital spending plan be approved.

CARRIED

**LONG-TERM
FINANCIAL
PROJECTIONS**

Mr. Martin shared a document that shows the long-term financial projection as the District comes out of funding protection.

ELECTORAL AREAS

Mr. Martin shared a land survey that was recently done of the proposed changes to trustee electoral areas. The survey results will be forwarded to the Ministry as requested.

**CONNECTIONS
PROGRAM**

Dr. Benwell shared an article that was published in the October edition of the Business Examiner showcasing the District's Connections program. Trustees asked that a letter of thanks be sent to the author, Port McNeill and District Chamber of Commerce Director, Cheryl Jorgenson.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Dr. Benwell shared the draft 2013-14 Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan highlights three common themes: Learning, Access, and Engagement.

91/13

Prescott/Hunter:
That the 2013-2014 Strategic Plan be approved.

CARRIED

BCSTA MOTIONS

Trustee Hunter shared a letter from BCSTA President Teresa Rezansoff, summarized 10 points from the Bargaining Task Force, and asked how the Board would like to be represented at the BCSTA Provincial Council meeting.

92/13

Prescott/Manke:
That Trustee Hunter represent the Board at the BCSTA Provincial Council meeting by voting to accept the recommendations set out in the BCSTA Bargaining Structure Task Force Report.

CARRIED
Unanimous

93/13

Prescott/Manke:
That Trustee Hunter represent the Board at the BCSTA Provincial

Council meeting by voting against using the December Academy as an AGM as a means of delaying the previous motion.

CARRIED

94/13

Prescott/Garrett:

That Trustee Hunter represent the Board at the BCSTA Provincial Council meeting by voting to support a motion for the continuation of three year intervals for trustee elections.

95/13

Manke/Prescott:

That motion 94/13 be amended to align trustee election intervals with municipal election intervals and that those intervals change accordingly as municipal election intervals change.

CARRIED

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

VINTA President Fred Robertson presented to the policy committee on becoming a Living Wage Employer. He will bring more information on the subject to the next policy meeting.

A draft policy was brought to the policy committee to help working groups begin the process of LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Questioning) policy development.

96/13

Wishart/Manke:

That draft policy PM5-160 Student Non-Discrimination receive 1st reading and be circulated to partner groups.

CARRIED

97/93

Prescott/Wishart:

That amendments to PM2-180 Integration and Inclusion be approved.

CARRIED

PM4-80 Sexual/Personal Harassment and PM5-150 Violence, Intimidation and Use of Weapons will be revisited at the next policy committee meeting to reflect upcoming changes to Work Safe BC Regulations.

TRUSTEE SHARING

Trustee Manke enjoyed the visit at NISS, seeing the garden project and how the school is engaged in promoting so many options for students. The regional science fair committee had their first meeting and hopes to send two students to the Canada Wide Science Fair.

Trustee Hunter appreciated principal Jay Dixon's comment that the NISS school plan is a living document.

Trustee Garrett commented that the staff at NISS are all working on a list of priorities, and getting through that list.

Trustee Field enjoyed the visit and was impressed by the enthusiasm shown by the young professionals working in the building.

Chairperson Wishart was equally impressed by the enthusiasm of both NISS administrators and saw great things happening in the school.

**PAC
REPRESENTATIVE**

No DPAC representative

**VINTA
REPRESENTATIVE**

VINTA President Fred Robertson asked for clarification on preserving bargaining structures and thanked the Board for its consideration of becoming a Living Wage Employer.

Mr. Robertson commented on an uneventful start to the school year, but expressed concerns with upcoming Provincial Bargaining. He asked to see the funding plan for CUPE wage increases once CUPE bargaining is completed and the plan has been approved by Treasury Board.

**CUPE
REPRESENTATIVE**

No CUPE Local 401 representative.

**ADJOURNMENT
98/13**

Prescott:
That the regular meeting of October 21, 2013 be adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

CARRIED

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer