

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

October 13, 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 6:00 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

RECOGNITION OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES	Chairperson Wishart opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional territories of the Kwakiutl First Nation and the Kwak'wala speaking peoples.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES 74/15	Skrlac/Prescott: That the minutes of the September 14, 2015 meeting be adopted. CARRIED
ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA	No Additions
ADOPTION OF AGENDA 75/15	Prescott/Schmidt: That the agenda be adopted as circulated. CARRIED
CORRESPONDENCE	The annual non-sexist environment agreement between the school district and VINTA was shared.
2015-2016 SCHOOL PLAN APPROVALS 76/15	All 2015-2016 school plans were circulated to Trustees for approval. Individual school plans will be presented throughout the year during scheduled Trustee school visits. Schmidt/Hunter: That all of the 2015-2016 school plans be approved. CARRIED
LIF	Superintendent Scott Benwell discussed the LIF allocation plan to be submitted to the Ministry by October 31 st . He was pleased to report that the allocation of funds was agreed to in consultation with VINTA and CUPE.
DPAC	Dr. Benwell was pleased to report that a group of enthusiastic DPAC representatives met informally on September 30. The group will meet

again on October 28th to elect a new executive. Trustee Schmidt offered to attend the meeting as a past DPAC rep.

EVES LEARNING ENVIRONMENT REPORT

Dr. Benwell shared the Eagle View Learning Environment report that was sent home to parents. He supported the open transparency of the document and stated that it was well received in community and will help to build the trust necessary for moving forward.

NOV. 23 PRO D

Dr. Benwell was pleased to report that Ursa Jensen will be spending time in District to work with schools on assessment and the new curriculum. She will be giving a keynote address at the November 23rd ProD day. The event has been well planned with thanks to Shawn Gough and Sarah Soltau.

COMMUNITY FUTURES MT. WADDINGTON

Dr. Benwell announced that the Community Futures Mt. Waddington received many awards and accolades at this year's Community Futures BC Annual Conference. The group has been extremely supportive of SD85 and has a board that works hard to connect SD85 to community. Dr. Benwell currently sits as chair of the Mt. Waddington Board of Directors.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT

In follow up to the audit of our First Nations Programs that took place almost two years ago, Dr. Benwell announced that the Auditor General's Report is due out November 5th. Both he and Jillian Walkus are anonymously quoted in the report.

NETWORK LEADERS / AESN IMPACT STUDY

Jillian Walkus and Stacia Johnson will represent SD85 in the Network Leaders group. Both are highly regarded educators in the profession. Dr. Benwell announced that Eke Me-Xi will be included in the Aboriginal Enhancement Schools Network (AESN) Impact Study as an example of what is working well for aboriginal learners.

DISBURSEMENTS: SEPTEMBER 2015 77/15

Field/Schmidt:
That the September 2015 disbursement statements be approved.

CARRIED

ENROLMENT

Secretary Treasurer John Martin reported that the SD85 is 21 fte students above projection. This figure is down only 6 fte from last year's September enrolment.

BC LIONS FIELD TRIP – EKE ME-XI

Assistant Superintendent Carol Robertson was pleased to share that Eke-Me-Xi has been chosen to participate in the BC Lions Skills for Life Summit. Two lucky students will have the opportunity to interact with BC Lions team players, attend a BC Lions football game, and participate in a dragon boating activity.

78/15

Field/Schmidt:

That the Board approve the Eke Me-Xi Learning Centre field trip for two students to travel to Vancouver from Nov. 6-8 and participate in the BC Lions Skills for Life Summit and dragon boating activity.

CARRIED

**NEW EMPLOYEE
ORIENTATION**

Ms. Robertson reported that New Employee Orientation was a well-attended and successful event. 17 new employees attended the session on September 29th at the U'mista Cultural Centre.

**IMPLEMENTATION
DAYS**

Ms. Robertson announced that the Ministry is providing 5 hours this year and 5 hours next year of non-instructional time for the implementation of the new curriculum. The use of this time will be determined at the District level in consultation with partner groups.

**POLICY
COMMITTEE**

A new policy was drafted to govern the use of personal electronic devices in schools.

79/15

Field/Prescott:

That PM 2-350 Use of Personal Electronic Devices – Technology receive 1st reading and be circulated for feedback.

CARRIED

A number of policies received revisions that reflected current agreements, practical timelines, updated language and current practice.

80/15

Field/Prescott:

That changes to the following policies be approved:
PM 1-50 Trustee Remuneration and Expense Allowance
PM 4-40 Professional Development
PM 6-50 Community Use of Schools
PM 5-20 Administering Medicines to Students

CARRIED

PM 2-295 Student Admission was amended to include a section that details how parents may request, at any time, the transfer of a child to a non-neighbourhood school.

81/15

Field/Prescott:

That amendments to PM 2-295 Student Admission be approved.

CARRIED

TRUSTEE SHARING

Trustee Manke was struck by the changes to NISS over the past four years. He stated that the energy of young teachers indicates a school on the move and is a joy to witness.

Trustee Hunter felt welcomed by the First Nations students. He enjoyed seeing the Principal and Vice-principal interacting and working with students and finding solutions to make things work.

Trustee Prescott enjoyed the student guide during the school visit and thought it added to the day's experience.

Trustee field enjoyed seeing individual learning and students' projects. He reported that four trustees attended the VISTA conference where SD85 was recognized for the good work being done in aboriginal programs.

Chairperson Wishart stated how nice it was to connect with other trustees at the VISTA meeting. He appreciated the coffee program at NISS, specifically the work done by students in the designing, building, and marketing of their product. He attended the recent Eagle View and Fort Rupert PAC meetings and reported that Eagle View parents are happy with the changes that are taking place. He stated that the Fort Rupert field trip to Telegraph Cove was a great success.

BCPSEA

Trustee Field will be attending the October Symposium. The theme of the symposium is workplace health.

BCPSEA

Trustee Hunter will be attending the October Provincial Council meeting.

FNEC

The next FNEC meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2015.

**DPAC
REPRESENTATIVE**

There was no DPAC representative.

**VINTA
REPRESENTATIVE**

VINTA President Shawn Gough was happy to hear that District enrolment was stable. He encouraged trustees to get out to school and visit with teachers. He stated that teachers are reporting increased stress in the workplace due to the new curriculum coming online. He also encouraged trustees to become active representatives on various District committees.

**CUPE
REPRESENTATIVE**

There was no CUPE report.

**ADJOURNMENT
82/15**

Schmidt:
That the regular meeting of October 13, 2015 be adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

CARRIED

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer