

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

**September 10, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Leightan 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  
Werner Manke, Trustee  
Carol Prescott, Trustee  
Danita Schmidt, Trustee

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**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES  
61/12**

Manke/Schmidt:  
That the minutes of the June 11, 2012 meeting be adopted.  
**CARRIED**

**ADDITIONS TO THE  
AGENDA**

Student enrolment  
BCPSEA Rep. Council  
Thank you  
UBCM  
Ombudsperson report

**ADOPTION OF  
AGENDA  
62/12**

Hunter/Garrett:  
That the agenda be adopted.  
**CARRIED**

**GEORGE ABBOTT  
LETTER**

Chairperson Wishart shared a letter from George Abbott regarding the spending of targeted funds.

**DELOITTE REPORT**

Chairperson Wishart shared a letter regarding the Deloitte Report on increasing cost savings and efficiencies.

**THANK YOU**

Chairperson Wishart shared a thank you letter to the Board from a Dogwood/District Authority Scholarship Award winner.

**UBCM**

Chairperson Wishart shared a letter regarding the School Community Connections grant.

**OMBUDSPERSON  
REPORT**

Chairperson Wishart shared the BC Ombudsperson Report for 2010-2011.

**BOARD MEETING  
SCHEDULE**

Superintendent Scott Benwell presented a revised meeting schedule to the Board. Changes to the schedule include school plan approvals at the October meeting and a date change to the February meeting to accommodate BC Family Day.

**THANK YOU TO**

Dr. Benwell shared the Thank You ad that was published in the

<b>COMMUNITY</b>	gazette on behalf of the Board of Education. The publication thanked community members who contributed to local scholarship programs in support of our 2012 North Island graduates
<b>STRATEGIC PLAN / ELECTORAL AREAS</b>	The Superintendent explained to the Board that it may be best for strategic plan community consultations to be done in conjunction with public consultations regarding trustee electoral areas. Dr. Benwell and Secretary-Treasurer John Martin asked the Board for approval to generate ideas and develop a plan to combine and implement these community consultations and to bring a proposal to the October Board Meeting.
<b>63/12</b>	Wishart/Manke: That the Board approve the development of a plan to implement combined public consultations for both the District Strategic Plan and trustee electoral areas.
	<b>CARRIED</b>
<b>BCSSA SUMMER CONFERENCE</b>	Dr. Benwell updated the Board on the BCSSA Summer Conference. The emphasis at the conference was on personalized learning and flexibility and choice for learners. Dr. Benwell reported that there was work happening at the Ministry level on Kindergarten to grade nine programs as well as a revamping of the Science 10 curriculum.
<b>SHORT COURSE</b>	Dr. Benwell reported that the District sent three administrators to the UBC Short Course this summer where much of their time was spent learning the role of the administrator in the school and the community.
<b>LEARNING IMPROVEMENT FUND</b>	Dr. Benwell updated the Board on the Learning Improvement Fund consultation process. School staff will consult with administrators over proposed spending plans which will be followed by further consultation between VINTA and district management. The final proposed spending plan will be submitted to the Ministry for final approval no later than October 31 <sup>st</sup> .
<b>SEA VIEW ENTREPRENEUR PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP</b>	Dr. Benwell was please to inform the Board of an initiative between Neucel Specialty Cellulose and Sea View School that will benefit both the students of the school and the community. Neucel has made a financial contribution to support the school through the program which is designed to benefit young learners.
<b>ENROLMENT</b>	Dr. Benwell reported that enrolment for the district was currently 76 fte students below projection. He explained that staffing adjustment have been made in the short-term, and that the district will continue to work with partner groups on a long-term solution.
<b>ADMINISTRATORS BOOT CAMP</b>	Assistant Superintendent Katherine McIntosh was happy to report that this was a summer of in-service opportunities for district staff. Four school district principals attended a boot camp hosted by BCSPEA were they increased their skill sets in such areas as human resources

management, implementing collective agreements, and Ministry initiatives.

**KEY QUESTIONS  
BROCHURE**

Ms. McIntosh presented the Four Key Questions brochure that was created in partnership with the local DPAC to be distributed to every family in the District. The brochure is based on the work of Linda Kaser and Judy Halbert and uses ideas from Dylan Wiliam's Embedded Formative Assessment.

**LITERACY GOAL**

Ms. McIntosh shared the reading level strategy map developed jointly by the District special education department, administrators, and the District literacy teacher. The map emphasized the importance of early intervention and support. Ms. McIntosh explained that School District 85 is well in front of Ministry initiatives to improve literacy for early learners.

**ASSESSMENT**

Ms. McIntosh was pleased to report that there continues to be dialogue with teachers, parents, and district staff around the idea of "formative assessment".

**DISBURSEMENTS  
JUNE AND JULY 2012  
64/12**

Field/Manke:  
That the June 2012 and July 2012 disbursement statements be approved.

**CARRIED**

**2012-2013 BUDGET  
BYLAW**

Mr. Martin presented two Capital Project Bylaws to the Board for approval. The first Capital Project is to repair, upgrade or replace existing playground equipment at Eagle View and Sunset schools. The second Capital Project is to purchase and install more energy efficient lights in three School District buildings. It was unanimously agreed to by all trustees that both bylaws would receive all 3 readings at this time.

**65/12**

Prescott/Hunter:  
That the playground Capital Project Bylaw receive 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

**CARRIED**

**66/12**

Schmidt/Manke:  
That the playground Capital Project Bylaw receive 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

**CARRIED**

**67/12**

Prescott/Manke:  
That the playground Capital Project Bylaw receive 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.

**CARRIED**

**68/12**

Hunter/Manke:  
That the energy efficiency Capital Project Bylaw receive 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

**CARRIED**

- 69/12** Manke/Garrett:  
That the energy efficiency Capital Project Bylaw receive 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.  
**CARRIED**
- 70/12** Schmidt/Manke:  
That the energy efficiency Capital Project Bylaw receive 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.  
**CARRIED**
- BCSTA REP COUNCIL** Trustee Field updated the Board on the recent BCPSEA rep council meeting he attended to ratify the employer's side of the collective agreement with the BCTF.
- BCSTA REP COUNCIL** Trustee Hunter reminded trustees that the deadline for receiving motions for the BCSTA's October Provincial Council meeting is September 19<sup>th</sup>.
- TRUSTEE SHARING**
- Trustee Manke had a wonderful summer and is looking forward to the school year.
- Trustee Schmidt has started her Master's program with 22 others from the District. She will be attending the Eke Me-Xi open house on Thursday.
- Trustee Hunter appreciated the work that was done on the Alert bay gymnasium this summer.
- Trustee Garrett thanked the maintenance department for the work they did painting the exterior of AJ Elliott school as well as the work they did on the drainage system. The new thermostats that were installed in the classrooms were also greatly appreciated and parents are happy with having a full time principal this year.
- Trustee Prescott will be attending the VISTA meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> and suggested that motions for the BCSTA Rep Council meeting may carry more weight if they were brought forward by VISTA. Trustee Prescott was at the Fall Fair and was proud to announce that PHSS and Sea View were awarded the most school participation award this year. It was the first time a high school has ever received the award.
- Trustee Field attended the June pancake breakfast at PHSS and shared the "Kiss Me Deadly" comic book style sex education information booklet designed to appeal to students.
- Chairperson Wishart met the new principal at Fort Rupert Elementary who seemed very eager to begin the new school year. Chairperson Wishart also shared how he met a former Secretary-Treasurer of SD#85 on his summer vacation to Nova Scotia.
- DPAC REPRESENTATIVE** DPAC Co-Chair Penny Mills welcomed everyone back. She was please to say that June's DPAC meeting at Sea View School was very

successful and thanked the District for the invitation for parent representatives to participate in the Partnership for Learning Conference in November. Ms. Mills stated that the regular day for DPAC meetings will most likely be the fourth Tuesday of each month with the first meeting to be held October 23.

Ms. Mills reported that DPAC had a booth at the Fall Fair where representatives distributed surveys, useful information and parent resources.

Ms. Mills expressed her appreciation for the effort and collaboration that was put into the Four Key Questions brochure.

Ms. Mills stated that some parents had voiced concerns about declining enrolment and what that may mean for their children.

**VINTA  
REPRESENTATIVE**

VINTA President Fred Robertson reported that VINTA members will be voting on the new extended health benefits package shortly. Mr. Robertson reminded the Board that this is the last year of the current collective agreement, that work will begin on a new agreement soon, and that the results of upcoming Provincial election may have a significant impact on teacher bargaining. Mr. Robertson stated that VINTA was pleased to have a deal in place and that it is a relief that job action is over. Mr. Robertson also stated that he felt job action did accomplish something, if only to stop a government bound on stripping clauses from the collective agreement.

Mr. Robertson was pleased to note that although still lower than projected, enrolment numbers had come up. He stated, although he was familiar with per capita funding, he is disappointed with the loss of some classroom divisions and the resulting increased size of some classrooms. Mr. Robertson asked the Board to take a serious look at the structure of the district.

Mr. Robertson expressed his concern with the reading strategy map stating that implementation, without input from those required to implement, is not likely to succeed.

Mr. Robertson stated that he is looking forward to a good school year.

**CUPE  
REPRESENTATIVE**

No representative.

**ADJOURNMENT  
71/12**

Prescott:  
That the regular meeting of September 19, 2012 be adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Chairperson of the Board

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Secretary-Treasurer