

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

**September 9, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Field, Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Education, at the School Board Office, Port Hardy, B.C. at 6:07 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Lawrie Garrett, Trustee  
Eric Hunter, Trustee  
Werner Manke, Trustee  
Carol Prescott, Trustee  
Danita Schmidt, Trustee

Absent: Leightan Wishart, Trustee

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**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES  
75/13**

Manke/Garrett:  
That the minutes of the June 10, 2013 meeting be adopted.  
**CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES  
76/13**

Manke/Garrett:  
That the minutes of the June 19, 2013 meeting be adopted.  
**CARRIED**

**ADDITIONS TO THE  
AGENDA**

FNEC Amended Terms of Reference  
Savings Plan  
Financial Statements

**ADOPTION OF  
AGENDA  
77/13**

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

**LEARNING COMMONS  
PRESENTATION**

North Island Secondary School Principal Jay Dixon and Port Hardy Secondary School Principal Lauren Deadman shared a presentation on Learning Commons as places for sharing, learning, collaboration and creativity. They explained the process of transforming their own school libraries into Learning Commons.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Vice-Chair Field shared various correspondence for the Boards information.

**L.I.F.**

Superintendent Scott Benwell updated the Board on the Learning Improvement Fund consultation process explaining that administrators were currently meeting with staff to review proposed spending plans from the spring.

**THANK YOU TO  
COMMUNITY**

Dr. Benwell shared the Thank You ad that was published in the gazette to thank community members who contributed to local scholarship programs in support of our 2013 North Island graduates.

**STRATEGIC PLAN**

Dr. Benwell shared a graphic detailing the Strategic Planning Process to date. Dr. Benwell reported that the adhoc committee had identified

four common themes from the THOUGHTstream data: Learning, Access, Engagement, and the Educated Citizen.

**BCSSA SUMMER  
CONFERENCE**

Dr. Benwell updated the Board on the BCSSA Summer Conference. The Superintendent noted the absence of both the Minister of Education and a deputy minister and reported that the messaging at the conference surrounded the BC Ed Plan, review of the current graduation program, and the emphasis on personalized learning and flexibility for learners.

**SHORT COURSE**

Dr. Benwell reported that the District sent new AJ Elliott Principal, Melody Watson, to the UBC Short Course this summer.

**NEW EMPLOYEE  
ORIENTATION**

Assistant Superintendent Katherine McIntosh invited trustees to attend the annual New Employee Orientation taking place Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at the U'mista Cultural Centre in Alert Bay.

**T.T.O.C. WELCOME**

Ms. McIntosh invited trustees to attend the TTOC welcome dinner October 8<sup>th</sup>.

**NISS FIELD TRIP  
78/13**

Manke:/Garrett  
That the NISS kayaking field trip at Telegraph Cove on September 17, 2013 be approved.

**CARRIED**

**ENROLMENT**

Ms. McIntosh reported that district's current enrolment was 45 students above projection, but that overall enrolment was still down 32 students from the previous year. Ms. McIntosh explained that staffing adjustments would be made for those schools who had received much higher than expected registrations.

**DISBURSEMENTS  
JUNE, JULY, AND  
AUGUST 2013  
79/13**

Hunter/Manke:  
That the June 2013, July 2013, and August 2013 disbursement statements be approved.

**CARRIED**

**CAPITAL PROJECTS  
BYLAW**

Mr. Martin presented a revised Capital Project Bylaw to the Board for approval. He explained that the total funding amount had not changed, only the proportions of funds taken from the capital and operating budgets. It was unanimously agreed to by all trustees that the bylaw would receive all 3 readings at this time.

**80/13**

Prescott/Manke:  
That the Capital Project Bylaw No. 126669-02 receive 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

**CARRIED**

**81/13**

Prescott/Manke:  
That the Capital Project Bylaw No. 126669-02 receive 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

**CARRIED**

82/13

Prescott/Manke:

That the Capital Project Bylaw No. 126669-02 receive 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.

**CARRIED**

**FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS**

Mr. Martin presented the audited financial statements for June 2013, June 2012 and July 2011.

It was decided that trustees would vote to approve the financial statements at a Special Meeting of the Board to be scheduled before September 20<sup>th</sup>.

**FNEC AMENDED  
TERMS OF  
REFERENCE**

Dr. Benwell was pleased to announce that the Board had voted to approve the First Nations Education Council's Amended Terms of Reference during the Board's in-camera meeting.

**SAVINGS PLAN**

Mr. Martin explained that the Provincial Government has asked all boards of education to find savings in order to fund a CUPE wage increase. He announced that the Board had approved a savings plan from non-core services that will be sent to the Ministry for approval.

The Board agreed to discuss, at the upcoming special meeting, the writing of a letter to the Minister expressing their disapproval with the need to provide a savings plan in order to fund a CUPE wage increase.

**TRUSTEE SHARING**

Trustee Prescott attended the Fall Fair and was happy to share that Sea View School had tied for first place for participation. She was pleased to say that Sea View School was a hub of activity.

Trustee Garrett enjoyed seeing how much last year's AJ Elliott grade seven students have grown and how excited they appear to be commencing the new school year at NISS.

Trustee Manke stated that a grant proposal, for upgrading a playing field at Sunset School, had not been accepted.

Trustee Schmidt spent two weeks in July working on her studies at UVic and enjoyed spending time at the Learning Commons there.

Trustee Hunter was happy to be back.

**DPAC  
REPRESENTATIVE**

DPAC Chair Amanda Jorgensen was sad to report that DPAC Co-Chair, Penny Mills, will be moving back to Australia. Ms. Jorgensen was pleased to report that schools seemed to be up and running well, and that she was happy to see everyone again.

**VINTA  
REPRESENTATIVE**

VINTA President Fred Robertson was happy to see an increase from projected enrolment and was heartened to hear support from the Board regarding non-funded wage increases. Mr. Robertson reported that VINTA bargaining was on hold until the Bill 22 court case, which would have a significant impact on Provincial bargaining, was settled.

Mr. Robertson noted the absence of teacher librarians in our high schools' new Learning Commons, and asked the Board not to confuse Distributed Learning with what a library ought to be.

**CUPE  
REPRESENTATIVE**

CUPE 401 President Blaine Gurrie and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Laurence Amy introduced themselves to the Board. Mr. Gurrie offered CUPE 401's support to the Board in writing a letter to the Minister regarding the mandated savings plan stated that he was looking forward to a respectful working relationship with senior management.

**ADJOURNMENT  
83/13**

Hunter:  
That the regular meeting of September 9, 2012 be adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Chairperson of the Board

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Secretary-Treasurer