

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

**April 11, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Lyn Skrlac, Vice-chairperson of the Board of Education, at School Board Office, Port Hardy, 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

ABSENT: Leighton Wishart, Chair

---

**WELCOME**

Vice-chairperson Skrlac opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional territories of the Kwakiutl First Nation and the Kwak'waka speaking peoples.

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES  
35/16**

Hunter/Hunter:  
That the minutes of the March 14, 2016 meeting be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**ADDITIONS TO THE  
AGENDA**

Field Trips (x2)

**ADOPTION OF  
AGENDA  
36/16**

Schmidt/Skrlac:  
That the agenda be adopted with additions.

**CARRIED**

**PRESENTATION –  
NISS CLIMBING  
WALL**

Principal Jay Dixon and teacher Greg Muirhead presented plans for the installation of a climbing wall at North Island Secondary School. The school has currently raised \$25,000. With the commitment of \$10,000 from the Port McNeill Rotary Club, an additional \$5,000 in funding is still needed in order to purchase and install the wall in the NISS gymnasium. Mr. Dixon invited trustees to attend a fundraising gala to be held April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**NISS FIELD TRIP –  
CAPE SCOTT**

Field/Schmidt:  
That the Grade 12 Outdoor Pursuits class multi-day backpacking field trip to Cape Scott planned for May 20-23 be approved.

**CARRIED**

**FIELD TRIP –  
CANADA-WIDE  
SCIENCE FAIR FIELD  
TRIP**

Field/Prescott:  
That the field trip for two students to attend the Canada-Wide Science Fair field trip in Montreal Quebec on May 14-21, 2016, be approved.

**CARRIED**

**POWER OUTAGE**

Superintendent Scott Benwell reported on the March 15, 2016 power outage and the decision to keep schools open on that day.

**PEN DIFFERENCES**

Dr. Benwell shared the Certificate of Excellence that the District received from the Ministry for 100% successful completion of the September 2015 PEN Differences Report.

37/16

Prescott/Manke:

That a message be sent to school secretaries thanking them for their contribution to the successful completion of the PEN Differences Report.

**CARRIED**

**DISBURSEMENTS**

**MARCH 2016**

38/16

Field/Schmidt:

That the March 2016 disbursement statements be approved.

**CARRIED**

**BANKING**

**RESOLUTION**

Secretary-Treasurer John Martin asked the Board to restate its approval for the banking resolution that was passed at the February 2015 regular meeting, using the language requested by CIBC.

39/16

Field/Schmidt:

That it be resolved that the Board execute and deliver to Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce the Application for Credit, and that the Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to execute and deliver same on behalf of the Board.

**CARRIED**

**SPED AUDITS**

Assistant Superintendent Carol Robertson reported on the completed audit of student services files that was conducted with all schools.

**RECOGNITION OF  
SERVICE**

Ms. Robertson reported that she consulted with both CUPE and VINTA representatives and all parties agree that hosting a ROSE evening is not necessary to recognize long-term service. As an alternative, it was suggested that a member of the board and/or a member of the senior management team visit schools at the end of the year to present certificates of long-term service and gifts to retirees.

40/16

Prescott/Schmidt:

That the Board honour long-term employees and retirees at their place of work by presenting individuals with recognition of service certificates, letters of appreciation, and retirements gifts at the end of the school year.

**CARRIED**

**SCHOOL CLOSURE  
BYLAW**

Mr. Martin reported that Woss Lake Elementary School currently has a projected enrolment of four students for September 2016. He presented School Closure Bylaw No. 1-2016 for third reading.

41/16

Schmidt/Hunter:

That School Closure Bylaw No. 1-2016 receive third and final reading.

**CARRIED**

Vice-Chair Skrlac stated that the board takes great care in deciding whether or not to close a school and approached this process and final decision with a heavy heart.

**POLICY REPORT**

The following policies received 1<sup>st</sup> reading on February 15, 2016 and were circulated for feedback: PM 4-35, PM 2-20, and PM 2-180. No feedback was received. PM 2-350 received 1<sup>st</sup> reading at the October 13, 2015 board meeting. Amendments were made to the wording of regulation 3 in consultation with VINTA. Friendly amendments were made to PM 2-160 to reflect current practice in the maintenance and transfer of student services files. Further amendments were made to correct the numbering of subsections and to strengthen language.

42/16

Prescott/Schmidt:

That the following policies receive 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading:

PM 4-35 Non-certified Teacher Replacements,

PM 2-350 Use of Personal Electronic Devices – Technology,

PM 2-20 Information and Information Technology, and

PM 2-180 Integration, Inclusion, Seclusion and Physical Restraint,

and that PM 2-160 Student's Personal Records be amended and approved.

**CARRIED**

Bylaw #1 Procedural Bylaw was amended and received 1<sup>st</sup> reading at the February 15, 2016 meeting. A further amendment was made to remove reference to board meetings held every month. It was unanimously agreed that the Bylaw receive 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.

43/16

Hunter/Prescott:

That Bylaw #1 Procedural Bylaw be amended and receive 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

**CARRIED**

44/16

Hunter/Prescott:

That Bylaw #1 Procedural Bylaw be amended and receive 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading.

**CARRIED**

**DRAFT BOARD  
SCHEDULE**

45/16

Schmidt/Prescott:

That the 2016-2017 Board Meeting schedule be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**VISTA**

Trustee Schmidt asked that the Board offer to host the Fall 2018 VISTA conference. Trustee Prescott confirmed that registration fees typically cover the costs associated with hosting the event and that VISTA has been known to cover expenses incurred in excess of registration monies collected.

46/16

Prescott/Schmidt:

That, at the next VISTA conference, the Board submit a request to host the 2018 VISTA Fall Conference.

**CARRIED**

**BCPSEA**

There was no BCPSEA report

**BCSTA**

There was no BCSTA report

**FNEC**

Trustee Hunter asked for clarification of the draft February FNEC minutes. The next meeting is scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Blackbear Resort.

**TRUSTEE SHARING**

Trustee Manke thoroughly enjoyed his visit to Eke Me-Xi and stated that the Principal is doing a fabulous job. He announced that Sunset school recently celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> year participating in Jump Rope for Heart.

Trustee Schmidt thought it was a great idea to share student videos with trustees during lunch at Eke Me-Xi.

Trustee Hunter had a pleasant school visit and reflected on how unique the school is and the connection staff and students share with their traditional homelands.

Trustee Field shared his own appreciation for the geography of the traditional homelands. He had watched a video from the recent Chiefs' visit at Eagle View and noticed how respectful the students were. He also noted that Eagle View was starting a gardening club.

Trustee Prescott enjoyed the Eke Me-Xi school visit. She shared that Sea View students were also working in their gardens, preparing soil and transplanting seeds. She invited trustees to attend the Loonie Auction at A. J. Elliott on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**DPAC  
REPRESENTATIVE**

There was no DPAC representative.

**VINTA  
REPRESENTATIVE**

VINTA President Shawn Gough reported on the power outage and being in communication with Dr. Benwell that day. He apologized for not being in attendance at the previous Board meeting as he was at the BCTF AGM. He was glad to hear that the visit to Eke Me-Xi went well and encouraged trustees to visit schools more often.

Mr. Gough asked if trustees have recently had honest conversations with teachers and requested that they ask teachers how they are doing. He quoted "workplace attitude reflect its leadership", stating that there were two types of leadership: strength-based and deficit-based / fault-finding.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING – April 11, 2016 - PAGE 5

---

**CUPE  
REPRESENTATIVE**

CUPE Local 401 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president Jody Welch stated that CUPE morale is low.

**ADJOURNMENT  
47/16**

Schmidt:  
That the regular meeting of March 14, 2016 be adjourned at 7:40 p.m.  
**CARRIED**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of the Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary-Treasurer