



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR VANCOUVER ISLAND WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT 84,
HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019
AT THE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, GOLD RIVER, BC**

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Arlaine Fehr, Chairperson (Gold River)
Jenniffer Hanson, Vice-Chairperson (Kyuquot) (telephone)
Debbie Mann (Gold River)
Allison Stiglitz (Tahsis) (telephone)
Andrew Smith (Zeballos)

ALSO PRESENT: Lawrence Tarasoff, Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer
Annie McDowell, Associate Director of Human Resources/Recorder

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Fehr called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm, and acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on Mowachaht/Muchalat Territory.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

2019:R-008 MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Smith
AND RESOLVED:
"TO approve the agenda with the following additions: 12.d. Vancouver Island School Trustees' Association; 12.e. Funding Model Review Discussion by the Board."

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

2019:R-009 MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Smith
AND RESOLVED:
"TO adopt the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 14, 2019."

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Nil.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES AND PRESENTATIONS:

a. **Mr. Tony Ellis, Tahsis Salmon Enhancement Proposal**

Mr. Ellis was unable to attend due to the inclement weather.

b. **Mr. Rob Wilson, Principal, Ray Watkins Elementary School**

Mr. Wilson reported that the School's population creates opportunities and challenges:

- Growing cohesion of culture building at RWES: Safety, Pride, Respect
- Large gaps in academic abilities and readiness
- Shift in reporting styles, how do we know what we see and measure is being communicated/received accurately
- Large "at Risk" student population

There has been a noticeable positive shift in culture of respect (self, others, environment):

- Focus on solidifying our foundational understanding of learning
- Students must have their basic needs met
- Students must feel safe, must feel supported, must feel like they can be successful
- What does success look like to you? Is it the same for each student?

- Students need to be challenged, pushed to the boundaries of what they already know so they can grow (this may cause discomfort, but stress can be a good thing)
- How can we support positive/ healthy student relationships (for us and our students)
- Self-Care
- How can we address these issues? Student/Staff connections meetings, SEL support (staff relationships, Mind-Up, Youth and Child Care Worker/SPED support, etc.)
- Reporting Meetings – teacher meetings to look at reporting here and elsewhere in BC
- Relationships with community providers – HUB, RCMP, Village, MMFN/NTC, Counsellors, community volunteers
- Experiential Education and getting outside to learn more often: Greenhouse (adding to school garden), outdoor classroom, local field trips and experiences expanded, Kyuquot Cup Soccer, International experiences (NZ, Korea)
- Ongoing supports – LART, Youth and Child Care Worker, Precision Reading, Special Needs Education Assistants, Library
- Whole school assemblies and full group learning/instruction
- Boys and Girl PE
- Ongoing events/clubs – newspaper, gymnastics, basketball, spirit squad (leadership), drama, Dungeons and Dragons, Soccer, Relax and Read, Community Lunch
- Staffing support – Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing and American Sign Language signing support

CORRESPONDENCE:

2019:R-010 MOVED: Trustee Smith, SECONDED: Trustee Mann
AND RESOLVED:

“TO receive and file the correspondence.”

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| • BC Teachers’ Federation | • Copy of Letter to Minister of Education re <i>Improving Equity and Accountability: Report of the Funding Model Review Panel 2018</i> |
| • Chair, SD69 (Qualicum) | • Copy of Letter to Minister of Education Requesting that the Ministry Review How They Share FSA Data |
| • Chair, SD71 (Comox Valley) | • Copy of Letter to Minister of Education With Concerns Regarding the Ministry Audit Process |
| • BC School Trustees Association | • BCSTA Weekly: 2019 Event Registration/Motion Information/Leadership Series Next Week |
| • BCSTA | • Meeting Information for BCSTA Provincial Council Business Meeting and Committee Meetings |
| • Chair, SD19 (Revelstoke) | • Copy of Letter to Minister of Education re Funding Model Review Report |
| • BCSTA | • Legal Bulletin – Provincial Cannabis Legislation |
| • Chair, SD52 (Prince Rupert) | • Copy of Letter to Teacher Regulation Branch re Eligibility Requirements |
| • BCSTA | • BCSTA Weekly: Joint Orientation/AGM Motions/Legal Update on Cannabis |
| • BCSTA | • The Education Leader: Issue 23: BCSTA-BCPSEA Orientation Recap/Student Voice/Discussing Cannabis/Get to Know PLC |
| • BCSTA | • BCSTA Weekly: PC Details/FMR Update/Joint Orientation Survey |
| • Vancouver Island School Trustees’ Association | • VISTA Spring 2019 Business Meeting |
| • Ray Watkins Elementary School | • Newsletter |
| • BCSTA | • Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees |
| • BCSTA | • Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees |
| • BCSTA | • BCSTA Weekly: PC Tomorrow/Late Motions/Financing Disclosure |

- Ministry of Education
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- Copy of Letter to President, BCSTA, re BC K-12 Public Sector Funding Model
- Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- VISTA Spring 2019 Conference Agenda
- BCSTA Update: Speech from the Throne
- Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- Copy of Letter to Minister of Education re Input to Upcoming Changes to the Provincial Graduation Program
- Copy of Letter to President, Canadian School Boards Association, re Request for CSBA to Consider Advocacy Regarding Broader Student Access to Federal Settlement Worker Services
- Copy of Letter to Chair, Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration and Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, re Eligibility for Settlement Services to Unserved Students and Families
- Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- BCSTA Weekly: Speech from the Throne/AGM Motions/PC Synopsis
- Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees

REPORT OF THE CLOSED MEETING:

Chairperson Fehr reported on the discussion of two labour items.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

a. **School Reports**

Trustee Smith reported on two new initiatives at Zeballos School: (1) honouring deserving students each month for their academic achievement and/or community service; and, (2) the secondary students' request to use of the First Nation's greenhouse for the summer so that they can grow vegetables for the community (already planning budget, schedules, etc.).

Trustee Mann reported that the schedule at Ray Watkins Elementary School continues to be very busy! The community lunch was held on January 21st and another lunch is scheduled for February 25th. Unfortunately, the 'PALS' (Parents As Literacy Supporters) meeting this month was poorly attended even though bulletins and emails had been sent out. Everyone enjoyed two exceptional student performances of 'Robin Hood' at the conclusion of the Missoula Theatre's visit in February. The 'Caine's Arcade' was another success this year, with students making everything out of recycled objects, and February 27th is 'Pink Shirt Day' and 'Reading with a Buddy Day'.

Chairperson Fehr reported that "**Love Bomb**" was seen by the Gold River Secondary School students. It was surrounded by some controversy which has since been resolved. Future presentations will be preceded by more communication about their content. Chairperson Fehr had the pleasure of listening to some Grade 10 and 11 students talk about their education and school:

- School has a hospitable atmosphere;
- Their teachers care about them and tailor their classes to the students' learning styles;
- Student Council is preparing a presentation for their Principal;
- Concern about Distance Learning courses and the efficiency of their delivery;
- Students are given every opportunity to succeed; e.g. help with their homework.

Chairperson Fehr will be meeting with Grade 12 students in March.

b. **District Policy Review Committee Meeting**

The Committee met on February 19th and reviewed Policy E.47, *Placement of Newly Enrolled Students*. At the request of the VIWTU, the Committee agreed to amend Regulation 2 and 4 to line up with the Policy to ensure that at least one full school day is available for administrative work prior to any newly-

enrolled student (after September 1st) attends class. A request from the VIWTU for changes to Policy D.5, *Certified Teachers Teaching on Call and Non-Certified Persons on Call*, was reviewed with no changes made at this time. All Sections C and D policies were reviewed, with some housekeeping changes required. Sections E and F of the District Policy Manual will be reviewed at the next meeting scheduled for April 8, 2019.

c. **BC Public School Employers Association Annual General Meeting**

Trustee Stiglitz reported that she found this to be a very insightful meeting, complete with a full lesson on school board history. The BCPSEA sounds very positive about reaching a solid plan at the bargaining table that will hopefully work well for teachers and students.

d. **BCSTA/BCPSEA Trustee Orientation**

The Board of Education and the Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer attended the BCSTA/BCPSEA Trustee Orientation in Vancouver, January 25-26, 2019. There were many informative presentations throughout the Orientation, including:

- The Role of Trustees and the Board as Employer
- BCPSEA: Who We Are and What Services Are Offered?
- Connections: Boards of Education Trustee Representatives: Your Role in the Employers' Association and in BCSTA Provincial Council
- Public Education Labour Relations 101
- Legal Understandings: Requirements for Board Meetings, Confidentiality and the School Act

Chairperson Fehr reported on the opening plenary workshop:

BCSTA (Mike Roberts and Stephanie Higginson)

- A Board is responsible for the improvement of student achievement
- Alignment – a key to success: Work to align vision, finances, human resources, educational programs, and capital planning
- Strategic Planning – a key to successful alignment: visionary and detailed strategic planning and oversight
- Board's Core Fiduciary Responsibilities: setting local policy, ensuring appropriate oversight, approving the local conditions of employment, approving operating budgets and capital plans, hearing appeals, approving local courses and resource materials, attending meetings, maintaining effective two-way communication, approving operational plans, approving district strategic plans
- What Questions do these Responsibilities Raise: clear long-range Strategic Plan with accountabilities, budget reflect our priorities for students, collective agreements fair, staff held accountable for leading and managing the school district efficiently, have appropriate policy
- Establishing a Culture of Continuous Improvement: want District to be best it can be, encourage experimentation and innovation, culture of continuous improvement as well as embrace the core belief that all children can succeed, set reasonable progress goals for the district
- Board Authority vs. Individual Opinions: Board has the authority, not individual
- Individual Trustee: Member of a "team", no authority, represent their community
- Operational functions the primary responsibility of the Superintendent and not the Board of Education, role of the Board is to set the vision, policy, and oversight mechanisms
- Board responsible for oversight and accountabilities
- Boards may advocate for a variety of issues, such a funding, student services, early childhood education, children's mental health, etc., the common denominator being the interests of students and the value of publicly-funded education
- Boards should be thoughtful, strategic, and timely (think 'win-win')
- Establish strong relationship with MLA
- Students best served with Strategic Plan with a vision – buy-in from community and staff
- Strategic Plan maps out the pathway forward for the District

Understanding the Education Landscape (Dave Byng)

A. Current Trends

- Evolving social norms and trends
- Population becoming more diverse
- Society – Federal and Provincial governments focus on reconciliation (UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People)
 - incorporating Indigenous people's into education
- Employers – future jobs will need post-secondary education
 - need team skills, problem-solve, people skills
- Schools – K-12: types of schools (public, independent, home schooling, off-shore schools, post-secondary institutions)
 - delivery methods: face-to-face, distance learning, increased use of technology
- Students – provincial numbers are climbing
 - increased diversity (immigrants, indigenous)
- Teachers – implement new curriculum
 - more demand for teachers
 - need specialists

B. BC Education System's Legal Framework

- Each province makes laws for their education
- Federal oversight
- Legislation in B. C.: School Act, Teachers Act, Independent Schools Act, First Nations Education Act
- School Act
 - Students and parents
 - Roles and respective roles and responsibilities: teachers, superintendents, etc.-- Board of Education, Ministry of Education
- Teachers Act
 - certification
 - discipline and professional conduct
 - professional development
- Independent School Act
 - same goals and objectives as School Act
- First Nations Act
 - can educate on their own land

C. Performance of Education System in BC

- Canada 7th in science, math and reading
- High level of performance and equity in education outcomes
- Canada 4th in performance in science
- BC 2nd in world in PISA Financial Literacy Assessment
- BC top in Canada when evaluating education and skills
- Provincially:
 - completion rate 85% and improving (gap narrowing between all categories of students)
 - grade to grade transitions are 93% and stable
 - Provincial exams
 - student satisfaction – 54% of Grads go to post-secondary
- BC's Co-Governance Model
 - educated citizen
 - roles and responsibilities (all students to get an education)
 - education goals are shared among schools, the family, and community
 1. Ministry – sets policies, sets standards, provide opportunities for a quality education in a cost-effective manner

2. Board of Education – set out In School Act, appoint Superintendent/Secretary Treasurer, tone is set by a unified Board, govern district, quality education and student performance, and co-operate with community
 3. District Officials
 4. Principals
- D. Government of BC's Education Priorities
- Election platform (NDP/Green)
 - 2017 Confidence and Supply Agreement
 - Throne speech
 - Budget speech
 - Budget documents
 - Minister's Mandate Letter (from Premier to Minister of Education)
 - Government of BC Documents (Government's Strategic Plan, Ministry Service Plan, Public Statements and Commitments by Premier and Minister of Education)
 - Government of BC Commitments (Throne speech, summary of Education commitments, capital expenditures, operating expenses, First Nations, curriculum, teachers, students (mental health, etc.))
- E. BC Provincial Budget
- September/October 2019 – budget consultation process
 - Fall 2019 – budget begin to build for the Minister
 - Finance Minister has to look at how Provincial Budget is going to look (taxation changes, debt affordability, fiscal plan updates, etc.; jobs, exports, etc.; current capital commitments, current fiscal plan, operating expenses, etc.)
 - Throne speech
 - Performance monitoring of Provincial Education Budget spent each year
 - Public school funding (block funding and special funding categories)
 - Independent school funding
 - Capital funding for Provincial Education
 - Seismic Mitigation Program
- F. Risks/Challenges
- BCTF contract
 - Recruit and retain teachers
 - Increasing student numbers in 45 districts
 - Decreasing student numbers in 15 districts
 - Increasing diverse population
 - Aging infrastructure
 - Record capital funding
 - Implementation of new funding model
 - Student assessment and Graduation requirements
 - Student survey results
 - Mental health
- G. Opportunities
- New curriculum
 - Graduation rate gap
 - Complete Truth and Reconciliation Commission Recommendations
 - Delivery of largest Capital Program in history of education

Collective Bargaining Preparation, Planning and Processes (Renzo De. Negro, Janet Stewart)

Trustee Mann reported that the BCPSEA speakers spoke positively and optimistically about the upcoming round of bargaining with the BCTF, which can begin as early as February 28, 2019, with preliminary discussions. They spoke of the importance of facilitating these discussions with the focus on objectives set forth by both parties and the key takeaway that success will only be reached when everyone supports these objectives.

BCPSEA and BCSTA: How Well Do You Know Your Organizations?

Trustee Mann reported on the final event of the day, which was a fun multiple choice quiz to recap what trustees had learned about BCPSE and BCSTA over the past two days. It proved to be quite an entertaining way to end a very informative conference.

e. BCSTA Provincial Council Meeting

Chairperson Fehr reported that Deputy Minister Reg Bawa, who writes the cheques to school districts, presented on Friday, February 8th. He outlined the Funding Model Review and its vision of educated and engaged citizens that thrive in a rapidly changing world. Mr. Bawa stated that the next steps involve more work on financial management, online learning, adult and continuing education, and inclusive education. There will be working groups meeting from March to June with results reported by the Fall. Feedback so far is to prioritize the recommendations and the timing of the recommendations.

The business meeting followed on Saturday which included the presentation of the preliminary budget for the BCSTA, Two late motions were presented and passed, with the second motion dealing with concerns that the Ministry would use the results of the Grade 10 assessment as another FSA and that the data would be used to rank districts. Following the business meeting was a lengthy discussion about the Funding Model Review.

f. School Community Mental Health Conference

Trustee Stiglitz reported that it was very exciting to hear how much is on the go in terms of mental health support for schools and communities. British Columbia is the only province in North America that has a Cabinet Member in place for mental health and drug addictions, with government providing funding support for mental health, including funding for every school district. There are many small groups popping up in every community in the Province focusing on the same thing - making safe places for children. Trustee Stiglitz was pleased to report that many of the issues that were discussed at this conference were already being addressed throughout the District, such as safe zones for children and good connections for children and youth who may feel lost – with many other excellent initiatives currently in progress.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. School Calendar 2019-2020

The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer reported that the VIWTU has indicated its support for this calendar, with some details still to come in terms of which dates will be Pro-D Days and Curriculum Implementation Days. If approved by the Board, the calendar will be circulated early next week to staff, students, and parents with a cover letter to explain the process for feedback. The Board will review any feedback at the March Board meeting, and will then make a decision to either adopt the calendar as circulated, or make changes and recirculate it.

The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer noted that this draft calendar is 'x 1.1' which makes the math much easier for everyone.

2019:R-011 **MOVED:** Trustee Smith, **SECONDED:** Trustee Stiglitz
AND RESOLVED:
"TO circulate the draft calendar as presented."

b. Spring Community Consultation Meetings

Meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Monday, February 25 – 4:30-6 pm – Tsawalk Learning Centre, Nanaimo
- Tuesday, February 26 – 3:30-4:45 pm – Kyuquot School
- Monday, March 4 – 4-5:30 pm – Zeballos School
- Wednesday, March 6 – 6:30-8 pm – School Board Office, Gold River
- Thursday, March 7 – 4-5:30 pm – Captain Meares School, Gold River

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Amended Annual Budget Bylaw

2019:R-012 MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz
AND RESOLVED:
“TO give the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw three readings in one.”

Trustee Mann read the bylaw aloud.

2019:R-013 MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Hanson
AND RESOLVED:
“TO adopt the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2018-2019 pursuant to Section 113 of the School Act, showing the estimated revenue and expense for the 2018-2019 fiscal year and the total budget bylaw amount of \$11,722,349 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.”

b. Enrollment Projections 2019-2020

The total headcount projected for next school year is 465.

c. Preliminary Budget 2019-2020

The enrollment projections have been sent to the Ministry and the budget numbers will be announced in March. The Board will provide direction at the March Board meeting and a sample budget will be brought forward in April for Board consideration. The final budget is presented for approval in May but if there are any concerns, the Board still has the month of June to finalize the budget, if necessary.

d. Vancouver Island School Trustees’ Association Spring Meeting

The VISTA Spring meeting is scheduled for March 1-2 in Courtenay. Trustee Stiglitz will be the District’s spokesperson at the round table discussion.

e. Funding Model Review Discussion by the Board

The Board discussed the three themes of Equity, Accountability and Financial Management in terms of whether they were viewed by School District 84 as positive, concerning or needing further consideration. The Board’s submission will be sent to the Ministry of Education by the February 22nd deadline.

SUPERINTENDENT/SECRETARY-TREASURER’S REPORT:

a. District Update

The posting for a Temporary Continuing Education teacher for Gold River has not yet been filled, and the District will be looking to purchase a new NSOP bus for next school year. All Grade 10-12 students, approximately 70, are registered in the Nootka Sound Outdoor Program and earn credits towards grad – up to a total of eight credits. As a result, the 24-passenger NSOP bus has a very busy schedule of highway and logging road travel.

b. **Enrollment Report**

The enrollment is at 508 students, a slight increase from last month.

c. **Finance Warrants**

A report will be presented at next month's Board meeting.

TRUSTEE INQUIRIES:

Trustee Smith asked how the Board would go about requesting funding for an emergency evacuation zone for Zeballos, noting that the First Nation and the Village are working together to create a new zone but need funding support. The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer advised that a written proposal or request should be presented to the Board with an explanation of what is that the community wants and what they see the District contributing, and then it would be debated by the Board.

Trustee Smith stated that several constituents in Zeballos have asked about the bus serving the other side of the Village, and asked what would be involved in order to increase the service. The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer explained that, historically, the District has had two bus runs based on distance: the bus run from Tsaxana to Gold River is 5.2 km and the run from Oclucje to Zeballos is 13 km. There used to be a second bus run in Zeballos, paid by the First Nation, to pick up students who had to walk 1 km. To increase bus service in Zeballos would result in additional bus driver time and fuel/maintenance costs. The other District's communities could then rightly request that bus service be provided for their students who have to walk 1 km to school. If in Kyuquot, there would be extremely high maintenance costs in order to move buses and, although no one begrudges students a ride to school, the Board must be aware that it must be equitable for all communities – which would become expensive. However, Trustee Smith could bring it forward to the Board and the Board would debate it and decide yes or no; then, Trustee Hanson would do the same and it would be debated, and so on.

PRESS AND PUBLIC INQUIRIES:

Nil

NOTICE OF MEETINGS:

The next public meeting of the Board of Education will be held on March 11, 2019, at 4 pm, at Zeballos Elementary Secondary School. The public is invited to attend. Any requests for additions to the agenda should be forwarded to the School Board Office two weeks prior to the meeting. Board meeting minutes are posted on the District's website at <http://www.sd84.bc.ca/board-meetings-school-district-84>.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:07 pm:

2019:R-014 MOVED: Trustee Smith, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz
AND RESOLVED:
"TO adjourn."