



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR VANCOUVER ISLAND WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT 84,
HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2020
BY ZOOM**

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

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

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Fehr called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

2020:R-030 MOVED: Trustee Stiglitz, SECONDED: Trustee Mann
AND RESOLVED:
“TO approve the agenda.”

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

2020:R-031 MOVED: Trustee Stiglitz, SECONDED: Trustee Smith
AND RESOLVED:
“TO adopt the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of May 11, 2020.”

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Nil.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES AND PRESENTATIONS:

Nil.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Minister of Education
- BC School Trustees Association
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- SD84 Superintendent
- BCSTA
- MLA, Peace River North
- SD84 Superintendent
- BCSTA
- Copy of Letter to BCSTA President, re BCSTA Board of Directors Election and Welcome to Rick Price as New Director
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- BCSTA Weekly: K-12 Workplace Well-Being Webinars; Vaping Policy Paper; Mental Health Resources for Teachers; COVID-19 Budget Preparations; 2020 Skills Canada National Competition; Financial Help for High School Graduates; Diligent Discount
- BCSTA Headline: Daily News for School Trustees
- Notification to SD84 Trustees re COVID 19 Move to Stage Three Plan
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- Copy of Letter to Minister of Education re Re-opening Schools and Concerns re Insufficient Protective Measures
- Notification to SD84 Trustees re Health and Safety Procedures for Entering District Buildings
- BCSTA Weekly: BCSTA 2020-2021 Datebook Orders; Order on Gatherings; BC CDC COVID-19 Pandemic Survey; Statistics Canada COVID-19 Survey; CSBA President’s Bulletin; Budget Consultation

- Chair, SD53 (Okanagan Similkameen)
- BCSTA
- Copy of Letter to Minister of Education re Post-Secondary Transition Program Funding Eligibility
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees

2020:R-032 MOVED: Trustee Smith, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz
AND RESOLVED:
 “TO receive and file the correspondence.”

REPORT OF THE CLOSED MEETING:

Chairperson Fehr reported on the discussion of three labour issues and one legal issue.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

a. **School Reports**

Chairperson Fehr reported that 30% of the students in the District are now physically attending school.

b. **Working Relations Committee Meeting**

The agenda topics for the June 1st meeting included remedy, doctor’s notes, teacher workload, preparation for Fall 2020, staffing update, and budget update.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. **COVID-19**

The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer reported that the education sector is now at Stage Three with Grade 6-12 students physically attending 20% of the time while continuing with on-line learning, and K-Grade 5 students physically attending up to two days per week plus online support. Attendance has been up and down, with 20-30% of the students in the schools. Going forward, the Ministry of Education is hopeful to be in Stage One in September, but that will be subject to the directives of the Ministry of Health and Public Health Officer. In the meantime, the District will continue to work on the health and safety protocols and instructional program for each stage and it was good news to hear that there are currently no active COVID cases on Vancouver Island.

b. **Strategic Plan**

The District’s Strategic Plan has gone to the Ministry for review, and is focussed on mission, vision, values, education goals (including increasing completion rates, supporting students’ well-being, supporting First Nations students), and budget priorities. The Ministry has asked if the District would be interested in becoming an early implementer of policies around framework for students’ success, which is being discussed.

c. **Graduation Ceremonies**

Gold River Secondary School had an informal graduation last week and the official ceremony has been postponed until they can have a full graduation ceremony. Kyuquot School is holding a socially-distanced ceremony on June 23rd with guest speakers by video.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. **School Fees 2020-2021**

In accordance with District Policy B.2, *School Fees, Charges and Deposits*, the proposed school fees for 2020-2021 were presented for Board approval.

2020:R-033 MOVED: Trustee Smith, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz
AND RESOLVED:
 “TO accept the Schools Fees 2020-2021 as presented.”

b. **School Codes of Conduct for 2020-2021**

In accordance with District Policy E.33, Student Conduct, the Codes of Conduct for 2020-2021 were presented for Board approval.

2020:R-034 MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz
AND RESOLVED:
"TO accept the Codes of Conduct for 2020-2021, as presented."

c. **District Education Plan – School Plans**

The Board reviewed the School Plans and requested that a condensed template be created for Principals, for review early in the 2020-2021 school year.

2020:R-035 MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz
AND RESOLVED:
"TO direct the Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer to create a two-page template for the Principals' use when converting their draft School Plans for the Board's review."

d. **Capital Planning – 2021-2022**

The 'Draft Projects List' was presented to the Board for review, and includes two seismic mitigation projects (Ray Watkins and Captain Meares), two school enhancement projects (Kyuquot and Captain Meares), a demolition project for the future (part of Captain Meares), three carbon neutral projects (Captain Meares, Kyuquot and Zeballos), and playground equipment projects (Ray Watkins and Captain Meares).

2020:R-036 MOVED: Trustee Stiglitz, SECONDED: Trustee Hanson
AND RESOLVED:
"TO accept the Capital Plan for 2021-2022, as presented."

SUPERINTENDENT/SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT:

a. **District Update**

Moving from COVID-19 Stage Four to Stage Three resulted in some of the students returning to school and feeling confident that it was safe to do so. Many students have been missing 'going to school' and staff members have been remarking how happy they are to be back with the students and how difficult it has been to not have direct contact for so long. Although there are some teachers who are being accommodated to work from home, approximately 80% of the teachers are working with students in the schools.

Round Three of job postings is currently underway, with many postings being filled by internal candidates. The District received its enrollment audit results and the Ministry is holding back \$173,000 largely for students who, in the Ministry's opinion, were not in attendance enough to qualify for funding. In terms of the budget, the District is heading towards a balanced budget and will know in August what the surplus will be, and will then be able to make concrete plans for the 2020-2021 school year.

b. **Enrollment Report**

The enrollment continues to hold steady at 460 FTE.

c. **Finance Warrants**

As at May 2020, eleven months or 90% of the 2019/20 fiscal year and nine months of the school calendar year has elapsed. The budget amounts shown in this report are the 2019/20 preliminary budget amounts based upon the Fall 2019 enrollment for 2019/20.

At this time, the year-to-date revenue and expenses are trending as predicted in comparison to the budget for the School District.

At the end of June 2019 the District had an operating surplus of \$1,003,741 (last year \$1,036,442) of which approximately \$920,000 is currently being used to balance the budget which includes the \$173,000 which will be lost due to the unfavourable audit result.

Operating expenses last year were 86.1% of budget. Currently, 82.3% of budget has been spent so the District is tracking a little better in spending partially due to the schools being closed.

TRUSTEE INQUIRIES:

Trustee Mann asked when students will be notified about scholarship results, and each school will be providing some type of virtual presentation.

Trustee Smith noted that, at the recent Local Education Agreement/Enhancement Agreement meeting, it was agreed to use the old agreement until a new one can be created later in the year, with some updates to better serve the communities.

PRESS AND PUBLIC INQUIRIES:

Mrs. Kornylko reported that there have been two virtual Science Fairs this year and that Heather Kornylko from GRSS received a regional ribbon. Heather is excited to be interviewing with the Science Fair Foundation for their regional science fair. Heather wants to do a different project next year. On June 5th, a grad parade was held in Gold River with the graduates socially-distanced. It was an informal ceremony to celebrate the day and the hope is that a formal graduation ceremony can take place in December so that grads will be able to walk down the aisle and cross the stage.

Mrs. Kornylko asked if there would be Board funding to support virtual programs for next year, if there is student interest; for example, the Markham School of Dance Program from Ontario which is a one-hour class for 10 weeks, at a cost of \$1600. Chairperson Fehr stated that, once all information is compiled, the funding proposals can be presented to the Board for consideration.

There was an inquiry about the Education Assistant salaries listed in the finance warrants, and the Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer noted that some of the salaries were included in support staff instead of Education Assistants and this will be corrected.

Mrs. O'Reilly advised the Board that GRSS is working on a proposal to purchase and set up a projector and perhaps speakers for the GRSS gym. PAC has already offered some funding support, and once all of the details are known, she may be approaching the Board in the Fall to request funding assistance, if necessary.

There was an inquiry about additional staffing for GRSS in the Fall, and the Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer explained that the new school year will start off with very conservative levels of staffing and any increases will be subject to enrollment, class composition and budget.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS:

The next public meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, September 14, 2020, at 4:00 pm – either by Zoom or at the School Board Office (to be announced). The public is invited to attend. Any requests for additions to the agenda should be forwarded to amcdowell@viw.sd84.bc.ca 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 4:34 pm:

2020:R-037 MOVED: Trustee Stiglitz, SECONDED: Trustee Hanson
AND RESOLVED:
"TO adjourn."

Have a great summer!