



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR VANCOUVER ISLAND WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT 84,
HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019
AT THE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, GOLD RIVER, BC**

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

ALSO PRESENT: Lawrence Tarasoff, Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Fehr called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm and acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the Mowachaht/Muchalat First Nations Territory.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

2019:R-053 MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Hanson
AND RESOLVED:
"TO adopt the agenda."

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

2019:R-054 MOVED: Trustee Hanson, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz
AND RESOLVED:
"TO adopt the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of October 21, 2019."

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Nil.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES AND PRESENTATIONS:

a. **Mr. Ken Lees, Principal, Gold River Secondary School**

There are three mindsets that govern how Gold River Secondary School journeys on the path toward the educated citizen. The primary goal is "In partnership with our diverse communities, School District 84 will provide all students with a quality education relevant to the demands of a modern society." This means the skilled instructional staff of GRSS will provide all students with learning experiences that reflect the needs of a modern society. The second mindset is "to become a strong example of rural education". GRSS identity comes from acknowledging the educational assets afforded by its rural School Board and finding innovative ways to offset the challenges of rural learning. The third mindset is a mantra for GRSS teachers who will influence and direct the educational growth of the sons and daughters of this community; instructors at GRSS will "provide quality education to lead students toward success".

Gold River Secondary School strives to place a premium on actions that improve student access to information, include student voice in planning and bring 21st century education to our rural school. In the 2018-2019 school year, several initiatives were put forth as areas for growth and inquiry. Those four growth statements include:

- GRSS teaching staff will develop instructional strategies to increase student engagement and discipline in learning.
- GRSS teaching staff will poll student body and develop a course calendar that reflects student interest and need.

- GRSS administration will redesign distance learning program, including technology, ADST and shop programming.
- GRSS staff and community volunteers will build existing athletic programs and develop athletic programs to support students in all aspects of student growth.

A student at Gold River Secondary School attends courses that are not constrained by large class size. A student at GRSS is guaranteed access to any Grade 10 to 12 course that is required for graduation under the 2018 graduation program. The majority of elective courses required for graduation can also be taken at GRSS though the option to enroll in courses not offered by GRSS but available through distance learning, are available to the students. Students at GRSS have incredible opportunities to access learning experiences through the Nootka Sound Outdoor Program. Many students receive credits for registering with NSOP activities and this continues to be an asset to the school program. GRSS is a busy school and there are often breaks from the regular routine of high school courses. In one week in October:

- we welcomed Mike Downie from the Downie-Wenjack Fund to speak to our students;
- we welcomed recruiters from nine different post-secondary institutes in BC; and,
- the Student Council hosted a Hallowe'en school dance.

Mr. Lees is very proud to work at Gold River Secondary School. Opportunities for sport involvement, several chances to go on local adventure trips and the potential to be included on International Exchange trips are some of the value-added reasons to enroll students at GRSS. The robust Student Council is expanding the possibilities for learning about governance while directing student initiatives. Teachers working very hard to ensure that all students have access to quality academic experiences that are achievable challenges and worthy of inclusion at GRSS. Mr. Lees strongly believes that GRSS is a fine example of a rural school and that teachers and staff are all working to lead the students on the pathway to success.

b. **Miss Aurora McLachlan, Gold River Secondary School Student Council**

The GRSS Student Council Official Rules and Guidelines were presented to the Board:

GRSS Student Council Mission: To amplify the voices of the students within the school, make sure their needs are met and their wants are considered.

Student Council Structure: President, Vice-President/Secretary, Treasurer.

Elections: Annual elections take place during the second week of school and ballots are counted after Friday by two teacher volunteers, and the new executive announced the upcoming Monday.

Media: All passwords changed twice each year; all Council documents remain in Student Council email; no council member will post negative or false information, or anything sexually explicit, slanderous of another student, or anything that breaches school conduct; any changes to media handles or names must be voted on by Council and no pictures shared or posted without release forms on file at GRSS; and, all Student Council platforms to be linked to professional email (grsstudentcouncil@gmail.com).

Staff Meetings: One executive and one general Council member will attend one meeting each month to inform staff of plans and upcoming events.

The Council Recipe: The goal is to create a place where students' voices can be heard and passed to the administrators.

Voting: Must be over 50% in consensus to go forward.

House Team Rules – Two or more articles of clothing/items are required to count for dress-up days; lead teachers of house teams may not provide clothing or dress up for more than one student on their team; any intention tampering of points by a Council member will result in disciplinary actions.

Amendments – Any amendments or additions to the Official Rules and Guidelines must be voted on by the Council.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Canadian School Boards Association · Copy of Letter to Premier of New Brunswick and Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, Urging that Local Democratic Voice in Education Remains a Pillar of the Public System
- CSBA · Copy to Letters to the Leader of the New Brunswick Liberal Party, the Green Party, and the People's Alliance Party as per above
- Chair, SD52 (Prince Rupert) · Copy of Letter to BC Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure re Communities on the Move Declaration
- BC School Trustees' Association · BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- BCSTA · BCSTA Weekly: Funding Model Review Working Group Reports; Trustee Academy; Academy Speaker Spotlight – Mike Lake; Provincial Council; Non-medical Cannabis Legalization Update; Teacher Qualification Changes; 2018 Elections Report; CSBA 2020 Room Bookings; Quebec Decision Affects All Provinces: CSBA; BCPVPA Webinars; Greening Grants; Reminder – Education Savings Grants; Opinion h- Preparing Students for the Future
- Chair, SD78 (Fraser-Cascade) · Copy of Letter to Minister of Health re Youth Vaping Rates
- BCSTA · BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- Chair, SD42 (Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows) · Copy of Letter to Minister of Health re Taking Action to Combat the Rising Levels of Youth Vaping in BC
- Chair, SD42 (Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows) · Copy of Letter to BCSTA re BCSTA Discussion Paper on School Site Land Acquisitions
- BCSTA · BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier · Copy of Letter to President, BCSTA, re Free Menstrual Products for Students in School Washrooms by the End of 2019
- BCSTA · BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- BCSTA · BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- BCSTA · Copy of Letter to Minister of Education re Opportunity for Modelling and Feedback Should a New Funding Distribution Model for K-12 Education be Implemented
- Ray Watkins Elementary School · RWES Monthly Newsletter
- Chair, SD19 (Revelstoke) · Copy of Letter to Minister of Health and the Canadian Controlled Substances and Cannabis Branch re Support for Vaping Legislation and/or Regulations
- BCSTA · BCSTA Weekly: Provincial Council Synopsis Report; Accessibility Legislation Consultation; Trustee Academy Movie Night: Edge of the Knife; Coalition for Healthy School Food Gathering; OPINION: Technology is Transforming Education
- BCSTA · Copy of Letter to Minister of Health re Delay of Implementation of Medical Services Plan Requirement for International Students Attending BC School Districts
- BCSTA · BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- BCSTA · BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- BCSTA · BCSTA Weekly: Academy - Download the App; Mental Health Podcast and Resources; Bill 41 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act; Report – How Principals Support Learning and Create Caring School; BoardDocs Exclusive Offer; Election Act Changes; BCTEA Update
- BCSTA · The Education Leader: Meetings, Motions and Vaping Concerns Dominate October; SD71 Signs on to Legacy Schools Program; How SD47 is Boosting Mental Health With Nature

2019:R-055 MOVED: Trustee Hanson, SECONDED: Trustee Smith
AND RESOLVED:
 “TO receive and file the correspondence.”

REPORT OF THE CLOSED MEETING:

Chairperson Fehr reported on the discussion of one labour issue. The Board approved funding for Christmas staff functions in the amount of \$15 per attending employee.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

a. School Reports

Trustee Stiglitz reported on another busy month at Captain Meares Elementary Secondary School, as follows:

- October 1 – Terry Fox Run – Gabriel got to “Pie Miss Jones in the Face” as he raised the most money individually;
- October 2 – First PAC Meeting – New Executive elected;
- October 7 – Fire Chief and Lynda Lwellyn presented to the students re: Fire Safety;
- October 15 – ArtStarts – “Axe Capoeira” – Everyone loved it!
- October 17 – Great BC Shakeout – Whole School Drill;
- October 18 – BC Conservation Service – CO Gord Gudbranson, Presentation to students re: Human Wildlife Interaction;
- October 21 – Board Meeting/Community Consultation in Tahsis;
- October 22 – Mike Downie Presentation in Gold River;
- October 30 – Picture Day;
- October 31 – Halloween: Student Council did activities for the younger students;
- November 5 – Volleyball Tournament;
- November 7th – School Remembrance Day Ceremony.

Trustee Mann reported that, since the last Board meeting, the Ray Watkins Art Club hosted a luncheon, the Parents’ Advisory Council met on November 4th, and Trustee Mann attended the Remembrance Day Ceremony held on November 7th. Upcoming events include:

- November 15 – Crazy Hair Day
- November 18 – Community Lunch
- November 25-29 –Scholastic Book Fair
- December 7 and 8 – Christmas Craft Fair

Trustee Smith reported that the Community Consultation meeting was held in Zeballos on October 28th with improved attendance over the previous year. The new teacher hired last month has taken over as the intermediate teacher, and has also begun coaching the basketball team. On the topic of basketball, by student decision the team has been renamed the ‘ZESS Warriors’, and they have new uniforms to coincide with the change.

On Halloween, Zeballos School had a belated Fire Prevention Week presentation by the Zeballos Volunteer Fire Department, along with a Hallowe’en party organized and executed by the Ehattesaht First Nations. An early Remembrance Day ceremony was held, with Canadian Rangers, First Nations Leadership and a Corporal from CFB Comox in attendance.

b. Working Relations Committee Meeting

At the meeting of October 22nd, the topics of discussion included the Temporary 0.5 Teacher posting for Gold River Secondary School with no applicants, an adjustment to the Leave Management System around Pro-D, CI and Admin Day absence, the number of staff meetings per month, AED Automatic External Defibrillators, the compressor at Tsawalk Learning Centre, the process for investigations,

reimbursement for work travel, prepping for TTOCs and the teacher evaluation plans. The next meeting is scheduled for November 18th.

c. **Vancouver Island School Trustees' Association Fall Conference**

Trustees Mann, Stiglitz, Smith, and Hanson attended the VISTA conference in Port Alberni on October 25 and 26. The conference was held at Alberni and District Secondary School, a beautiful eight-year-old facility.

Friday night was a special presentation, *A Path to Reconciliation*, by Mike Downie. This was a moving look into how Mike and his brother Gord, the front man for The Tragically Hip, endeavored to tell the sad story of the death of Chanie Wenjack and their epic journey through the creation of the multi-media art project called, *The Secret Path*.

Saturday started bright and early with a presentation by Greg Smyth, the Superintendent for School District 70 (Alberni). He spoke of the District's new vision and strategic plan and the District's continued efforts to improve the well-being of all children in the District. He also spoke of the two tools currently in place used to track their students in all areas of development: the EDI and more recently, the MDI.

The second presentation was by Renzo Del Negro from BCSPSEA on the ongoing negotiations with the BCTF. He spoke of the upcoming recommendations that were to be released from the mediator's report and the steps following the report.

The VISTA Branch meeting followed in the afternoon and the conference adjourned at 3 pm.

d. **BC School Trustees' Association Provincial Council Meeting**

Chairperson Fehr reported on the Provincial Council meeting which took place at the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue in Vancouver on October 25 and 26. At the Business Meeting on October 26th, BCSTA President Stephanie Higginson touched on BCSTA's recent initiatives and focus areas, including an update on provincial bargaining, the funding model review, the framework for enhanced student learning, and BCSTA's federal election advocacy. The BCSTA requested Board input for their 2020/2021 Budget by December 16 to jolstead@bcsta.org. The following motions were carried: BCSTA year-end audited financial statements; grant status update as at June 30, 2019; 2020/2021 BCSTA Budget Planning; Delay of Enrolment of International Students in Provincial Medical Services Plan; Vape Awareness and Vape Cessation Resources for Youth; and, a Late Motion passed that all Boards are provided with the opportunity to model and/or pilot the new funding formula recommendations prior to implementation in order to provide positive or negative feedback on the implications of the proposed recommendations.

The afternoon 'Issues Forum' included a reminder of the Facilitator's Grant up to \$2700 and a presentation on the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (slides of this presentation will be sent out to Boards). The main focus is on Accountability and Reporting; i.e. (1) As a sector, are we achieving what we set out to do? and, (2) How can we better work together on continually improving student outcomes and life chances for every child? Implementation in terms of strategic planning includes coordinated implementation (including support staff), reporting, and capacity building (supports needed). The Service Plan measures that the Minister of Education needs to achieve this year, and it was noted that School District 47's strategic plan is a good example. School plans are to be in alignment with the District's Plan, which is to be in alignment with the Province. Strategic Plans must address all students, and include four components:

1. District must plan and schools must plan;
2. Focus on student achievement;
3. Must have goals, measures and accountability (most set by government, some can be set by the districts);
4. Required public reporting.

The Funding Model was reviewed, which includes multi-year budgets, on-line learning to provide quality courses, is linked to Framework for Enhancing Student Learning, includes funded adult and continuing

education, and inclusive education. The 2020/2021 funding will be announced to districts on March 15, 2020.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. **Community Consultation Meetings**

There was a good turnout at the meetings but a low response rate for feedback. The next round of community consultation meetings will be held in late February or early March.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nil

SUPERINTENDENT/SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT:

a. **District Update**

Nil.

b. **Enrollment Report**

The enrollment as of November 7, 2019 is 529 students.

TRUSTEE INQUIRIES:

Nil.

PRESS AND PUBLIC INQUIRIES:

Nil.

NOTICE OF MEETING:

The next public meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, December 9, 2019, at 4 pm, at the School Board Office in Gold River. 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 4:55 pm:

2019:R-056 MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Hanson
AND RESOLVED:
"TO adjourn."