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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FOR VANCOUVER ISLAND WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT 84,  
HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020  
AT THE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE AND BY TELECONFERENCE**

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

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

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairperson Fehr called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA::**

**2020:R-045** MOVED: Trustee Stiglitz, SECONDED: Trustee Smith  
AND RESOLVED:  
"TO approve the agenda."

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

**2020:R-046** MOVED: Trustee Hanson, SECONDED: Trustee Mann  
AND RESOLVED:  
"TO adopt the minutes of the Regular meeting of September 14, 2020."

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- BC School Trustees Association
- Minister of Education
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- Chair, SD69
- BCSTA
- Caleb Bouey, ZESS Parent
- BCSTA
- Zeballos School
- Ray Watkins Elementary
- BCSTA
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- Copy of Letter to President, BCSTA, re New Federal Funding to School Districts
- BCSTA Weekly: Provincial Council Update; Trustee Town Hall with Dr. Gustafson; Save the Date – Trustee Academy; Boards at Work; Child Care on School Property; Reminders
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- Provincial Election Information
- Copy of Letter to Minister of Education re Cancellation of Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) 2020-2021
- BCSTA Weekly: Provincial Council Registration; Social media: Legal and Policy Considerations; Trustee Academy 2020; Legal Bulletin: Public Interest Disclosure Act; CSBA Indigenous Trustee Panel; BetterEducate; Volunteer Awards; Boards at Work: Supporting Immigrants & Refugees in SD41; Letters
- Letter of Concern re RCMP Officers Wearing Fire Arms into Schools
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- September 2020 Newsletter
- RWES October 2020 Newsletter
- BCSTA Weekly: Election Materials for Boards of Education; PC Registration Open; BCSTA's Meeting of Board Chairs-Oct.15; Partners Liaison Meeting Postponed; BCSTA's New Expense Claim Website; Upcoming Robert's Rules of Order Webinars; Letters and Opinions; Reminders

- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- BC Public School Employers' Association
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- Enhancing Student Learning Reporting Order
- Legislative Update No. 2020-01: The COVID-19 Response Measures Act Receives Royal Assent

**2020:R-047**      MOVED: Trustee Stiglitz, SECONDED: Trustee Smith  
AND RESOLVED:  
*"TO receive and file the correspondence."*

**REPORT OF THE CLOSED MEETING:**

Chairperson Fehr reported on the discussion of two labour issues.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

a.      **School Reports**

Trustees reported that the schools are getting back into the swing of things. The NSOP students recently enjoyed paddle boarding on the Tahsis River and a trip to Strathcona Lodge for this year's program introduction.

b.      **VISTA Fall Conference**

Chairperson Fehr reported on the VISTA Fall Conference, held virtually on October 3, 2020. Guest speaker Anthony McLean addressed "Anti-Racism: What Can Boards Do?". Mr. McLean advised boards to "stay on the road" and avoid the two ditches – despair (never change) and denial (no racism). The business meeting followed, which included discussion about the upcoming BCSTA Trustee Academy and the Provincial Council resolutions.

c.      **Working Relations Committee Meeting**

The Working Relations Committee meets on a regular basis during the school year upon request of either the VIWU or the Employer, to discuss working relationships within the District and advise parent groups, staff and the Board. The Committee met virtually on September 19, 2020 and addressed the topics of contract melding, the Framework for Enhancing Equity and Achievement and the appointment of the Special Advisor, the joint orientation and induction program for new teachers, an update on COVID-19 and air quality, remedy from last year, and declining student enrollment. The next meeting is scheduled for October 26, 2020, by Zoom.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

a.      **Strategic Plan: Education Plan**

The Board discussed its commitment document for 2020-2025, 'Our Pathway Forward'. Once the editing is complete, it will be published on the District's website.

**2020:R-048**      MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz  
AND RESOLVED:  
*"TO approve the Strategic Education Plan for release once the changes, as discussed, have been completed."*

b.      **Framework for Enhancing Equity and Achievement**

The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer explained that, although this document is not yet ready for Board approval, it is time for Board feedback. This information, which is part of the Strategic Plan, will be linked to the operational plan and the budget.

The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer explained that the development of these plans and processes to improve the life chances of all students in School District 84 is a very large focus throughout the entire District.

c. **School Plans**

The school plans, presented to the Board in June, have been revised to reflect a more focussed approach to addressing the most critical areas of need. The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer noted that, with the work of the Special Advisor, this is the best way for the school plans to be restructured. School plans are 'living documents' and, once the plans are implemented, will be adapted and changed as necessary to ensure that they continue to be effective. Once complete, these plans will be linked to the District Education Plan.

**2020:R-049** MOVED: Trustee Smith, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz  
AND RESOLVED:  
*"TO approve the school plans."*

d. **Community Consultation Meetings, Round One**

Over 25 people in total attended the two virtual community consultation meetings. All communities were represented, and all attendees had an opportunity to ask questions. Although it is important to have face-to-face consultation meetings, this was a positive exercise and certainly better attended than some meetings held in the past!

e. **Capital Plan Bylaw**

This bylaw is required to authorize the Secretary-Treasurer to execute the capital project funding agreement related to the electric bus/charging station infrastructure for Zeballos Elementary Secondary School.

**2020:R-050** MOVED: Trustee Smith, SECONDED: Trustee Mann  
AND RESOLVED:  
*"TO give Capital Bylaw No. 2020/21-CPSD84-02 of Capital Plan 2020/2021, three readings in one."*

**2020:R-051** MOVED: Trustee Stiglitz, SECONDED: Trustee Hanson  
AND RESOLVED:  
*"TO adopt Capital Bylaw No. 2020/21-CPSD84-04 of Capital Plan 2020/2021, as read."*

**SUPERINTENDENT/SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT**

a. **District Update**

Although there are a few students who are home-schooled or enrolled in distance-learning, the majority of students in each community have returned to school. The staff have embraced the safety measures that have been put in place, and seem to be of good spirit. All of the work done during the summer to get everything ready and organized seems to have paid off. The District continues to work with the Special Advisor, as appointed by the Minister of Education, to improve Indigenous achievement and success rates for all students, and that work is progressing. The Special Advisor's next visit is scheduled for the end of this month.

b. **Enrollment Report**

The enrollment in the District, at 392 FTE, is significantly down from last year. As a result, the District will be in funding protection equal to 98.5% of last year's funding, which will mean a difficult year of hard decisions in terms of funding and inflation. The District has received federal COVID support funding and has posted for additional outreach positions to support students and families during this difficult time.

**TRUSTEE INQUIRIES:**

Trustee Mann asked if the District is locked into the new Mascon internet, and if there are better options for internet in Gold River. Although the Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer has not received any inquiries or complaints, he will follow up to ensure that students working from home have adequate internet connectivity.

**PRESS AND PUBLIC INQUIRIES:**

Nil.

**NOTICE OF MEETINGS:**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is on Monday, November 9, 2020, at 4 pm, with the location to be announced. The public is invited to attend. Any requests for agenda additions should go to [amcdowell@viw.sd84.bc.ca](mailto: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 5:03 pm:

**2020:R-052**      MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz  
AND RESOLVED:  
                  "*TO adjourn.*"