



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR VANCOUVER ISLAND WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT 84,
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022
VIA ZOOM**

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Arlaine Fehr, Chairperson (Gold River)
Jenniffer Hanson, Vice-Chairperson (Kyuquot)
Debbie Mann (Gold River)

TRUSTEE ABSENT: Allison Stiglitz (Tahsis)

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

CALL TO ORDER:

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

2022:R-015 MOVED: Trustee Hanson, SECONDED: Trustee Mann
AND RESOLVED:
"TO approve the agenda."

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

2022:R-016 MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Hanson
AND RESOLVED:
"TO adopt the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of February 14, 2022."

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Nil.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES AND PRESENTATIONS:

Nil.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- BC School Trustees Association
- President, BC Hydro
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- Zeballos School
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- Copy of Letter to Minister of Education re Responses to FNLC Letter on FSAs
- Copy of Letter to Chair, SD61 (Victoria), in Response to Concerns Regarding BC Hydro's Net Metering Program
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- Copy of Letter of Thanks to Jackie Tegart, BC Liberal Party, for Contributions to Bettering Public Education
- Copy of Letter to Karin Kirkpatrick, BC Liberal Party, re Congratulations and Introduction to BCSTA
- BCSTA Weekly: Provincial Council Synopsis, AGM Nomination Kit, AGM Key Dates, Handwashing Lesson Plans, Growing Cultural Awareness in SD27, Does Anti-Racism Training Work, Letters, Pink Shirt Day, BCSTA Scholarships, The Learning Guide-Governance
- Copy of letter to Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Minister of Education re Follow-up on Provincial Funding to Improve Access to Educational Programming in Correctional Facilities
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- School Newsletter
- BCSTA Weekly: AGM Registration, AGM Motions, Lend a Hand at AGM, Codes of Conduct, Letters, Reminders, BCSTA Scholarships, The Learning Guide-Governance
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees

- Minister of Education
 - BCSTA
 - First Nations Education Steering Committee
 - BCSTA
 - BCSTA
 - BCSTA
 - BCSTA
- Invitation to BCSTA to Join the Advisory Group on Provincial Assessment 3 (AGPA 3)
 - BCSTA Weekly: AGM Electronic Voting, AGM Nomination Kit, 2022 Budget Guide, Staffing Update, CSBA News, Great Big Crunch, Official Languages Survey Findings, Opinion – Who Needs School, Letters, Reminders
 - New Indigenous-Focussed Graduation Requirement for BC Schools
 - BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
 - BCSTA Weekly: AGM Registration, AGM Motions, Lend a Hand at AGM, Codes of Conduct, Letters, Reminders
 - Copy of Letter to President, Canadian School Boards Association, re Climate Change Advocacy
 - BCSTA Weekly: AGM Speaker-Kendal Netmaker, AGM Voter Training, AGM Travel and Accommodations, AGM Registration, Candidate Questions, Indigenous Course Requirement Survey, CSBA Congress, BCCPAC News, Codes of Conduct, Climate Change Survey, Boards at Work-Inclusive Classrooms, Opinion-Indigenous Course Requirement a Good First Step, Letters, Reminders

2022:R-017 MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Hanson
AND RESOLVED:
“TO receive and file the correspondence.”

REPORT OF THE CLOSED MEETING:

Three labour items were discussed. Chairperson Fehr will provide School Trustee coverage for the Zeballos School attendance area until the General School Election in October, and her phone number is posted on the District’s website. In-person Board meetings will resume in April, with the April 11 Board meeting in Zeballos, May 9 in Kyuquot and June 13 in Tahsis.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

a. School Reports

Trustee Mann reported that the Ray Watkins Elementary School students are very excited about the new playground, which will be hopefully started before the summer. Mr. Cooper took his Grade 6/7 class downhill and cross-country skiing and was hoping to take the Grade 5/6 class cross-country skiing but, unfortunately, the bus was not repaired in time. The trip will be rebooked for March. For Valentine’s Day, teachers had their classes decorate envelopes and do a card exchange. For Pink Shirt Day, the K/1 class made wrinkled hearts and listened to “Have you Filled a Bucket Today” and had a class discussion about how to be kind to each other. The Grade 6/7 and 4/5 classes did lessons on bullying, and the Grade 1/2 class wore pink shirts, decorated pink shirt cut-outs and read a story about how Pink Shirt Day started.

b. Working Relations Committee Meeting

On March 7, the Committee met to discuss staff shortages, ways to increase staff morale, discretionary days next to ‘vacation’ days, setting a date for the annual staffing review meeting, and agreement to continue the meetings by Zoom for now. The next meeting is scheduled for April 25.

c. Enhancement Agreement Meeting

The Committee met on March 15 to talk about the equity review and next steps to include community visits, the Pathways Guide, the VIU courses that are underway, the special hiring program, individual student plans, student teacher program with VIU, the Haahuupa, and some community in-school items including the Zeballos School career visits and a bus issue raised by the Mowachaht/Muchalat First Nation. The next meeting is scheduled for April 25.

d. **Spring Community Consultation Meetings, February 22 and 23**

The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer reported that there was no feedback from the community consultation meetings.

e. **Vancouver Island School Trustees' Association Branch Meeting**

Trustee Mann attended the Spring VISTA meeting held by Zoom on March 5. The meeting started off with a performance by six comics called "Stand-Up for Mental Health". Some of the trustees were offended by the content and its sensitive subject matter.

The next presentation was brought forth by the Sooke Trustee Allison Watson and presented by Lori Adamson, an emergency room physician and a member of CAPE (Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment). She spoke of the effects of climate change on mental health and her opposition of Fortis BC's climate change program for K-12, which has been added to some districts' curriculums. She expressed concern about the program and urged all districts to review their policies on sponsorship and donations.

There was a late motion added to the agenda prior to the business meeting regarding students attending and participating in the Annual General Meeting. Each VISTA branch may support them with the amount of \$500 towards their expenses.

The following reports were presented:

- President's Report - Thanking Gordon Li for helping organize the zoom meeting and reminding all districts about dues for VISTA and for districts to report any trustees who will not be running in the next election
- BCSTA IEC Janet Fraser - reported on Indigenous Education Committee
- BCSTA Director Tracey Loffler - reported on MOU with FNEESC underway and that a letter was sent to Minister Whiteside on the importance of FSA data
- BCSTA Liaison Gordon Li and Shelley Lawson - reported on what to expect at the AGM
- BCSPEA Eve Flynn - reported on teacher bargaining

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. **COVID Update**

The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer reported on the Summary of Provincial COVID-19 Changes for K-12, in effect on the first day of Spring Break:

- a return to classroom and learning environment configurations and activities that best meet learner needs
- no capacity limits for intra-school events for students, staff and necessary volunteers
- inter-school events or those with visitors to not exceed 50% capacity and can return to 100% capacity when the PHO Gatherings & Events Order is lifted (expected end of day April 7)
- schools do not need to keep a list of the date, names and contact information of visitors for communicable disease prevention purposes
- schools can return to routine pick up/drop off practices
- testing and self-isolation periods updated to align with current public health recommendations and practices
- mandatory masks no longer required, and a person's choice is to be supported and respected
- schools should make every effort to avoid field trips to venues/locations that place additional requirements that could prevent a person from being able to participate, particularly students

b. **Three-Year School Calendar**

The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer received no feedback on the draft three-year calendar, and recommended Board approval.

2022:R-018 MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Hanson
AND RESOLVED:
"TO accept the three-year School Calendar as circulated."

c. **Preliminary Budget 2022-2023**

The Board agreed to take a moderate approach when building the operating budget, and an aggressive approach towards plans for the surplus.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nil.

SUPERINTENDENT/SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT:

a. **District Update**

The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer reported that, as the District is coming out of COVID, there are many more activities taking place in the schools and it is great to see the planning around upcoming student trips and activities. Everyone is looking forward to Spring Break and enthusiastic about things opening up in the schools.

b. **Enrollment Report**

The District enrollment held steady at 298 students this month.

c. **Finance Warrants**

There is 44% of the budget available for the remaining 32% of the fiscal year. The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer will be meeting in early April to chart out teacherages, buildings, photocopiers, classroom resources, etc., and staffing levels around leadership, succession and enrolling/non-enrolling teachers.

TRUSTEE INQUIRIES:

Trustee Mann noted that she had attended the recent Early Years meeting and inquired The Children's Health Hub funding. The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer explained that the District is currently funding The Hub until June 30, and it will be up to the Board to decide if it should be included in the next budget.

PRESS AND PUBLIC INQUIRIES:

Nil.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS:

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on **Monday, April 11, 2022**, at 4 pm, at Zeballos Elementary Secondary School. The public is invited to attend. Any requests for agenda additions should go 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 4:23 pm:

2022:R-019 MOVED: Trustee Hanson, SECONDED: Trustee Mann
AND RESOLVED:
"TO adjourn."