



---

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FOR VANCOUVER ISLAND WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT 84,  
HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022 AT  
ZEBALLOS ELEMENTARY SECONDARY SCHOOL, ZEBALLOS, BC**

---

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:** Arlaine Fehr, Chairperson (Gold River)  
Jenniffer Hanson, Vice-Chairperson (Kyuquot) (via Zoom)  
Debbie Mann (Gold River)  
Allison Stiglitz (Tahsis) (via Zoom)

**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 4:00 pm.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**2022:R-020** MOVED: Trustee Hanson, SECONDED: Trustee Mann  
AND RESOLVED:  
"TO approve the agenda."

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

**2022:R-021** MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Hanson  
AND RESOLVED:  
"TO adopt the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of March 16, 2022."

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

Nil.

**PUBLIC INQUIRIES AND PRESENTATIONS:**

a. **Mr. Tim Huttemann, Principal, Zeballos Elementary Secondary School**

Principal Huttemann presented a report of a busy year to date at Zeballos School:

- A special welcome to Mr. Vanden Ham, recently hired as First Call Teacher Teaching on Call, as well as two student teachers who have joined the staff since Spring Break and are also looking forward to visiting Kyuquot School during their practicum;
- COVID set things back a fair amount in terms of attendance and community involvement, but is now opening up and students, elders and parents are returning;
- The staff have been meeting to review the school plan and the literacy goal to have most of the Grade 3 students reading at level by the end of this year – and, although some students may take longer, the literacy program is well organized and will result in great benefits moving forward;
- The second goal of having meaningful grads has been put out as a question to the school community. Many parents do not want their children to leave the community after grad and it is important for students to explore local career opportunities. They very much enjoyed a recent field trip to Vancouver Island University and North Island College to do just that, and future trips might start for students as early as Grade 8. In the meantime, there have been visits from people to talk about their jobs – counselling, NTC work, fisheries, etc. – to students in Grade 6 and up. It is difficult not having a Shop Program, nor a qualified Math, Science or Art teacher. 'Elder Vince', the carver from Ehattis, works in the K-2 room in the mornings and his visits are very much enjoyed by all. Zeballos School is really about imagination and how to support teachers to support students, by encouraging them to 'teach their hobbies' such as cooking, woodworking, mechanics, etc., to keep students interested in school.

- The Principal has had conversations with the Ehattesaht Nation about the need for backhoe operators, certified surveyors, plumbers, electricians, carpenters, etc. These could all be jobs for meaningful grads, and so important for students to become interested and to bring instructors to teach these required skills.
- Parents and community members have been invited to attend a school bbq on Mental Health Day, April 28, during which time the District's counsellor Brenda Blaschuk will be available to speak. ZESS, on behalf of the Ehattesaht Nation, hosted NHL hockey player Jordan Tootoo on April 12 who, as the first Inuk NHL player, delivered a powerful statement on resilience and First Nations' connection to land when confronted with tragedy. Randall Pearce has been hired by Ehattis for three days a week to provide support to the community and students. The local RCMP are also very supportive in the community and visit the school regularly, and will be organizing a bike rodeo and a child's seat safety demonstration in conjunction with ICBC – both to be held at ZESS.
- The students have been really missing the sports trips that had to be either cancelled or postponed due to COVID. Hopefully, community visits will now occur more often to help break down barriers and build stronger relationships.
- Zeballos School has opened up a library program for parents to pick up books for their children, which goes hand-in-hand with the literacy program.
- Ehattis has a huge greenhouse and the ZESS students have been working there, and learning about plants in the classroom and they take pride in that.
- The Nuu-chah-nulth Education Worker, Celena Charleson, holds an evening language class so that parents can learn with their children – and she currently has some ZESS students teaching the adults.
- Parents' children and their culture is very dear to them, and some parents do not have the skills needed to support their children in the best way. The Zeballos staff all show leadership and compassion in the best way possible and, as a result, students feel safe at school and attendance is good. The students can name 2-3 people who they can trust and are level-headed in knowing that they can trust the ZESS staff, who genuinely care about the students.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- BC School Trustees Association
- BCSTA
- Vancouver Island School Trustees' Association
- BCSTA
- BC School Sports
- BCSTA
- Area C Trustee, Comox Valley SD
- Mia Ashton, Parent
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- BCSTA Weekly: AGM Speaker Sarain Fox; Campaign Financing; Local Elections Manual; SunSense in Schools; Letters; Reminders; AGM Voter Training; Candidate Questions; AGM Travel and Accommodations; Indigenous Course Requirement Survey
- VISTA Newsletter – March 2022
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees
- BCSS Rugby Declaration Date
- BCSTA Weekly: AGM Session-BCTEA and UNDRIP; Join a Committee; AGM Motions; Nominations Update; Bargaining Resources; Copyright and Fair Dealings; COVID-19 Lessons Learned Review; AGM Voter Training; Candidate Questions
- Copy of Letter to VISTA Requesting Fortis BC Literature Distributed to Schools
- Letter to All School Trustees Across Canada Expressing Concerns with Privacy Policy re Schools Withholding a Student's Transgender Identity from Parents Should Student Request It
- Update: BCSTA Phone Contacts
- BCSTA Headlines: Daily News for School Trustees

- The Coalition for Healthy School Food BC
- Minister of Education
- BCSTA
- BCSTA
- Statement: School Food Guidelines
- Copy of Letter to BCSTA President re BCSTA's Support for the First Nations Leadership Council's Letter Regarding the Foundation Skills Assessment
- BCSTA Update: AGM Voting Training
- BCSTA Weekly: Candidate Statements; AGM Voting Guide; Important Dates; SOGI News; BCCPAC News; COVID-19 and Schools; SD44 Safety & Emergency Open House; Letters; School Trustee Candidates Guide; AGM Motions; Last Chance to Join a Committee; CSBA 2022

**2022:R-022**      MOVED: Trustee Hanson, SECONDED: Trustee Mann  
AND RESOLVED:  
"TO receive and file the correspondence."

### **REPORT OF THE CLOSED MEETING:**

Chairperson Fehr reported that one legal and three labour issues were discussed. The Board also enjoyed meeting with a delegation of Zeballos School students, as well as meeting with the Village of Zeballos Mayor, Councillor and Chief Administrative Officer.

### **TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

#### **a. School Reports**

Trustee Stiglitz reported that Captain Meares has been a busy place in the past few months. The Village of Tahsis has been preparing for the conversion of the old school shop building into a fire hall, and there have been geophysics personnel, architects and Village workers on the school grounds measuring, digging, and planning. The re-location of the Village Daycare is almost complete with the District's Operations personnel doing an excellent job renovating a large classroom across from the seniors' center for the youngsters. It is warm, clean, attractive, and professional. Some of the work on the new elementary secondary wing is to begin this summer.

Mrs. Graves' classroom has exploded into a sea of green with the seeds that the students planted and placed in the growing tower. Trustee Stiglitz reported that students in Grade 2 and Grade 3 have read their new stories to her and they are all excited about their accomplishments. Mrs. Dennis' students have been studying the circulatory system and have had the opportunity to dissect pig hearts. They have also been studying carbon footprints and created posters in careers.

Chairperson Fehr reported that Gold River Secondary School is hosting 10 exchange students from France, as well as three more students from Germany.

#### **b. Working Relations Committee Meeting**

The March 7<sup>th</sup> report was presented at the last public Board meeting. The next Working Relations Committee meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2022.

#### **c. Enhancement Agreement Meeting**

Trustee Stiglitz reported that the meeting on March 15 dealt with Equity in Action and the communities are going to circulate a questionnaire to get good insight views of what is wanted within the communities. The Pathways Guide is being completed, and will be a helpful resource for teachers. The teacher education program plans are well underway, starting off with 24 interested candidates who are now being screened to determine who is ready to register, and who needs to do preliminary course work. The hope is to have 5-7 students ready to start the program this summer, with another cohort ready to start in 2023. Also, the paperwork is underway for the Human Rights exemption for the special hiring program.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

a. **Preliminary Budget 2022-2023**

The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer reported that the Board will be receiving the budget to review and potentially approve at the May Board meeting. The major areas of focus are to add four teaching vice-principal positions, allocate some surplus towards gym and teacherage projects in Kyuquot, and retain all of the current continuing/regular employees in the District.

b. **School Trustee Election**

The election is scheduled for October 15, 2022, with nomination period from August 30 to September 9.

**2022:R-023** MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz  
AND RESOLVED:  
*“TO appoint Mrs. Anne McDowell, Associate Director of Human Resources, as Chief Elections Officer and Mr. Lawrence Tarasoff, Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer, as Deputy Chief Elections Officer for the 2022 School Trustee Election for Vancouver Island West School District 84.”*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

a. **Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2022/23-CPSD84-01**

**2022:R-024** MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz  
AND RESOLVED:  
*“TO give Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2022/23-CPSD84-01 three readings at once.”*

**2022:R-025** MOVED: Trustee Hanson, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz  
AND RESOLVED:  
*“TO adopt Vancouver Island West Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2022/23-CPSD84-01 as presented.”*

**2022:R-026** MOVED: Trustee Stiglitz, SECONDED: Trustee Hanson  
AND RESOLVED:  
*“TO approve the Annual Funding Agreement for the fiscal year 2022/23 as presented.”*

b. **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and School Calendar**

September 30, 2022 will again be a non-instructional day to recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. As a result, the 2022-2023 School Calendar must be amended to change the ‘not in session’ day on September 9, 2022 to a regular school day. The minutes of instruction and all other aspects of the previously approved calendar remain the same.

**2022:R-027** MOVED: Trustee Mann, SECONDED: Trustee Stiglitz  
AND RESOLVED:  
*“TO circulate the School Calendar 2022-2023 as amended.”*

The amended School Calendar will be presented to the May Board meeting for approval.

**SUPERINTENDENT/SECRETARY-TREASURER’S REPORT:**

a. **District Update**

The Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer reported that Principal Huttemann’s report, together with all other reports included in today’s meeting, provides a full District update.

b. **Enrollment Report**

The District enrollment has held steady at about 300 students this month, which is a positive and helpful sign.

c. **Finance Warrants**

Finance reports for February and March were included in the Board agenda package. As a result of today's meeting in Zeballos School, the Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer will look to add several items through budget planning including a score clock and library chairs. Trustee Mann suggested resurfacing of the track used by Gold River Secondary School but this would need to be initiated by the Village of Gold River. Budget development will also consider increased District funding for school spots, art supplies, math supplies, and counselling services.

**TRUSTEE INQUIRIES:**

Trustee Stiglitz asked about the possibility of offering Nuu-chah-nulth Language instruction at Captain Meares this year, and the Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer will follow up with the Indigenous Support Teacher.

Trustees discussed possible dates for Kyuquot Principalship interviews in May.

**PRESS AND PUBLIC INQUIRIES:**

Nil.

**NOTICE OF MEETINGS:**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on **Monday, May 9, 2022**, at 4 pm, at Kyuquot Elementary Secondary School. 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 4:55 pm:

**2022:R-028** MOVED: Trustee Hanson, SECONDED: Trustee Mann  
AND RESOLVED:  
"TO adjourn."