

## SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 – BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Planning and Facilities Committee DATE: January 21, 2009

CHAIRPERSON: Trustee Moyra Baxter STAFF CONTACT: Alan Cumbers, Director of Operations

### **Attendees:**

Trustee M. Baxter – Acting Chairperson  
Trustee G. Given, Committee Member  
Absent: Trustee W. Horning – Chairperson

### **Staff:**

L. Paul, Secretary-Treasurer  
A. Cumbers, Director of Operations  
G. Davidson, Operations Manager  
M. Essler (recorder)

### **Partner Group Representation:**

COPAC	No representative
COTA	Carole Gordon, Second Vice-President (arrived at 4:35)
COPVPA	Scott McLean, Member (arrived at 4:48)
CUPE	Bill Zeman, President
DSC	No representative

### **Agenda**

Add Material for Item 6.3 – Enhancement Project – Chute Lake Elementary School

### **Report /Matters Arising**

#### **Planning and Facilities Committee Public Report – November 19, 2008**

(attachment)

Trustee Baxter queried if meetings had been scheduled with the various municipalities regarding transportation.

*The Secretary-Treasurer confirmed that there has been an initial meeting with the District of Westside.*

### **Committee Members Queries/Comments**

#### **Bill Zeman, President, CUPE**

The President of CUPE requested clarification of the garden project which will be constructed in front of Glenmore Elementary School.

*Alan Cumbers, Director of Operations, advised that there will be a student garden constructed in the front of the school. The Board has approved entering into a School Enhancement Project Funding Agreement with the Glenmore Elementary School Parent Advisory Council for the student garden. The approval was granted with the understanding that there was work which was to be completed by CUPE Local 3523. The School is considering applying for a Yes To It Grant which requires input from the community and tradesmen within the community. The Director of Operations has met with the School to advise discussions must take place with CUPE Local 3523 to review any jurisdiction issues. The Parent Advisory Council has been requested to obtain information on the scope of work required by the community/tradesmen and then arrange a meeting with the Director of Operations and CUPE Local 3523. Bill Zeman indicated that CUPE Local 3523 may write a letter to Glenmore Elementary School requesting meeting to discuss the issues. Trustee Baxter requested that the Planning and Facilities Committee be kept informed of any changes to the contents of the School Enhancement Project Funding Agreement that was previously approved by the Board. Alan Cumbers will provide an update report at the next Planning and Facilities Committee meeting.*

## Action Items

### 1. **School Bus Safety Week – February 2, 2009 through to February 6, 2009**

(attachment)

Alan Cumbers, Director of Operations, provided the Committee with an overview on the proposed School Bus Safety Week for February 2, 2009 through to February 6, 2009. School Bus Safety Week is held twice a year – the third week in October and the first week in February. Violation of stopping for the red light is the number one safety hazard.

#### Outcome:

**THAT: The Planning and Facilities Committee forward to the January 28, 2009 Public Board Meeting a request that at the January 28, 2009 Public Board Meeting the Board make the following declaration:**

**Declaration by Chairperson:**

**I DO SO DECLARE THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) declare the week of February 2, 2009 through to February 6, 2009 as “School Bus Safety Week” in School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) supporting the theme “Stop on Red. Kids Ahead”.**

### 2. **Draft Climate Action Charter**

The Director of Operations advised that the draft Climate Action Charter, as prepared by the BC Government, was received from the BC School Trustees Association requesting input by Boards of Education. The BC Government announced that in order to be eligible to receive a grant to offset carbon tax charges Boards would be required to sign a Climate Action Charter. The Director of Operations confirmed that the grants would likely only be available for approximately three years. The Climate Action Charter is in addition to the Board’s requirement to become carbon neutral by 2010 as per the *Greenhouse Gas Reductions Targets Act*. One of the components of concern is the common goal of the parties “encouraging students and their families to be environmentally responsive through engagement and education”. This task would fall under the educational direction of the Board. The School District would be required to prepare reports on Greenhouse Gas Emissions on all facilities including gas, electricity, service vehicles and busing.

Trustee Baxter referred to paragraph (1) (g) with reference to “price signal”. The Committee discussed the meaning of price signal and concurred to suggest to the BCSTA that the word price should be deleted.

With the series of reports to be completed and grants to be applied for, the Director of Operations indicated a number of Boards of Education are hiring Energy Conservation Managers. The position could be on a temporary basis. There is the possibility of obtaining funds for this type of position through BC Hydro and other Ministry Grants. There would also be a necessity for clerical assistance for the Manager’s position. The number of hours for the clerical position is unknown as there is little information being received by School Districts as to requirements. This request would be vetted through the budget process.

Carol Gordon, COTA, requested clarification on the meaning of item (4)(c). The Committee concurred to add clarification on this item to the reply to BCSTA.

The Planning and Facilities Committee concurs that the following items should be forwarded to the Board for inclusion with the reply to BCSTA for consideration in the final document:

1. The ‘Parties’ indicates multiple Boards are involved in the agreement, however, on the signature page only one Board is signing the document. A single Board cannot sign on behalf of multiple Boards. Therefore, the agreement should be modified to reflect only one Board or the signatory page should be expanded to include all Boards that are willing to sign the document.
2. 1(g) - The term ‘price signal’ is undefined. Perhaps the word price should be deleted.
3. 3(a) - There is an apostrophe missing at the end of the word ‘Boards’.

4. 4(c) - The Board would like to know what government legislation, regulations and policies they may be supporting to have removed.
5. The Board would like clarification if the grants received, under this agreement, can be used to pay for the additional staff that will be required to meet the demands in the Climate Action Charter.

**Outcome:**

**THAT: The Planning and Facilities Committee forward to the January 28, 2009 Public Board Meeting the Draft Climate Action Charter, requesting that the Board forward the Draft Climate Action Charter, along with the points for consideration as developed by the Planning and Facilities Committee, to the BCSTA.**

The deadline for submission to BCSTA is January 31, 2009.

**3. Enhancement Project – Chute Lake Elementary School**  
(information provided at meeting)

The Secretary-Treasurer advised that there is currently an interim Chute Lake Elementary School Parent Advisory Council which has been formed by interested parents at Anne McClymont Elementary School. At the January 28, 2009 Public Board Meeting there is an application for the Board's approval of the formation of a Chute Lake Elementary School Parent Advisory Council. The Committee discussed Section 8(1) of the *School Act* which states that "Parents of students of school age attending a school or a Provincial school may apply to the board or to the minister, as the case may be, to establish a parents' advisory council for that school". The Committee discussed whether there can be an application for the formation of the Chute Lake Elementary School Parent Advisory Council if the students are not actually 'attending' that school. The students who will be attending Chute Lake Elementary School are currently attending Anne McClymont Elementary School or Dorothea Walker Elementary School. Chute Lake Elementary School is scheduled to open September of 2009.

The Secretary-Treasurer advised that the interim Chute Lake Elementary School Parent Advisory Council is making applications for funding for their adventure playground. The applications for funding require the application to be completed by a recognized Parent Advisory Council. The Director of Operations advised that parents on the interim Chute Lake Elementary School Parent Advisory Council wish to commence fundraising for the adventure playground. The Operations department currently has an opening in April of this year to install the playground.

**Outcome**

**THAT: The Planning and Facilities Committee forward to the February 11, 2009 Public Board Meeting a recommendation for the School District to enter into a School Enhancement Project Funding Agreement with the Chute Lake Elementary School Parent Advisory Council for an adventure playground;**

**AND FURTHER THAT: The Agreement not be signed until the Chute Lake Elementary School Parent Advisory Council is officially formed by the Board of Education.**

The Secretary-Treasurer will request clarification from the Ministry of Education on the information in the *School Act* which indicates that "Parents of students of school age attending a school or a Provincial school may apply to the board or to the minister, as the case may be, to establish a parents' advisory council for that school". Clarification will be obtained as to whether the students have to actually be attending the school or if they can be registered to attend the school. The Secretary-Treasurer will provide this information to the Board at the January 28, 2009 Board Meeting when the application is coming forward for the approval by the Board of the formation of the Chute Lake Elementary School Parent Advisory Council.

## **Information Items**

### **1. Transportation User Pay (updated)**

(attachment)

The Director of Operations originally provided information on the Transportation User Pay at the February 20, 2008 Planning and Facilities Committee Meeting in response to a Trustee Query at the January 23, 2008 Committee Meeting. Due to time constraints at the February 20, 2008 meeting the item was deferred to September of 2008 at which time the Committee deferred the item to a future Planning and Facilities Committee meeting after the election of the Board of Education. The report as presented at the January 21, 2009 Committee meeting has been updated to reflect changes in the budget, number of students registered in the bus transportation system, and number of bus routes. School District No. 63 (Saanich) currently charges transportation fees to all riders, and has followed this procedure for the past four years.

If School District No. 23 was to introduce user pay busing, the cost per rider would be approximately \$180.00 per year. There are various administration duties which would be required in order to introduce user pay busing, including tracking of students, collection of money, and determination of students who are unable to pay. Grant Davidson, Operations Manager, confirmed that there are currently two School Districts in the Province who have user pay busing.

### **Outcome**

**The Planning and Facilities Committee recommends the Transportation User Pay (updated) Memo of January 15, 2009 be referred to the Coordinating Committee of February 3, 2009 for referral to the Finance and Legal Committee as information for the budget process.**

## **Recommendations/Referrals to the Board/Coordinating Committee/Other Committees**

Board of Education:

- School Bus Safety Week – February 2, 2009 through to February 6, 2009 – *January 28, 2009*
- Draft Climate Action Charter – *January 28, 2009*
- Enhancement Project – Chute Lake Elementary School – *February 11, 2009*

Coordinating Committee:

- Transportation User Pay (updated) for referral to the Finance and Legal Committee

## **Items for Future Planning and Facilities Committee Meetings**

- Update Report on Student Garden at Glenmore Elementary School – *February 18, 2009*
- Amendment to Property Bylaw No. 99 – Right-of-Way to Regional District of Central Okanagan on the Mount Boucherie Senior Secondary School site – *Future*
- George Elliot Secondary School Dance Studio - *Future*

## **Meeting Schedule**

Wednesday, February 18, 2009, 4:30 p.m. at School Board Office

Wednesday, April 15, 2009, 4:30 p.m. at School Board Office

Wednesday, May 20, 2009, 4:30 p.m. at School Board Office

Wednesday, June 17, 2009, 4:30 p.m. at School Board Office

**Questions – Please Contact:**

**Wayne Horning, Chairperson**

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**Alan Cumbers, Director of Operations**

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Moyra Baxter, Acting Chairperson