



"Together We Learn"

School District No. 23  
(Central Okanagan)

# BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

## PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, January 26, 2005**

TIME: 6 PM

LOCATION: School Board Office

**Attending:**

Trustee M. Baxter (Chairperson)

Trustee E. Buckley

Trustee: C. Horan

Trustee W. Horning

Trustee A. Hunt-Binkley

Trustee G. Scanlan

Absent: Trustee C. Wiebe

Staff:

R. Rubadeau, Superintendent

Juleen McElgunn, Assistant Superintendent

Eileen Sadlowski, Secretary-Treasurer

M. Stolze, Executive Assistant/Information Officer (recorder)

**Partner Group Representatives Attending:**

COPAC

COPVPA

COTA

CUPE 3523

Sharlene Drohomereski, President

Scott McLean, President

Alice Rees, President

Bill Zeman, President

**ORDER:**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**AGENDA**

|     |             |   |
|-----|-------------|---|
| Add | Information | Superintendent                              |
| Add | Information | Education Committee Meeting                 |
| Add | Information | Date – Second Public Board Meeting in March |

Trustee Buckley requested to add an Action Item. The Chairperson requested an explanation on the topic and the urgency and suggested a notice of motion.

*Main*

05P-020

MOVED by Trustee Buckley,

**THAT: An additional Action Item be added to the Agenda regarding the Board requesting an opinion from legal counsel.**

No Secunder

No Debate

Trustee Buckley will provide a Notice of Motion.

*Main*

05P-021

MOVED by Trustee Scanlan, SECONDED by Trustee Horning,

**THAT: The Agenda for January 26, 2005 be adopted as amended.**

**CARRIED**

## MINUTES

*Main*

05P-022

MOVED by Trustee Horan, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,  
**THAT: The Minutes of the public Board meeting of January 12, 2005 be adopted as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

Abstained: Trustee Horning (absent from meeting)

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

In attendance: Carol MacWilliams, Principal, KLO Middle School

### **School District No. 23 Web and Link Program**

Ms. MacWilliams introduced and presented a video on the Web and Link Program, which assists students in the transition to middle and secondary schools. The program is built on the belief that students helping students is one of the best techniques to welcome new students and to create a positive and safe learning environment for all students. Incoming students are not the only ones to benefit from the program - selected students receive training and gain skills in mentorship, leadership and team building.

Ms. MacWilliams responded to a question.

The Chairperson thanked the Superintendent and Ms. MacWilliams for presenting the video and complimented the staff who had been involved in the production.

## RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

### **Report - Family Life Program Review**

Committee Members In attendance:

Clara Sulz, Director of Instruction

Dr. Paul Hasselback, Medical Health Officer

Virginia Hallonquist, S.D. No. 23 Trainer for Family Life Locally Developed Program

Unable to Attend:

Report Author: Dr. Susan Clayton

Linda Dingedine, Vice-Principal, Rep. for COPVPA

Pam Wilson, Counsellor, Rep. for COTA

Valerie Broman, COPAC Past President, Sheri Mogenson and Heather Whittaker, COPAC

Rhonda Tomaszewski, Interior Health Authority

The Presenter advised that, as part of the consultative process, parents, students, teachers and community representatives participated in a survey. Responses were received from 8,567 students and 170 teachers; nine presentations were received from the community.

The report contains overwhelming response that the Family Life program should be taught in the schools and further that:

- the information needs to be kept current;
- the students, teachers and parents wish to have trained teachers teaching the program;
- there are inconsistencies with how the content of the Family Life program is taught.

- Parents and teachers call for a balanced approach to teaching the Family Life program with trained teachers presenting the information – trained teachers are sensitive to family values and are trained to present information without personal agenda.

The survey results clearly indicate value in the program, which is locally developed and unique to this District. The Committee agrees with feedback that suggests it is timely to review and modernize many of the resources. The Committee's recommendations are included in the Report.

Ms. Sulz acknowledged the work of the Committee members and, in particular, thanked Dr. Hasselback for taking a lead role in contacting community agencies.

The Chairperson thanked Ms. Sulz for the presentation and acknowledged the Committee members in attendance.

Questions from the Board were deferred until the Action Item later in the agenda.

## **PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD**

### **Dale Roberts, Living Positive Resource Centre, Okanagan**

- commented that the Report was well-researched. The Centre members appreciate the opportunity to have participated in the review process; they look forward to continuing the involvement as the Board moves towards implementation of the recommendations contained in the Report.

## **TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS**

All trustees were provided with an opportunity to comment on their recent involvement in District activities.

### **Queries:**

#### **Trustee Scanlan**

- asked if Watson Road Elementary is the only school currently operating an all day (alternating day) Kindergarten program, and if this schedule is having any affect on student development or achievement.  
*The Superintendent advised that only Watson Road Elementary offers this option. At the kindergarten level, the benchmarks for research are cursory; however, he personally does not believe that there will be a difference in development or achievement.*

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Report – Family Life program Review**

(attachment)

In attendance Review Committee Members:

Clara Sulz, Director of Instruction

Dr. Paul Hasselback, Medical Health Officer

Virginia Hallonquist, S.D. No. 23 Trainer for Family Life Locally Developed Program

The Superintendent introduced the Report. He explained that the locally developed Family Life Program is unique to this district. Additionally, the program exceeds the requirement provided by the Ministry for this aspect of the personal planning curriculum.

When established initially, the program was developed from the point of view that a qualified, specially trained team would present the material. In 2001, as a result of budget cuts, the team was eliminated. The program continued; it is delivered by classroom teachers.

On March 10, 2004, following a presentation by a community group, the Board directed the Superintendent to review the Family Life Program and report back with recommendations to the Board. The recommendation is that the program be expanded, or rewritten, because the content has been frozen since 2001.

The data included in the report speaks for itself in that students, teachers, parents and community members value the program, but want the Board to reinstate the Family Life Teaching Team. The additional cost, per annum, is estimated to be between \$250,000 and \$300,000. Within the existing budget, it would be fiscally feasible for the Board to reinstate the program for one year, possibly for two. The Board's fiscal goal for the year would then become the reinstatement of the Family Life Teaching Team. Beyond one or two years, there would be no financial guarantee.

The Board discussed the matter.  
The Superintendent responded to questions.

*Main*  
05P-023

MOVED by Trustee Horan, SECONDED by Trustee Buckley,  
**THAT: The Family Life Program report and recommendations be referred to the Superintendent and the Finance Committee for consideration and recommendations in the 05/06 Budget.**

The Board discussed the matter.  
The Superintendent responded to additional questions.

*Amendment*  
05P-024

MOVED by Trustee Scanlan, SECONDED by Trustee Horan,  
**THAT: The Family Life Program report and recommendations be referred to the Superintendent, the Education Committee and the Finance Committee for consideration and recommendations in the 05/06 Budget.**  
**CARRIED**

The Board discussed the matter further.

*Amendment*  
05P-025

MOVED by Trustee Buckley,  
**THAT: The Family Life Program report and recommendations on restoring the original team-based Family Life Program for S.D. No. 23 be referred to the Superintendent, the Education Committee and the Finance Committee for consideration and recommendations in the 05/06 Budget.**  
No Secunder, No debate.

The question was called on 05P-023 as amended in 05P-025, reading as follows:  
**“THAT: The Family Life Program report and recommendations be referred to the Superintendent, the Education Committee and the Finance Committee for consideration and recommendations in the 05/06 Budget.”**  
**CARRIED**

The Board discussed budget timelines and the level of detail required in the Superintendent's Report.

**By consensus, the Board agreed that the Superintendent's recommendations for the Education Committee should be general terms (details do not need to be articulated); that the Education Committee will consider the matter and will provide a recommendation to the Finance Committee; that the Finance Committee will provide a recommendation for the Board as part of the budget-setting process.**

The Education Committee will discuss this matter at a public meeting on Wednesday, February 16, at 1 PM, School Board Office.

The Chairperson thanked the Committee for its input and expertise. The Chairperson also expressed appreciation for the writer of the Report.

7:00 PM The Chairperson called for a recess.

7:10 PM The meeting resumed.

**Recommendation – Ad Hoc Healthy Food Choices Committee  
Request for Senior Staff and Clerical Support to the Committee**

(Notice of Motion served by Trustee Anna Hunt-Binkley at the January 12<sup>th</sup> public meeting)

*Main*

05P-026

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Horan,  
**THAT: The Board of School Trustees and Finance Committee consider, as part of the 2005/06 budget deliberations, the Ad Hoc Committee on Healthy Food Choices request for senior staff and clerical support for the coming year.**

Trustee Hunt-Binkley, Committee Chairperson informed the Board that, since its inception in June 2003, Committee members have themselves undertaken and completed a considerable amount of work, including the preparation of guidelines for schools. The Committee has not had the benefit of support.

**The question was called on 05P-025  
CARRIED**

**Ad Hoc Healthy Food Choices Committee Resolution for BCSTA AGM**

(Notice of Motion served by Trustee Anna Hunt-Binkley at the January 12<sup>th</sup> public meeting)

*Main*

05P-027

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Horning,  
**THAT: On the issue of student health and nutrition, the Board submit a resolution for the BCSTA Annual General Meeting, as follows:**

**HEALTH-PROMOTING SCHOOLS**

**The purpose of the British Columbia school system is to enable all learners to develop their individual potential and to acquire the knowledge, skills**

**and attitudes needed to contribute to a healthy, democratic and pluralistic society and prosperous and sustainable economy. (Ministerial Order 1989)  
The extent to which a nation’s schools become “health promoting schools” will play a significant role in determining whether the next generation is educated and healthy. (World Health Organization)**

**The concept of health promoting schools emerges from a global movement that recognizes two key ideas: healthy children are better able to learn and schools can directly influence the health of students.**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the BCSTA support the “Draft Framework for Health Promoting Schools” that was recently produced jointly by the Minister of Education and the Minister of Health Services,**

**AND FURTHER THAT: the BCSTA encourages both Ministries to commit to develop and to sustain the Health-Promoting Schools Framework Model, which provides as its vision:**

**“All children in British Columbia belong to school communities that are committed to promoting student achievement and health”**

**and which further states as its mission:**

**“to create and maintain the capacities of school communities to promote health” by way of addressing:**

- **teaching and learning;**
- **school environment, culture and organization;**
- **partnerships, supports and services.**

Trustee Hunt-Binkley informed the Board that she had recently attended a Forum organized jointly by the Ministries of Health and Education, “to promote health in BC schools.” Both Ministers and the Provincial Medical Health Officer were in attendance, along with representation from MLA’s, school trustees and the BC Medical Society, including Dr. Warshawski, Kelowna Pediatrician. The motion proposed for consideration by the BCSTA assembly is designed to support and encourage both Ministries to follow the direction outlined at the conference and detailed in the Draft Framework for Health Promoting Schools.

The Board discussed the matter.

**The question was called on 05P-027 as printed above.  
CARRIED**

The Chairperson confirmed that she will submit the resolution to the BCSTA.

**Recommendation – Conflict of Interest Requirements**

(Notice of motion served by Trustee Anna Hunt-Binkley at the January 12<sup>th</sup> public meeting)

*Main*

05P-028

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Buckley,  
**THAT: The Superintendent provide the Board with a written report outlining the current status of conflict of interest requirements, whether legislative, contractual, professional membership, district policy or otherwise, for all School District No. 23 employees,**

**AND FURTHER THAT: The Superintendent provide recommendations with respect to whether or not the status quo is sufficient and if not, provide recommendations for change.**

The Board discussed the matter.

The Superintendent responded to a question.

**The question was called on 05P-028  
CARRIED**

**Recommendation – Probationary Period**

(Notice of Motion served by Trustee Anna Hunt-Binkley at the January 12<sup>th</sup> Incamera meeting)

*Main*

05P-029

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,  
**THAT: The Superintendent provide the Board with a written report, outlining the current status of the hiring practices for vice-principals, principals and senior staff, and the pros and cons of instituting a probationary/temporary period, including legal opinion, for all such staff.**

The Board discussed the matter.

The Superintendent responded to questions.

*Amendment*

05P-030

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,  
**THAT: The Superintendent provide the Board with a written report, including legal opinion, ~~outlining the current status of the hiring practices for vice-principals, principals and senior staff,~~ on the pros and cons of instituting a probationary/temporary employment period for vice-principals, principals and senior staff.**  
**CARRIED**

- Scott McLean, President, Central Okanagan Principals’ and Vice-Principals’ Association commented that the Association is surprised by the motion and is opposed to it. Administrators who have been hired by this District have undergone a rigorous process. Also, they will have been experienced educators. The Ministry is predicting a shortage of administrators. A Board needs to attract and keep the best administrators and, to do so, there must be a fair and attractive contract. The best candidates may hesitate to come to this District if a probationary clause is added to the contract, which already allows the Board to terminate a contract without cause, providing the Board follows procedural fairness. Mr. McLean asked the Board not to pursue the motion, but rather to have discussion with his Association. By passing this motion, the message that will be sent to this District’s administrators is that the

Board is unhappy with some of the current administrators. The Association is willing to discuss with the Board how the District can do more to attract the best people to administrative positions.

Trustee Buckley asked the Superintendent if he is aware of any instances to terminate an employee after a short period of employment. The Chair ruled the question out of order because employee issues are not discussed in public. Trustee Buckley challenged the ruling.

**The Chairperson called for a vote to sustain the ruling that the question being asked by Trustee Buckley is out of order on the grounds that the Board does not discuss employee issues in public.**

**CARRIED**

Opposed: Trustee Buckley

The Chairperson requested a copy of Mr. McLean's statement and thanked him for his comments.

The Board discussed the matter further.  
The Superintendent responded to additional questions.

**The question was called on 05P 029 as amended in 05P-030 reading as follows:  
THAT: The Superintendent provide the Board with a written report, including legal opinion, on the pros and cons of instituting a probationary/temporary employment period for vice-principals, principals and senior staff.**

**CARRIED**

Opposed: Trustees Buckley and Horning

**Proposal for Substantive Change - OKM Secondary School – Soccer Program**  
(attachment)

In attendance: Randy Horne, Principal, OKM Secondary School  
Sheila Graham, Teacher  
Carol Spring and Peggy Guidi, Parents  
Blake McFetridge, Parent and Director of the Okanagan Mission Soccer Association

The Board discussed the proposal.  
The Principal responded to questions regarding the attached proposal.

*Main*

05P-031

MOVED by Trustee Buckley, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,  
**THAT: The Board approve the Proposal for Substantive Change – Soccer Program (as presented at the public Board meeting of January 26, 2005) for implementation at OKM Secondary School.**  
**CARRIED**

**PUBLIC QUESTION AND COMMENT PERIOD**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Summary – Field Trips**  
(attachment)

**Preschool, Kindercare, Before and After School Care**  
(attachment)

**Career Programs/Student Planning Programs Audit Update**  
(attachment)

***Helping Hand* – Joint Reforestation Project of:**  
(attachment) **Board of School Trustees**  
**Regional District of Central Okanagan**  
**City of Kelowna**  
**District of Lake Country**  
**District of Peachland**

The Superintendent reviewed the attached material. He credited Alice Rees, President of COTA, with being the inspiration for the project. Students, their parents and School District staff will engage in a major reforestation project designed to give nature a *helping hand while* celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the City of Kelowna. The goal, to simultaneously plant 130,000 trees, will likely achieve a place in the Guinness Book of World Records.

### **School Bus Safety Week – January 31 to February 4, 2005**

September 22, 2004 Board resolution:

THAT: To support a Canada-wide safety initiative by the Association of School Transportation Supervisors, the Board establish and declare in this school year, and in subsequent school years, two weeks as School Bus Safety weeks, namely the third week in October and the first week in February.

To promote awareness, the School District's Transportation department organized a poster contest. The winner will be announced shortly.

### **Superintendent's Retirement**

Dr. Ron Rubadeau announced that he will be retiring on or before June 30, 2006. The announcement is being made at this time in order to provide the Board with the opportunity of developing criterion for selection of the next Superintendent of Schools.

The Chairperson advised the public that the Board had previously received this information. On behalf of the Board she expressed appreciation of the timeliness of the public announcement that enables the Board to proceed to find a new Superintendent.

### **March Board Meetings**

The Board has already scheduled a regular meeting for the second Wednesday of March. The Board does not usually meet during Spring Break. If that were the case this year, it would mean a five-week break between Board meetings. Should the need arise for a second public Board meeting in March, the Board decided to set aside 2 PM on Wednesday, March 30, 2005, at the School Board Office.

Note: If this meeting proceeds, the Agenda will be posted on the website on Monday March 28<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no Committee Reports.

## BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

### SENT:

BC Political Parties – School District No. 23 Policies: Access to Students

### RECEIVED:

Donna McHattie, Joel Short, Terry Short – French Immersion Programming and Survey  
Quincy DeWitt – Watson Rd. Elementary and Single-Track French Immersion School  
BCTF – Conference on Public Education “Public Education Not For Sale”  
Richard L. Drinnan, M. Sc. – Local School Calendar  
Gerry Gilchrist, PAC President, Casorso Elementary – French Immersion Survey  
David Harper, PAC President, North Glenmore Elementary – Dr. Knox Rebuild Project

*Main*

05P-032

MOVED by Trustee Horning, SECONDED by Trustee Buckley,  
**THAT: At the January 26, 2005 Public meeting, the Board receives  
the correspondence listed above.**  
**CARRIED**

## FUTURE REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

Regular Public Board Meeting  
Wednesday, February 9, 2005 at 6 PM, School Board Office

Regular Public Board Meeting  
Wednesday, February 23, 2005 at 6 PM, School Board Office

Regular Public Board Meeting  
Wednesday, March 9, 2005 at 6 PM, School Board Office

Regular Public Board Meeting (if required)  
Wednesday, March 30, 2005 at 2 PM, School Board Office  
Note: If this meeting is required, the Agenda will be posted on the website  
on Monday March 28<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

## CONFIRMED BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Finance Committee Meeting – Budget Presentations from Public and Partner Groups  
Tuesday, February 1, 2005 at 6 PM, Hollywood Road Education Services

Education Committee Meeting – Family Life Program Review  
Wednesday, February 16, 2005, 1 PM, School Board Office

Ad Hoc Healthy Food Choices  
Tuesday, March 1, 2005 at 3:30 PM, School Board Office

**BC PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION (BCPSEA)**

The BCPSEA AGM takes place January 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Buckley is representing the Board. Trustee Baxter will also attend.

**BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION (BCSTA)**

February 12, 2005, Provincial Council Meeting  
February 18 - 19, 2005 Branch Meeting, Salmon Arm

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

Trustee Buckley:

THAT: The Board request the Superintendent to seek an opinion from legal counsel on the issue of Board appointment of an individual Trustee to represent the Board at a School Planning Council meeting.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE COMMITTEE AGENDA**

Family Life Program Review (Education Committee and Finance Committee)

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD AGENDA**

Superintendent's Report – Conflict of Interest  
Superintendent's Report – Probationary/Temporary Employment Period  
for Vice-Principals, Principals and Senior Staff.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 8:08 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary-Treasurer