



"Together We Learn"

School District No. 23
(Central Okanagan)

BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2008**

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: School Board Office
1940 Underhill Street
Kelowna, B.C.

Attending:

Trustee M. Baxter (Chairperson)

Trustee W. Horning

Trustee G. Scanlan

Trustee C. Wiebe

Absent: Trustee A. Hunt-Binkley

Absent: Trustee R. Cacchioni

Absent: Trustee S. Nicholl

Staff:

M. Roberts, Superintendent

L. Paul, Secretary-Treasurer

H. Gloster, Assistant Superintendent

M. Essler, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Partner Group Representatives Attending:

COPAC

Deb Butler, President

COTA

Karen Bernath, Professional Development Chairperson

Carole Gordon, Second Vice President

COPVPA

Rick Oliver, President (arrived at 6:12)

CUPE

Bill Zeman, President

DSC

No representative

ORDER:

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

AGENDA

Add Presentations

Material for Scheduled Presentation 4.3 – External District Review Team Report

Add Presentations

Material for Scheduled Presentation 4.4 – Trustee Electoral Boundary Review Committee Report

Add Action

Material and Recommendation for Scheduled Action Item 7.3 – New Child Care Spaces in Schools

AGENDA

Main

08P-012

MOVED by Trustee Horning, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,

THAT: The Agenda for January 30, 2008 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES

As there were four Trustees in attendance at the Public Board Meeting of January 30, 2008, two of which Trustees were not in attendance at the January 16, 2008 Public Board Meeting, the approval of the January 16, 2008 Public Board Meeting Minutes has been deferred to the February 13, 2008 Public Board Meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent provided the following report:

- The Superintendent expressed appreciation to Dick Chambers and Judy Arnold, and other members of the External District Review Team. Also recognition was expressed towards Trustees, staff, and parents for all their efforts during the External District Review Team's visit in November. The external review was valuable to the School District as it provided an opportunity to hear from individuals outside of the School District and to receive input on areas of need as the School District moves forward.
- Global Citizenship Month is being held February 11, 2008 to March 9, 2008 within the School District and the community. This is an opportunity for staff and students in the School District to recognize that we are all global citizens and place a value on citizenship. Harmony Day on February 11, 2008 is part of Global Citizenship Month.

RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATION

Recognition:

School Bus Safety Week – February 4, 2008 through February 8, 2008
(attachment)

The Chairperson announced the following Declaration:

I DO SO DECLARE THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) declare the week of February 4, 2008 through February 8, 2008 as "School Bus Safety Week" in School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) supporting the theme "Avoid Harm, Obey The Stop Arm".

Presentations:

Harmony Day – February 11, 2008

In attendance: Terry-Lee Beaudry, Director of Instruction K-12
Michelle Hewitt, Vice-Principal, Kelowna Secondary School
Pam Samaddar, Teacher, Dorothea Walker Elementary School

The Chairperson introduced Terry-Lee Beaudry, Director of Instruction K-12. The Director of Instruction K-12 introduced the Harmony Day Team who were in attendance including Michelle Hewitt, Vice-Principal at Kelowna Secondary School, Pam Samaddar, teacher at Dorothea Walker

Elementary School, Doreen Rosvold, Kelowna Community Resources and Joyce Brinkerhoff, ISCO/Global Citizen Events' Planning Committee.

6:12 Rick Oliver, President of COPVPA, arrived.

The Co-Chairs of the Harmony Day Team, Michelle Hewitt and Pam Samaddar, provided a brief overview of the School District's first "Harmony Day". Harmony Day was observed by a School District senior staff member on a visit to Australia. Harmony Day will provide an opportunity for leadership for students and to celebrate cultural diversity. Michelle and Pam provided an overview of the Harmony Day link on the School District's FirstClass email system which provides information to staff on the background to Harmony Day, Harmony Day Team members, Leadership Opportunities for Students, ideas on how to support Harmony Day in the classroom, school and community. All schools are requested to review the District Racism-Free Declaration and to provide feedback to the District Racism-Free Committee for review. A Harmony Day Video Contest was held. Sixteen entries were received and three entries have been chosen as the winning entries. The Harmony Day Team would like to present the three winning entries to the Board at a future Public Board Meeting.

The Chairperson announced the following Declaration:

I DO SO DECLARE THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) declare February 11, 2008 as "Harmony Day" in School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan).

External District Review Team Report

(report provided at meeting)

In attendance: Dick Chambers, Chairperson, External District Review Team

The Chairperson introduced Dick Chambers, Chairperson of the External District Review Team. Mr. Chambers provided an overview of the District Review Report 2007/08 for School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan). This Report was prepared in response to the External District Review Team's visit to School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) on November 18 through November 23, 2007. Mr. Chambers advised that an external review of a School District is a Ministry of Education mandated portion of the accountability framework for the Province. The composition of the external team was provided which included a parent, teacher, Principal, District Principal, Assistant Superintendent, Ministry of Education staff and Mr. Chambers, a retired Superintendent, as Chairperson. The primary conclusion of the external team was "School District No. 23 is a high performing School District". Mr. Chambers provided the following observations of the School District: high caliber of leadership in the District including Trustees, senior staff, principals and teachers; sense of focus and ability to stay focused on initiatives; degree of engagement in actively moving forward with initiatives; significant number of initiatives exemplary in nature covering a wide spectrum of students; number of initiatives taken to provide avenues for parental involvement beyond COPAC including Special Education parent group; leaders in Aboriginal Education and initiatives and improvements of Aboriginal students were inspiring to the external team; improved graduation results, career programs and provincial exam results. One of the challenges which may face the District include the ability to sustain and move forward on the initiatives of the School District. Mr. Chambers advised that the external team's observations and recommendations are provided in the Report as presented.

Mr. Chambers responded to questions from the Board and partner group representatives. Bill Zeman, President of CUPE, inquired as to the reasoning that the District Review Team did not meet with the local CUPE union. Mr. Chambers advised that the decision was partly a decision of

the District Review Team and the School District. Due to time constraints it was not possible for the Team to meet with each partner group. It is also standard practice in all reviews not to meet with groups not directly connected to student achievement. CUPE members were invited to be a part of the review process at many school sites.

Mr. Chambers confirmed that the District Review Report 2007/08 provided to the Board of Education at the January 30, 2008 Public Meeting is the final report and will be posted on the Ministry of Education website. The Superintendent also advised that the Report will be provided to all partner groups and posted on the School District website.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Chambers and the other members of the External District Review Team.

PUBLIC QUESTION AND COMMENT PERIOD

Carole Gordon, Second Vice President, COTA

Carol Gordon provided to the Board information on a contest sponsored by The Central Okanagan Teachers' Association inviting submissions from residents of the Central Okanagan School District on a "teacher who made a difference in your life, inspired or helped you through a difficult time". Many letters will be displayed around the community in conjunction with Education Week March 10 – 14, 2008. There will be a random draw of eligible submissions for donated prizes. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Central Okanagan Teachers' Association office at 860-3866.

RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATION

Presentations Continued

Trustee Electoral Boundary Review Committee Report

(report provided at meeting)

In attendance: Electoral Boundary Review Committee

Dennis Campbell

Art Perry

Maureen Calder

The Trustee Electoral Boundary Review Committee Report is attached to and forms part of these Minutes.

Dennis Campbell, member of the Trustee Electoral Boundary Review Committee, was introduced. Mr. Campbell introduced the other member of the Committee, Art Perry and Maureen Calder, who were also in attendance. Mr. Campbell, as spokesperson for the Committee, reviewed the Board Motion of November 14, 2007 authorizing the Electoral Boundary Committee to proceed and defining the scope of the Committee's eventual report and recommendation. The options for Trustee Electoral Boundaries on the Westside which were included in any discussions in proposals for change included: the status quo; two trustees elected at large; one trustee elected to represent the new Westside District Municipality, and one trustee elected to represent the District of Peachland and the Central Okanagan West Electoral Area. At the November 12, 2007 Public Board Meeting the Board approved the Superintendent's recommendation that "An independent community based team of three people would conduct the consultation meetings, information

collection, and submit a report, including points for consideration and possible recommendations, to the Board”.

The Trustee Electoral Boundary Committee feels they are making their recommendation based on the input received at the public meetings and through submissions.

The Committee’s recommendation is that two Trustees be elected at large on the Westside.

The Committee’s view is that:

- This provides the two trustees with an equitable population distribution, an equitable student and school distribution, and clear responsibility to share the tasks of trusteeship.
- There is value in having all Westside voters elect two trustees rather than specific wards with confusing boundaries when the municipalities and electoral districts are dynamic.
- Electing two at large can encourage citizens to become candidates more readily than challenging an incumbent for a single seat.
- Electing two at large also equalizes campaign areas, tasks and costs.
- Citizens would clearly have two representatives to approach on Westside public education issues, two voices at the Board table, and two trustees to hold accountable on their ballots.

Mr. Campbell, in summary, advised that the Committee believes that all of the citizens of School District No. 23, including the Westside and Peachland, are best represented by a Board of Education comprised of:

- 2 trustees elected at large on the Westside of Okanagan Lake;
- 4 trustees elected at large for the City of Kelowna; and
- 1 trustee elected for Lake Country and the Central Okanagan East Electoral Areas

The members of the Electoral Boundary Review Committee responded to questions from the Board. The Board and Committee discussed the process of obtaining public input and feedback.

The Chairperson confirmed that there would be no decision on the recommendation at the January 30, 2008 Public Board Meeting, and that the recommendation would be added as an Action Item to the February 13, 2008 Public Board Meeting.

The Chairperson thanked the Committee members for their presentation.

Main

08P-013

MOVED by Trustee Wiebe, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,

THAT: The Board receive the External District Review Team Report as presented at the January 30, 2008 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

7:12 Carole Gordon, Second Vice President, COTA left the meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION AND COMMENT PERIOD

Councillor Terry Condon, The Corporation of the District of Peachland

- Councillor Condon was representing The Corporation of the District of Peachland. Mr. Condon was the chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee formed by the Corporation of the District of Peachland directed to examine the issue of trustee electoral boundaries. Mr. Condon expressed concern in the recording of number of attendees at the meetings on the Westside and the counting of their submissions as there may have been duplicates. Mr. Condon requested time at the next Public Board Meeting in order to make a formal presentation on behalf of The Corporation of the District of Peachland.
The Board discussed and granted Mr. Condon an opportunity to make a presentation at the February 13, 2008 Public Board Meeting.

TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS

All trustees were provided with an opportunity to comment on their involvement, since the previous Board meeting, in District activities.

Trustee Scanlan

- Trustee Scanlan requested information from the Secretary-Treasurer on the Global Position System (GPS) tracking devices installed in School District No. 23 vehicles.
The Secretary-Treasurer advised that the School District has a significant number of assets, such as School District vehicles. There are WorkSafe B.C. requirements that employees have the ability to contact the employer in times of emergency. Another component is the regular request from District staff to take vehicles home. The GPS provides a tracking device in the event a vehicle is stolen. The opportunity for employees to take vehicles home provides employees with the opportunity to report directly to a worksite in the morning rather than first attending the Dease Road site, picking up a District vehicle and then reporting to their worksite. A GPS also provides information on how long the vehicle is idling. There was substantial consultation between the School District and CUPE on this issue.

Trustee Wiebe

- Trustee Wiebe inquired on the difficulties experienced at Glenrosa Middle School for students to get internet access.
The Superintendent advised that similar difficulties were previously experienced in Lake Country. There was an upgrade completed in Lake Country and a private cable company replaced as the service provider. The Secretary-Treasurer confirmed that the next step for Glenrosa Middle School will also be the contracting of a private company through Telus to install new fiber optic lines to the school. This will hopefully be completed in the Spring.

ACTION ITEMS

The Safe Transportation of Students

(attachment)

In response to the Board's request at the January 16, 2008 Public Board Meeting, the Superintendent has provided to the Board a report and recommendations on the safe transportation of students.

The Superintendent highlighted the significant points of the report including the School Protection Program's restrictions and precautions as issued in February of 2006. School Protection Program is the insurer and government body which makes recommendations regarding liability issues for all School Districts and Government agencies.

The Superintendent further reviewed the advice provided in the School Protection Program information on the safety precautions including the following recommendations from the U.S. NHTSA: keep your passenger load light; check your van's tire pressure frequently; require all occupants to use seat belts or the appropriate child restraints; if possible seat passengers and place cargo forward of the rear axle and avoid placing any loads on the roof; be mindful of speed and road conditions; only qualified drivers behind the wheel. The Superintendent confirmed there is contradictory information in the information received from the School Protection Program. The School Protection Program provides contradictory information regarding passenger load as a factor in 15 passenger van accidents. The NHTSA information does indicate research has shown that the rollover risk increases dramatically as the number of occupants increases from fewer than five to more than ten, but Canadian research does not support this finding.

The Superintendent advised that at this time there is no Policy by either the Ministry of Education, Government of B.C. or School Protection Program eliminating the use of 15 passenger vans.

The use of alternate transportation (other than 15 passenger vans) would be expensive (approximately \$250,000.00) and there would be an issue of the availability. The Superintendent is recommending the use of the 15 passenger vans continue but with increased restrictions. Included in the recommendation is a moratorium on the future purchase or lease of 15 passenger vans at least until it is determined if SPP will discontinue their use.

The Board discussed the proposed change from 80 km per hour as approved in Motion 08P-009 to 100 km per hour.

The recommendation authorizing staff to explore alternate transportation options would include discussions with CUPE Local 3523 surrounding the expansion of the use of School District buses for field trips, which would need to result in changes to the current Collective Agreement.

Staff will contact the School Protection Program and request in writing their current guidelines and request clarification on some of their previous points.

The Board discussed the option of removal of the last row of passenger seats. This additional space could be utilized for storage of equipment, gym bags, etc., while the 10 occupant limit is in effect.

Main
08P-014

MOVED by Trustee Wiebe, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,
THAT: The Board implement on a continuing basis restrictions on the use of 15 passenger vans as amended:

THAT: Where practical, 15 passenger vehicles not be used for the transportation of students;

AND FURTHER THAT: Pending clarification from School Protection Plan, the District enforce the following protocol for 15 passenger vans:

- *loads not to exceed 10 passengers*
- *speed not to exceed 100 km per hour or the posted speed limit (whichever is lower)*
- *snow tires are mandatory from November to March*
- *B.C. School Protection Plan's recommendations for van use be followed*
- *prior to travel, consult with Environment Canada's weather report*
- *prior to travel, consult with Ministry of Transportation road reports*
- *should weather prohibit return travel, the District will pay accommodation and meal costs*
- *and all other standards as required by School District No. 23*

AND FURTHER THAT: The following additional restrictions be added to the use of 15 passenger vans for the transportation of students:

- **no roof racks or roof loading**
- **tire pressure to be checked prior to every trip**
- **all drivers under go an orientation test drive (minimum 50 kms.) before being allowed to drive a 15 passenger van with student passengers**

AND FURTHER THAT: There will be no further purchase or long-term lease of 15 passenger vans by any school or school group.

AND FURTHER THAT: The Board authorize staff to explore options for providing additional funding to support student extracurricular and field trip transportation, and to reduce the cost of School District busing for school trips.

AND FURTHER THAT: The Board authorize staff to explore alternate transportation options to the use of 15 passenger vans, including enhancement of District and school bus fleets.

The Board discussed the limiting of passengers to 10 would entail the use of a further vehicle driven by either a coach or parent for most field trips and/or sports teams.

The question was called on 08P-014.

CARRIED

Opposed: Trustee Baxter

8:10 The meeting was recessed.

8:20 The meeting resumed.

Enhancement Projects – Adventure Playgrounds

(attachment)

Recommendation from the Planning and Facilities Committee – January 23, 2008

Trustee Horning, as Chairperson of the Planning and Facilities Committee, introduced the recommendation.

Main

08P-015

MOVED by Trustee Wiebe, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,

THAT: The Board approve the School District to enter into School Enhancement Project Funding Agreements with Hudson Road Elementary School, Oyama Traditional School, Belgo Elementary School, George Pringle Elementary School, Helen Gorman Elementary School and Glenmore Elementary Schools.

CARRIED

New Child Care Spaces in Schools

(information provided at meeting)

The Ministry of Children and Family Development is providing funding to provide more child care spaces in schools. The application deadlines were November 30, 2007 or January 31, 2008. Funding is provided for the conversion of existing public school space, or funding support for equipment and furnishings. The proposed locations include Raymer Elementary School, Quigley Elementary School and Glenrosa Middle School. There is a requirement for a commitment from the Board of Education to continue the child care operation for a period of five years. This commitment does not preclude the District from seeking other additional programs such as StrongStart or Teen Mom, in the future.

Main

08P-016

MOVED by Trustee Wiebe, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,

THAT: Pending the Ministry of Children and Family Development awarding to a maximum of \$50,000.00 per room of public school space to be utilized for the child care purpose, the Board of Education enter into the following partnerships:

- **YMCA – YWCA of the Central Okanagan to operate a Kindercare program at Quigley Elementary**
- **Okanagan Boys and Girls Clubs to operate a Group daycare – 30 months to school age at Glenrosa Middle School**
- **The Clubhouse to operate a Group Daycare – 30 months to school age and Kindercare program at Raymer Elementary School.**

CARRIED

PUBLIC QUESTION AND COMMENT PERIOD

INFORMATION ITEMS

Field Trips for 2007/2008
(attachment)

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Horning

- **Planning and Facilities Committee Meeting – January 23, 2008**

Trustee Horning provided a verbal report of the January 23, 2008 meeting including a short-listing of the names for the new elementary school in the upper Mission which will be forwarded to the February 13, 2008 Public Board Meeting, process of the Open House for the new school in the Upper Mission, and the request by Kelowna Secondary School representatives to make a presentation to the Planning and Facilities Committee on a weight room for the school.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Sent: The Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Education, regarding 2007/08 Final Funding Announcement
Mayor Sharon Shepherd regarding Kick Start Steps Out Pedometer Challenge
Mayor James Baker regarding Kick Start Steps Out Pedometer Challenge
Mayor Graham Reid regarding Kick Start Steps Out Pedometer Challenge
Mayor Rosalind Neis regarding Kick Start Steps Out Pedometer Challenge
Robert Hobson, Chair, Regional District of Central Okanagan, regarding Kick Start Steps Out Pedometer Challenge

Received: The Royal Canadian Legion regarding Veteran's attendance at school Remembrance Day ceremonies
Sharon Hughes-Geekie regarding Alternate Local School Calendar
Mayor Graham Reid, The Corporation of the District of Peachland, regarding Kick Start Steps Out Pedometer Challenge

Main

08P-017

MOVED by Trustee Wiebe, SECONDED by Trustee Horning,
THAT: At the January 30, 2008 Public meeting, the Board receive the correspondence listed above.
CARRIED

FUTURE REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

Regular Public Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 13, 2008 at 6:00 p.m., School Board Office

Regular Public Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 6:00 p.m., School Board Office

SPECIAL PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS

BOARD STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

February 6, 2008
4:30 General Affairs Committee
6:30 Education and Student Services Committee

February 20, 2008
4:30 Planning and Facilities Committee
6:30 Finance and Legal Committee

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

Trustee Baxter inquired on the date for the official opening of the addition to Mount Boucherie Secondary School. The Superintendent advised that the original date set for the spring has been cancelled at the request of the Ministry of Education, and a new date has yet to be established. Trustee Baxter requested that all former Trustees be invited to attend the official opening as per District Policy 630 – Dedication and Naming of Schools and Facilities.

BC PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

Report on BCPSEA Annual General Meeting held on January 25 and 26, 2008
Trustee Scanlan

BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION

BCSTA Provincial Council

Date: February 14 - 16, 2008
Location: Wosk Centre for Dialogue
580 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5K3

BCSTA Branch Meeting

Date: February 29, 2008 and March 1, 2008
Location: Osoyoos, B.C.

BCSTA Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday, April 3, 2008 through Sunday, April 6, 2008
Location: Westin Bayshore
1601 Bayshore Drive
Vancouver, B.C. V6G 2V4
Deadline for Substantive Motions: February 1, 2008

NOTICES OF MOTION

ITEMS FOR BOARD COMMITTEES

ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

Approval of Public Board Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2008
Presentation by Harmony Day Team of three winning entries to the Harmony Day Video Contest
Recommendation of Trustee Electoral Boundary Review Committee
Presentation by Terry Condon, Councillor, The Corporation of the District of Peachland,
regarding Trustee Electoral Boundary Review

ADJOURNMENT: The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer