



"Together We Learn"

School District No. 23
(Central Okanagan)

BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2008**
TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION: School Board Office
1940 Underhill Street
Kelowna, B.C.

Attending:

Trustee M. Baxter (Chairperson)
Trustee R. Cacchioni
Trustee A. Hunt-Binkley
Trustee S. Nicholl
Trustee G. Scanlan
Trustee C. Wiebe
Absent: Trustee W. Horning

Staff:
M. Roberts, Superintendent
L. Paul, Secretary-Treasurer
H. Gloster, Assistant Superintendent
M. Essler, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Partner Group Representatives Attending:

COPAC	No representative
COTA	Tom Potts, President
COPVPA	No representative
CUPE	Bill Zeman, President
DSC	No representative

ORDER:

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

AGENDA

Add	Action Items	Material for item 7.5 – Revised Draft Strategic Plan
Add	Action Item	New Action item 7.7 – Correspondence to Local Government re Busing
Add	Action Item	New Action item 7.8 – Transportation Assistance Allowance
Add	Information Item	New Information item 9.3 – BCSTA Questions Regarding Early Childhood Education
Add	Information Item	New Information item 9.4 – Request for Input to Provincial Budget

AGENDA

Main

08P-141 **MOVED** by Trustee Cacchioni, **SECONDED** by Trustee Wiebe,
THAT: The Agenda for September 24, 2008 be adopted as amended.
CARRIED

MINUTES

Main

08P-142

MOVED by Trustee Wiebe, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,

THAT: The Minutes of the Public Board meeting of September 10, 2008 be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent provided the following report:

- The video shown prior to the Public Meeting this evening was of the construction of the second house in the RSS Residential Construction Project.
- Raise a Reader Day was held this morning (September 24, 2008) and all funds raised will go towards community literacy. Thank you to Trustees for participating.
- With the Provincial Government establishment last spring of the Early Childhood Learning Agency (ECLA) with a mandate to conduct a feasibility study on providing full-day kindergarten and pre-kindergarten programs in BC schools, many concerns have been raised by parents and partner groups. There has been no decision from the Ministry for the 2009/2010 school year as there are many budget, staffing and facility considerations to take into consideration.

RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATION

Recognition:

iWalk – International Walk to School Week September 29, 2008 through October 3, 2008

The Chairperson announced the following declaration:

I DO SO DECLARE THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) declares the week of September 29, 2008 through October 3, 2008 as “International Walk to School Week” in School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan).

World Teachers' Day October 5, 2008

The Chairperson announced the following declaration:

I DO SO DECLARE THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) declares October 5, 2008 as “World Teachers' Day” in School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan).

District Art Calendar Project
Harry Tonn, Teacher, Mount Boucherie Secondary School
Rene Burgess, Kelowna Art Gallery

Trustee Nicholl introduced Harry Tonn, Teacher at Mount Boucherie Secondary School, and Rene Burgess, of the Kelowna Art Gallery. The calendar concept was first initiated by Mr. Tonn and provides an opportunity to exhibit student artwork. Rene Burgess thanked the School District for the relationship which has developed as between the School District and the Kelowna Art Gallery. Trustee Nicholl presented a Certificate and School District pin to Harry Tonn and Rene Burgess.

Presentation:

District Aboriginal Education Program Fifth Annual Report
January 2007 – June 2008

(attachment)

In attendance: Terry-Lee Beaudry, Director of Instruction K-12
Jason Seright, Principal – Aboriginal Education Program

Terry-Lee Beaudry, Director of Instruction K-12, and Jason Seright, Principal – Aboriginal Education Program, provided an overview of the District Aboriginal Education Program Fifth Annual Report. The current Report covers a time frame of one and a half years and subsequent Reports will be for the time frame of September to June.

PUBLIC QUESTION AND COMMENT PERIOD

TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS

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

Trustee Hunt-Binkley

- Trustee Hunt-Binkley referred to the recent announcement by the Superintendent of a grant of \$14,700 by the BC Arts Council and Vancouver Foundation and requested information from the Superintendent on the distribution of the grant funds.

The Superintendent advised that the purpose of the grant is to ensure that all BC students experience a wide range of cultural and artistic activities. The distribution of the grant money will be conducted through the office of Clara Sulz, Director of Instruction K-12.

Trustee Baxter

- Trustee Baxter requested clarification on the transportation assistance and how the allowance is calculated.

The Superintendent confirmed that transportation assistance is provided to eligible students if there are less than seven eligible students in the area for a bus route. Transportation assistance is calculated at the rate of 60% of the rate paid to staff for personal use of vehicles for Board business to a maximum of \$15.00 per day. The rate of assistance is established by staff and the current rate has been in place for many years.

ACTION ITEMS

Audited Consolidated Financial Statements Fiscal Year 2007/2008

(attachment)

Recommendation of the Finance and Legal Committee – September 17, 2008

In attendance: Eileen Sadlowski, Director of Finance

Trustee Hunt-Binkley, as Chairperson of the Finance and Legal Committee, provided an overview of the meeting with the external auditors at the Finance and Legal Committee meeting on September 17, 2008. Subsequent to the September 17, 2008 Finance and Legal Committee meeting, the Director of Finance forwarded a copy of the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements to the Ministry of Education for review. Eileen Sadlowski, Director of Finance, reviewed the changes to the Statements directed by the Ministry of Education. The changes are technical in nature and do not affect final totals. The updated Audited Consolidated Financial Statements were provided to the Board. Trustee Hunt-Binkley reviewed the change of comprehensive income of \$30,785 to Internally restricted (appropriated) from the Unrestricted. The other two items to note in the Internally restricted are the Carbon tax reserve of \$600,000 and the Educational Programs Reserve of \$400,000.

Main

08P-143

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,

**THAT: The Board receive and accept the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements Fiscal Year 2007/2008, as presented at the September 24, 2008 Public Board Meeting.
CARRIED**

Notice of Motion served by Trustee Hunt-Binkley - September 10, 2008

Trustee Hunt-Binkley introduced a new recommendation.

Main

08P-144

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Wiebe,

THAT: Respecting the Trustee Electoral Boundary issue, the Board write to the Minister of Education to express our concern respecting:

- **the Minister's slow response which prohibited a change to the 2008 election process**
- **the Minister's communication process by communicating with the media weeks prior to advising the Board of her decision**
- **the appointment of an independent fact finder with a mandate beyond the scope recommended by the Board, with a limited scope of consultation in that it excluded Parent Advisory Councils and the general public, and with a restricted time frame within which to report back to the Minister;**

AND FURTHER request copies of all communication provided to the Minister apart from the information submitted by the Board, and a copy of the fact finder's report and all supporting communication.

The Board discussed the distribution of a copy of the letter to local government agencies and area MLAs.

The question was called on 08P-144.

CARRIED

**Notice of Motion served by Trustee Scanlan - September 10, 2008
(attachment)**

Trustee Scanlan introduced the recommendation.

Main

08P-145

MOVED by Trustee Scanlan, SECONDED by Trustee Wiebe,

THAT: The Board write a letter to the Minister of Education requesting an update on the Ministry of Education transportation funding review.

The Board discussed the distribution of a copy of the letter to local government agencies, area MLAs, all School Boards and all School District No. 23 PAC Presidents.

The question was called on 08P-145.

CARRIED

The Board discussed forwarding a Motion to the British Columbia School Trustees' Association Provincial Council scheduled for October 25, 2008. The deadline for submission of Motions is September 26, 2008.

Main

08P-146

MOVED by Trustee Scanlan, SECONDED by Trustee Wiebe,

THAT: A resolution be forwarded to the BCSTA Provincial Council requesting BCSTA ask the Ministry of Education to clarify the status of the Transportation Funding Review initiated in 2002 with a plan to implement the new formula in 2008/09;

AND FURTHER THAT: The Technical Review Committee's findings and timelines for implementation be made public.

CARRIED

Formal Request to Minister

Closure of Dr. Knox Middle School – 1555 Burtch Road, Kelowna, B.C.

Opening of Replacement Facility for Dr. Knox Middle School – 121 Drysdale Boulevard, Kelowna, B.C.

Larry Paul, Secretary-Treasurer, advised that under Section 73 of the *School Act*, the Board must officially close the old Dr. Knox Middle School and officially open the new Dr. Knox Middle School.

Main

08P-147

MOVED by Trustee Nicholl, SECONDED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley,

THAT: In accordance with Section 73(1)(a) of the School Act, the Board close the Dr. Knox Middle School facility at 1555 Burtch Road, Kelowna, British Columbia, on August 31, 2008 subject to approval of the Minister of Education.

CARRIED

Main

08P-148

MOVED by Trustee Nicholl, SECONDED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley,
THAT: In accordance with Section 73(1)(a) of the School Act, the Board open the replacement facility for Dr. Knox Middle School at 121 Drysdale Boulevard, Kelowna, British Columbia, on September 1, 2008 subject to approval of the Minister of Education.
CARRIED

Revised Draft Strategic Plan

(attachment provided at meeting)

Deferred from the Public Board Meeting of June 25, 2008.

Trustee Wiebe requested the inclusion of a preamble to each section indicating that the specific section is in support of the Strategic Plan.

Main

08P-149

MOVED by Trustee Wiebe, SECONDED by Trustee Nicholl,
THAT: The revised Strategic Plan as presented and amended at the September 24, 2008 Public Board Meeting be approved by the Board.
CARRIED

Trustee Attendance at Remembrance Day Ceremonies

Kelowna	Trustee Nicholl and Trustee Scanlan
Lake Country	Trustee Hunt-Binkley
Peachland	Trustee Baxter
Rutland	Trustee Cacchioni
Westbank	Trustee Wiebe

Information on the ceremonies will be provided to Trustees through the Secretary-Treasurer's office.

Correspondence to Local Government re Busing

Main

08P-150

MOVED by Trustee Cacchioni, SECONDED by Trustee Wiebe,
THAT: The Board write to all local governments recommending that staff liaison committees be established, reestablished or continued to ensure regular dialogue on local issues (e.g. busing).
CARRIED

Transportation Assistance Allowance

Main

08P-151

MOVED by Trustee Cacchioni, SECONDED by Trustee Wiebe,
THAT: Staff be directed to review the transportation assistance allowance cap and make a recommendation back to the Board.
CARRIED

PUBLIC QUESTION AND COMMENT PERIOD

Jeff Watson, Parent of Students at Rose Valley Elementary School

- During the Superintendent's Report the Superintendent indicated that up to 25% of children are not prepared to enter Kindergarten. Is there expectation of parents that their children attend preschool?

The Superintendent replied that there is no requirement for parents to have children attend preschool. Preschool would provide children in the 3 to 4 year old age group the life experiences they may not receive elsewhere, which would better prepare them to enter Kindergarten.

INFORMATION ITEMS

General Statements

(attachment)

Field Trips for 2008/2009

(attachment)

BCSTA Questions Regarding Early Childhood Education

The Board discussed the responses to the questions posed by the BCSTA. The Board's answers will be compiled and provided to the BCSTA. Trustee Wiebe also requested that the compiled information be presented at the Education Committee of the BCSTA Okanagan Branch Meeting on October 3, 2008.

Input to Provincial Government 2009 Budget Planning Process

Trustee Baxter made reference to the recent message from BCSTA President Connie Denesiuk encouraging Trustees to provide input to the provincial government's 2009 budget planning process on the critical importance of increasing funding to public education. Input can be provided through an online questionnaire. The deadline date for response is October 24, 2008.

The Board concurred that this item be referred to the Finance and Legal Committee and to the Coordinating Committee.

BOARD/DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Legal Committee Report – September 17, 2008 Meeting

- Trustee Hunt-Binkley earlier in the meeting provided information on the Finance and Legal Committee on September 17, 2008.

Education Week Committee

- Trustee Nicholl confirmed the dates for Education Week for 2009 as March 9 through 13, 2008 with the theme of SD 23 – Educational Olympians! The Committee is checking into the availability and suitability of using the new Dr. Knox Middle School as the site for the breakfast events.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Sent:

Received: Correspondence Directed to the Board:

Ombudsman regarding Early Resolution Process

Referred to the General Affairs Committee

Mayor Sharon Shepherd, City of Kelowna, regarding communication re transportation

Shelley Nixon, Corporate Services Coordinator, District of Westside, regarding establishment of Staff Liaison Committee

Steven Baird, Managing Director, Street Smart Kidz, regarding Anti-Bullying Day – October 1, 2008

Summary of Copies of Letters received by the Board

Wendy Fraser, PAC President, George Elliot Secondary School – copy of letter to Mr. Gary Graf re Trustee Electoral Boundaries, S.D. 23 (Central Okanagan)

Main

08P-152

MOVED by Trustee Cacchioni, SECONDED by Trustee Wiebe,

THAT: At the September 24, 2008 Public meeting, the Board receive the correspondence listed above.

CARRIED

FUTURE REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

Regular Public Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 8, 2008 at 6:00 p.m., School Board Office

Regular Public Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 22, 2008 at 6:00 p.m., School Board Office

SPECIAL PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS

BOARD STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

October 1, 2008

4:30 Human Resources and Staff Services Committee

6:30 Education and Student Services Committee

October 15, 2008

4:30 Planning and Facilities Committee

6:30 Finance and Legal Committee

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

BC PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION

BCSTA Branch Meeting

Date: October 3 and 4, 2008
Location: Prestige Harbourfront Inn
Salmon Arm, B.C.

October 2008 Provincial Council

Date: October 24 and 25, 2008
Location: Coast Plaza Hotel
Vancouver, B.C.

NOTICES OF MOTION

ITEMS FOR BOARD COMMITTEES

- Finance and Legal Committee
- Input to Provincial Government 2009 Budget Planning Process
- Coordinating Committee
- Input to Provincial Government 2009 Budget Planning Process

ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

Report on Review of Transportation Assistance Allowance

ADJOURNMENT: The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer