



"Together We Learn"

School District No. 23
(Central Okanagan)

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, April 28, 2004**

TIME: 6:00 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

J. McElgunn, Assistant Superintendent

Larry Paul, Secretary-Treasurer

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

Partner Group Representatives Attending:

COPAC

Valerie Broman, President

COTA

Bob Shanks, Vice-President

CUPE Local 3523

Bill Zeman, President

ORDER

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

DAY OF MOURNING

The Chairperson called for a minute of silence to recognize April 28th as a day of mourning and remembrance for all workers injured or killed in the workplace.

AGENDA

Move Information Item "Raising the Bar" to Action

Main

R504-04

MOVED by Trustee Buckley, SECONDED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley,
THAT: The Agenda for April 28, 2004 be adopted as amended.
CARRIED

MINUTES

Public Board Meeting – April 14, 2004

Main

R505-04

MOVED by Trustee Horning, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,
THAT: The Minutes of the Meeting of April 14, 2004 be adopted as
circulated.
CARRIED

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

(attachment)

The Superintendent's report is attached to and forms part of these minutes. His topics were:

- Student Sarah Charles gold win in a World Cup Trampoline and Tumbling event in Moscow.
- Civic Awards recently awarded to student Devin Roth, and teachers Ken Wilson and Don Keith.
- The Mayor's Environmental Mindgrind: for the second consecutive year, Anne McClymont took first place in the Elementary Division and Springvalley was top scorer in the Middle Schools.

RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

Patricia Richardson, Regional Coordinator, Okanagan Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Initiatives (attachment)

- expressed concerns with *Raising the Bar* (Three Year Rule)
- asked if students who are affected by FASD fit in to an exemption category, and if not, could a special category be created
- asked if a school-based appeal committee could be formed that would include a parent from the PAC who is familiar with FASD.

Angela Dutkywich, Student, Rutland Senior

- expressed concerns with *Raising the Bar* (Three Year Rule)
- asked how the Board knows graduation rates are going to go up and how it knows that drop-out rates won't go up as well.
-

The Chairperson indicated that responses would be provided during the discussion on Raising the Bar.

TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS

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

Queries: None

ACTION ITEMS

Amendment - Board Bylaw No. 3: Health Services and Memorandum of Agreement (attachment)

The Board was advised that the new Medical Health Officer, Dr. Paul Hasselback had approved the Bylaw Amendment, which includes an Agreement between School District No. 23 and the Interior Health Authority.

Main
R506-04

MOVED by Trustee Buckley, SECONDED by Trustee Horan,
THAT: At the April 28, 2004 Public Board meeting, the Board give first, second and third reading to School District No. 23 Bylaw No. 3 – Amendment April 2004: Transfer of Health Services.
CARRIED

Main
R507-04

MOVED by Trustee Buckley, SECONDED by Trustee Horning,
THAT: School District No. 23 Bylaw No. 3 – Amendment April 2004: Transfer of Health Services (as attached) be read a first, second and third time and finally adopted this 28th day of April, 2004.
CARRIED

Superintendent's Recommendations – 2004/05 Operational Budget (attachment)

In attendance: Eileen Sadlowski, Director of Finance

The Superintendent reviewed his memorandum to the Board advising that recommendations are provided based on assumptions, principles established by the Board and rationale.

The Board discussed the matter.

The Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer and Director of Finance responded to questions.

The President of CUPE 3523 asked a question related to savings and money provided to schools for supplies and services.

The Director of Finance responded that comparator group Districts allocate less money to schools for materials. However, schools in this District may reallocate money provided for supplies and services to teaching or support staff.

The Board discussed the matter further.

Staff responded to additional questions.

Main
R508-04

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,
THAT: The Board approve the staffing levels proposed in the preliminary budget for the 2004/05 school year and defer approval of the remaining items pending receipt of a line-by-line comparative budget between the current 2003/04 approved budget and the proposed 2004/05 budget.

The Superintendent responded to additional questions.

The question was called on R508-04

CARRIED

Opposed: Trustee Buckley

Main
R509-04

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,
THAT: When the Board considers the 2004/05 budget, the following items be part of that consideration:

1. All requests from schools and partner groups
2. The items that were added to the 2003/04 Budget:

Improvement to non-enrolling staff	\$ 225,000
Meals on Board Meeting Days	\$ 3,000
Public Relations	\$ 12,222
Part-Time Confidential Secretary	\$ 25,000
District Safety Officer	\$ 25,000
3. The increase to the BC School Trustees' Association membership fees.

The Board discussed the matter.
The Superintendent responded to questions. He confirmed that the non-enrolling staff have not been assigned this year.

The question was called on R509-04.

CARRIED

Opposed: Trustee Buckley

The Chairperson asked the Superintendent if he is now in a position to proceed with what is required to meet budget timelines as far as staffing is concerned.

The Superintendent confirmed that this is the case.

By consensus, it was agreed that, regarding Motion R508-04, the Finance Committee should review the line-by-line comparative budget, and that the Board's Coordinating Committee should schedule future Board discussion on the 2004/05 Operational Budget.

**Finance Committee Recommendation
(attachment)**

In attendance: Eileen Sadlowski, Director of Finance

The Director of Finance responded to a question.

Main
R510-04

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,
THAT: The Revenue and Expense Summary to March 31, 2004 be accepted as presented and submitted to the Board for its information at the April 28,2004 Public meeting.
CARRIED

Expansion of Mandate - Recommendation: Ad Hoc Healthy Food Choices Committee

Trustee Hunt-Binkley, Committee Chairperson, introduced the motion. By Board direction relative to in-service for school teams, the Committee considers its mandate to be continued, however, the Committee is now asking that its mandate be expanded.

The Board discussed the matter.

Trustee Hunt-Binkley suggested that the mandate be reviewed in six months or one year.

Main
R511-04

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Horan,
THAT: The Board expand the mandate of the Ad Hoc Healthy Food Choices Committee to include reviewing and making recommendations to the Board on various health and nutrition issues that have implications for the students in School District No. 23, with the Committee reporting to the Board on a regular basis.
CARRIED

Raising the Bar (The Three Year Rule) – Implementation Review

(attachment)

In attendance: Hugh Gloster, Director of Instruction

Data supplied by the Ministry of Education indicated that the Central Okanagan graduation rates have been in a steady decline from 1981/82 until the late 1990s.

In 2001, further to a review of the procedures used in Edmonton that boasted one of Canada's most improved grad rates (90%), high school principals in School District No. 23 unanimously advocated for the adoption of Edmonton's policy – "The Three Year Rule."

The Director of Instruction provided an executive summary of his Implementation Review.

The Board requested that staff respond specifically to the questions raised during public question and comment period.

The Director of Instruction responded that principals in Edmonton concurred that implementing the Three Year Rule was the most profound thing they had done to positively change school culture and to improve the graduation rate. Implementation of the Rule did not mean cessation of other supportive programs or initiatives to keep students in school.

The Superintendent responded that students affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders are considered in the Extension of the Three Year Rule criteria: "Medical Condition".

The Board discussed the Review.

The Superintendent and the Director of Instruction responded to questions.

Main
R512-04

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,
**THAT: Two further criteria be added to the Application for Extension of
Three Year Rule form to accommodate:**

- a) **those students, who, due to extenuating circumstances (the details of which would be provided on the form) would benefit educationally by staying at their “home school”;**
- b) **those students whose applications are supported by the school-based team as being in the best interests of the student to remain at their “home school” (the reasons for which would be provided on the form).**

The Superintendent recommended that the Board not expand the criteria.
The Board discussed the matter further.
The Director of Instruction responded to questions.

Tabling

MOVED by Trustee Buckley,
THAT: Motion R512-04 be tabled indefinitely.
NO SECONDER
NO DISCUSSION

The Board discussed the matter further.

**The question was called on R512-04
DEFEATED**
Opposed: Trustees Buckley, Horan and Horning

Main
R513-04

MOVED by Trustee Horan, SECONDED by Trustee Buckley,
THAT: The “Application for Extension of the Three Year Rule” form be referred to a special public meeting of the Education Committee for review, including recommendations for change, which are to come forward to the Board by May 12, 2004.

The Superintendent requested that the Board not deal, at this time, with changes to the Application for Extension form.

The Director of Instruction requested the Board to consider the need for senior secondary schools to build time tables, to prepare student course schedules and to provide new information to students regarding possible changes in criteria. If this motion passes, he foresees a delay until May 12. In his opinion, school staff would be confused by the motion. He requested clear direction to staff.

The Board discussed the matter further.
The Superintendent and the Director of Instruction responded to additional questions.

**The question was called on R513-04
CARRIED**
Opposed: Trustee Horning

By consensus it was agreed that, at the May 12, 2004 public Board meeting, the Board will receive the Education Committee's recommendations on changes to the form: Application for Extension of Three Year Rule.

Trustee Query:

Trustee Baxter

- asked for clarification regarding references to transportation in the Raising the Bar (Three-Year Rule) Implementation Review.

The Director of Instruction responded that it is not the intent to bus students to Central School. The intent is to look at opportunities to help students get to the closest public transportation.

8:30 PM THE CHAIRPERSON CALLED FOR A RECESS.

8:40 PM THE MEETING RECONVENED.

PUBLIC QUESTION AND COMMENT PERIOD

Karen Anderson, PAC President, George Elliot Secondary

- commented in support of the suggestions to introduce more criteria for extension of the Three Year Rule for compassionate reasons.

INFORMATION ITEMS

(attachments)

Breakdown – 2004/05 School Fees

(attachment)

In response to a question, the Superintendent confirmed that the cultural fee portion is approximately \$6 per student.

Welcome Booklet for Kindergarten Students: to be provided in September 2004

The Board has already approved this project of the Board's Public Relations Committee. The Kindergarten Booklet, written by Principal Cathie Mutter, is now provided for information purposes. Cathie Mutter is a member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Board Public Relations.

The Chairperson will write a letter of appreciation to Cathie Mutter.

Status Report: Aboriginal Program

(attachment)

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Reports were received from the following Board Committees:

Education

Finance Committee

Policy Committee
Healthy Food Choices (Ad Hoc Committee)

Reports were received from the following District Committees, with Board representation:

Aboriginal Education
Field Trips

Superintendent's Update re Field Trips:

Legal Counsel for the BCSTA has advised that the Schools Protection Program will be providing new guidelines for policy and regulations relative to field trips.

Trustee Query Regarding Field Trips:

Trustee Baxter

-asked about students from Rutland Senior going scuba diving in Costa Rica and commented that the Board is not aware of the scuba diving component.

The Superintendent will redistribute the list of out-of-country field trips.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

RECEIVED:

Rick Thorpe, MLA: Copy of Letter from Minister of Education – Transportation Funding
S.D. No. 40 (New Westminster): Letter to Minister of Finance – GST Exemption for School Boards
S.D. No. 43 (Coquitlam): Letter to Minister of Finance – GST Exemption for School Boards
S.D. No. 39 (Vancouver): Letter to Minister of Education – Budget 2004/05
S.D. No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha): Letter to Prime Minister – GST Exemption for School Boards
BCTF: Response to Draft Standardized Provincial Report Card Templates

Main

R514-04

MOVED by Trustee Horning, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,
**THAT: The Board receive, at the April 28, 2004 Public meeting,
the correspondence listed above.**
CARRIED

FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Public Finance Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 29, 2004 at 1PM, School Board Office
Topics: Operational Budget 2004/05
Finance Policy

Special Public Education Committee Meeting
Monday, May 10, 2004 at 1 PM – 2:30 PM School Board Office
Topic: Three Year Rule – Application for Extension Form

Regular Public Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 12, 2004 at 6 PM

Public Education Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 19, 4 PM, School Board Office,
Topic: Safe Schools

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

BC PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION

ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD AGENDA

Operational Budget 2004/05

Education Committee's recommendations on changes to the form:
"Application for Extension of Three Year Rule."

ITEM FOR FUTURE COMMITTEE AGENDA

NOTICES OF MOTION

Trustee Wiebe, Chairperson, Public Relations Committee

The Committee asks for Board consideration of the following new initiatives.

THAT: The Board approve, in principle, the provision of ten/twenty/thirty-year pins to commemorate long-term service by District staff at an approximate cost of \$900 to \$1,000.

THAT: The Board approve, in principle, the purchase of a school district pin to have available for special occasions, including community presentations at an approximate cost of \$450.

THAT: The Board approve, in principal, exploration by the Public Relations Committee into the feasibility of a Performing Arts Event, to showcase the talents of students and staff.

ADJOURNMENT: The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 9 PM.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer

Superintendent's Report
April 28, 2004 Public Board Meeting

Sarah Charles does it again, winning gold at the *World Cup Trampoline and Tumbling Championships*. This last fall Sarah won her first world championship. Sarah was the only non-European to score in either the men's or women's competition.

Congratulations to:

Devin Roth, who was awarded the *Kelowna and District Arts Council Teen Honour in the Arts Award* at last week's civic award assembly.

Ken Wilson, teacher at KSS, who received the *Bob Giordanao Memorial Award* for his outstanding contributions to sport. Ken has been teaching and coaching in the Okanagan for 35 years.

Don Keith of KSS has directed his last play for School District No. 23. Don, a drama teacher at KSS and past recipient of an international award for outstanding drama teaching, will retire this year. I make mention of Don, as he is one of the very best in the business and because he has inspired so many students, including Devin Roth!

Anne McClymont Elementary, on the coattails of grade 5 student Ryan Mitton, won the *Elementary Environmental Mind Grid* for the second year in a row. Twenty-one teams from the Okanagan Valley competed in the championship. First in the middle school division was Springvalley. The purpose of the competition is to bring attention to issues of recycling and conservation.

Teams from S. D. No. 23 included:

Elementary Schools: Anne McClymont, Black Mountain, Davidson Road, Peter Greer,
Rose Valley, South Kelowna, Springvalley

Middle Schools: Constable Neil Bruce, Springvalley, Rutland

High Schools: Kelowna, Mount Boucherie, Okanagan Mission, Rutland