



"Together We Learn"

School District No. 23
(Central Okanagan)

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, October 13, 2004**

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: School Board Office

Attending:

Trustee M. Baxter (Chairperson)

Trustee C. Horan

Trustee W. Horning

Trustee A. Hunt-Binkley

Trustee G. Scanlan

Trustee C. Wiebe

Absent: Trustee E. Buckley

Staff:

J. McElgunn, Assistant Superintendent

Monica Schulte, Director of Finance (Acting Secretary-Treasurer)

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

Partner Group Representatives Attending:

COPAC

Valerie Broman, President

COPVPA

Scott McLean, President

COTA

Bob Shanks, Vice-President

CUPE 3523

Audrey Barr, Vice-President

ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY-TREASURER

04P-621 MOVED by Trustee Horning, SECONDED by Trustee Wiebe,
THAT: Monica Schulte (Director of Finance) be appointed Acting Secretary-Treasurer for the public Board meeting of October 13, 2004.
CARRIED

AGENDA

Add Action Appointment of Acting Secretary-Treasurer
Add Action Budget Timeline

Main

04P-622 MOVED by Trustee Wiebe, SECONDED by Trustee Horning,
THAT: The Agenda for October 13, 2004 be adopted as amended.
CARRIED

MINUTES

Public Board Meeting – September 22, 2004

Main

04P-623 MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,
THAT: The Minutes of the public Board meeting of September 22, 2004 be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

(attachment)

The Assistant Superintendent reported on the progress to-date of the Preschool Partnership Program, which was approved by the Board in November 2002. In the past year and a half, the Committee has worked diligently to develop and support the processes and practices that provide a quality early childhood opportunity for the many children served by our Preschool Partners. This week, the Central Okanagan Foundation awarded a \$4,000 grant to support at-risk children: a percentage of at-risk students at each preschool are accommodated at no charge to the parent. The complete Report is attached to and forms part of these Minutes.

The Chairperson thanked the Assistant-Superintendent for her leadership and commitment in regard to the Preschool Partnership Program, the success of which continues to receive provincial recognition.

RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Influenza Vaccination for School-Age Children

(attachment)

In attendance: Dr. P. Mark Fromberg, Inc., Okanagan Preventive Health Services

The presenter requested the Board's permission to offer flu shots to students in a school setting. The shot would be provided optionally for parents who wish to have their child vaccinated and who are willing to cover the cost of the vaccine and its delivery. The Presenter indicated that, unlike Ontario, which provides free flu shots to the entire population, BC covers only the high risk populations. Unfortunately, he is unable to subsidize the vaccinations for students whose parents wish them to be vaccinated along with the other children, but who cannot afford the cost. A copy of the presentation summary is attached to the Minutes. The presenter responded to questions.

The Board requested and received comment from the President of the Central Okanagan Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association, Scott McLean, regarding Dr. Fromberg's proposal. The President expressed concerns regarding logistics such as the collection of the fees and obtaining parental consent. He also pointed out that mistakes could have serious consequences and thought that the responsibility for ensuring proper consent should not rest with school staff, but rather with the professionals administering the vaccine.

The Assistant Superintendent explained that, in regard to free shots currently provided at schools through the Ministry of Health, the public health nurses handle all the administrative aspects, including the collection of appropriate permission and release of liability.

Dr. Fromberg pointed out that the vaccine needs to be ordered well in advance. In light of the comments regarding logistics and the need for more planning, Dr. Fromberg suggested that the Board consider his proposal for implementation next year.

Main

04P-624

MOVED by Trustee Horning, SECONDED by Trustee Wiebe,

THAT: The Board receive the presentation from Dr. Fromberg, with thanks.

CARRIED

Declaration – School Bus Safety Week October 18 – 22
(attachment)

The Board had previously agreed to recognize a Canada-wide safety initiative to establish two weeks every school year as School Bus Safety Weeks. This year, the theme is “School Bus Red Light Safety”. The Chairperson read the attached Declaration, which concludes as follows:

The Board of School Trustees for School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) urges motorists to observe traffic regulations regarding school buses, and further declares that the week of October 18 – 22, 2004 shall be known as School Bus Safety Week.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

Terri Short, Watson Road Elementary

- asked when it would be appropriate to ask the Board questions regarding the Education Committee’s survey regarding consultation on the locations of the French Immersion Program in the Kelowna area.
The Chairperson responded that the survey is scheduled to be an agenda item at the regular public Board meeting of October 27th.

TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS

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

Queries:

Trustee Horan

-asked if the Board could receive a report on this year’s FSA results and a comparison to last year’s results.

The Assistant Superintendent responded that the latest report shows positive increases. The Superintendent will shortly be able to provide a Report to the Board.

Trustee Hunt-Binkley

-asked if a caution regarding unpasteurized apple juice was distributed through the system. (The BCSTA recently forwarded the caution from the Food Safety Officer, BC Office of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.)

The Assistant Superintendent advised that it was provided to the District School Meals Coordinator. She will ensure that the caution, which is regularly issued at this time of year, was in fact sent directly to schools.

Trustee Hunt-Binkley

-asked about the relationship between the RCMP and schools, and advised that the Kamloops Board has hired RCMP officers to be based at schools.

The Chairperson responded that the RCMP has appointed officers as liaisons to schools. She has been informed that the RCMP Inspector now wishes to increase the relationship. She requested that this be a future agenda item when more information has been received from the RCMP.

Trustee Hunt-Binkley

-re. 2010 Legacies, asked if anyone on staff is keeping track of the opportunities for various programs and funding.

The Assistant Superintendent responded that she has already had discussions re. the 2010 Literacy Now program, which could present funding opportunities for early literacy and pre-school programs. She has already asked about funding structures.

Trustee Scanlan

-asked how the Veendam Sister City Student Exchange group could provide information to parents.

The Assistant-Superintendent responded that this is a reciprocal program covered under Board Policy. Therefore, schools could be asked to include information in newsletters.

Trustee Wiebe

-asked for clarification regarding the closure of the Westside Storefront School.

The Assistant Superintendent indicated that a concern may have been related to a decline in the number of students who are eligible for funding.

Trustee Baxter

-requested that the Board receive a report on the process, protocol and reasons for closure of the Westside Storefront School.

The Assistant Superintendent responded that this can be provided at a future meeting.

Trustee Baxter

-asked if District staff are represented on the OUC (UBC/Okanagan) Steering Committee.

The Assistant Superintendent will ask the Superintendent to inform the Board

Trustee Baxter

-asked about funding opportunities recently announced by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Advanced Education in connection with the "ACE IT" program, which was recently introduced in the Surrey School District. (ACE IT stands for Accelerated Credit Enrolment in Industry Training.) Trustee Baxter also commented that she was under the opinion that this District has had a similar program in place for several years (the Apprenticeship Program).

The Assistant Superintendent advised that Districts expect the Ministry to provide more information on funding in two to three weeks. She confirmed that this type of program is not new to this District.

ACTION ITEMS

Recommendation – 2004 Accountability Contract

(attachment)

The Board discussed the attached Contract and, by consensus, agreed to additional amendments.

Main

04P-625

MOVED by Trustee Wiebe, SECONDED by Trustee Horning,

THAT: The Board approve for submission to the Ministry of Education the 2004 Accountability Contract, as attached and as further amended at the October 13, 2004 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

**Board Direction – Interpretation Policy 735: Corporate Advertising and Sponsorship
Policy Statement 4.6:**

The following forms of sponsor recognition shall be permitted:

A temporary sign indicating the sponsor's name and/or logo displayed for the duration of the sponsored program, event, tournament, activity or production; the location, prominence and design of the sponsor's banner shall be tasteful and respectful of the cultural values of the community and the school.

The Board discussed the matter. The Chairperson indicated that the matter required clarification as soon as possible given that it is currently the subject of discussion between District staff and a program sponsor.

Main

04P-626

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Horan,
THAT: The Board refer to the Policy Committee for clarification, at a public meeting, Policy 735: Corporate Advertising and Sponsorship – Policy Statement 4.6.
CARRIED

Recommendation – Public/Private Partnerships

Notice of motion served by Trustee Anna Hunt-Binkley at the September 22nd meeting:

The Board discussed the matter.

Main

04P-627

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Horning,
THAT: The issue of P3 funding (public/private partnerships) be referred to a joint Finance and Building and Transportation Committee meeting for discussion and recommendation to the Board.
CARRIED

Installation of Flagpole – Board Office

(attachment)

The Board had directed staff to investigate the feasibility of flying a flag at the School Board Office. The Director of Operations provided information and three options for the Board's consideration and a recommendation should the Board decide to proceed with installation.

The Board discussed the recommendation.

Main

04P-628

MOVED by Trustee Horning, SECONDED by Trustee Wiebe,
THAT: The Board direct staff to proceed at an estimated cost of \$1,302.62 to dismantle the flagpole at the Lakeview Elementary School site and install the refurbished flagpole at the School Board Office site.

The Board discussed the installation.

The Assistant Superintendent and Acting Secretary-Treasurer responded to questions.

Referral
04P-629

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,
THAT: Motion 04P-628 be referred to the Annual Capital Grant List to be dealt with when other projects are prioritized by the Director of Operations.
DEFEATED

Opposed: Trustees Baxter, Horan, Horning, Scanlan and Wiebe

The Board discussed the matter further.
The Acting Secretary-Treasurer responded to additional questions.
The President of the Central Okanagan Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association responded to questions regarding the process for unbudgeted expenses at the school level.
The Board also discussed but did not reach consensus on the matter of an appropriate account from which to take this cost.

The question was called on 04P-628

CARRIED

Opposed: Trustees Hunt-Binkley and Scanlan

Watson Road Community School Agreement
(attachment)

The Assistant Superintendent and Acting Secretary-Treasurer responded to questions.
The Board discussed the revised Agreement and made one correction.

Main
04P-630

MOVED by Trustee Horan, SECONDED by Trustee Wiebe,
THAT: The Board approve the Agreement with the City of Kelowna regarding Community Use of Watson Road Elementary School as attached and as presented at the October 13, 2004 Public Meeting.
CARRIED

Board Authority/Field Trips
(attachment)

Current Policy does not indicate the Board's authority to veto field trips.

Following Trustee Hunt-Binkley's request to have this item placed on a Board agenda, the Chairperson reported that she had discussed with the Superintendent the issue of the Board's right, at any time, to change policy. The Superintendent is recommending that, before taking any action to change policy, the Board consult with both the Ad Hoc Field Trip Task Force as well as with potentially impacted schools.

The President of COPAC suggested that the Board participate in a provincial pilot project of the soon-to-be-announced provincial Field Trip Guidelines.

The Board discussed the current Policy.

The Assistant Superintendent responded to additional questions.

The Chairperson advised that, if there is a desire to pursue this issue, a Notice of Motion from a trustee would be appropriate.

Trustee Query

Trustee Horning

-asked for clarification on Field Trip Policy Section V – 1(a), given that competing school teams and bands often have short notice of trips, which makes it impossible for them to meet the 90-day prior requirement for preliminary approval.

The Board discussed the matter.

By consensus, the Board agreed that the Superintendent should provide a recommendation on this matter.

Budget Timeline 2005/06 Operating Budget

(attachment)

Trustee Hunt-Binkley, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, introduced the Finance Committee's recommendation.

Main

04P-631

MOVED by Trustee Hunt-Binkley, SECONDED by Trustee Horning,
THAT: The Board approve the Budget Timeline for the 2005/06 Operating Budget, as attached and as presented at the public Board meeting of October 13, 2004.
CARRIED

PUBLIC QUESTION AND COMMENT PERIOD

INFORMATION ITEMS

Report – Video Surveillance

(attachment)

Trustee Horning commented that he thought Springvalley Elementary also had surveillance cameras. (The school is not listed on the report.) He also said he would like to see cameras installed at Quigley Elementary.

The Assistant Superintendent will provide the status.

Enrolments – September 30th

(attachment)

The Assistant Superintendent confirmed that enrolment is down less than had been anticipated. The projection had been for an overall decrease of 250 students. In fact, on September 30th, the District was down only 189 students.

Amendments – Policies 115 and 370

(attachment)

Trustee Horning requested clarification regarding section 7 of Policy 370:

“If the interior of an employee’s personal vehicle is damaged while transporting students...”

The Assistant-Superintendent will provide clarification to trustees.

Response to Trustee Query – Vandalism Trend

(attachment)

The Assistant Superintendent responded to questions.

Field Trips - Update

(attachment)

The Board discussed the Update.

By consensus, the Board agreed that the next report should include the grade levels of students going on trips.

Trustee Baxter requested confirmation that students will wear helmets for horseback riding activities.

The Assistant Superintendent will provide a response.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

SENT:

Minister of Education – Letter of Appreciation September 22nd Visit

Minister of Education – Request for Preschool Funding Support

Minister of Children and Family Development – Request for Preschool Funding Support

RECEIVED:

Greater Victoria School District – Letter to BC Revenue Minister: PAC Funded Purchases

CEFPI – Introduction to the BC Chapter

Mayor Walter Gray, City of Kelowna – Crystal Meth and Drug Addiction

Graham Leslie & Associates – *Building Strength in Communities Conference*

Main

04P-632

MOVED by Trustee Horning, SECONDED by Trustee Scanlan,

THAT: The Board receive, at the October 13, 2004 Public meeting, the correspondence listed above.

CARRIED

FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Regular Public Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 27, 2004 at 6 PM, SBO

Finance Committee – Public Meeting

Wednesday, November 17, 2004 at 1 PM, SBO

Regular Public Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 10, 2004 at 6 PM

Regular Public Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 24, 2004 at 6 PM

BC PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION

ITEMS FOR FUTURE COMMITTEE AGENDA

- Joint Finance and Building and Transportation Committees - P3 funding (public/private partnerships)
- Policy Committee - Interpretation of Policy 735: Corporate Advertising and Sponsorship

NOTICES OF MOTION

Trustee Hunt-Binkley:

THAT: The Board amend Policy 525: Field Trips to reflect the Board's authority to veto any field trip at any time.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD AGENDA

Survey Response – Consultation re. Kelowna Area Locations: French Immersion Program
Response to Trustee Query - FSA Results and Comparison to Last Year's Results
Response to Trustee Query - Update: RCMP Involvement in Schools
Response to Trustee Query - Staff Involvement: 2010 Legacy: Funding Opportunities
Response to Trustee Query- Process/Protocol/Reason re. Closure of Westside Storefront School
Response to Trustee Query – District Representation on OUC (UBC Okanagan) Steering Committee
Committee Recommendation - Interpretation of Policy 735: Corporate Advertising and Sponsorship
Committee Recommendation - P3 funding (public/private partnerships)
Staff Recommendation re Short Notice Trips and Field Trip Policy, Section V – 1(a)
Response to Trustee Query - Surveillance Cameras: Status at Springvalley and Quigley Elementaries
Response to Trustee Query - Policy 370 - Expenses: Auto and Travel Section 7. (Clarification)
Response to Trustee Query - Horseback Riding Field Trips – Requirement for Helmets
Amendment to Policy 525: Field Trips (Notice of Motion)

Referrals to Coordinating Committee (requests by Trustee Hunt-Binkley)

- Report by Bridges Transition Inc. - *Central Okanagan School District Student Planning Program Audit*
- Dr. Fromberg's Presentation - Influenza Vaccination

ITEM REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

Mossi White Presentation

Trustee Scanlan announced that the public is invited to hear a presentation on Thursday, October 21, at 7 PM, at Hollywood Road Education Services, by Mossi White, Past President of the National School Board Association (U.S.A.). Trustee Scanlan will assist the President of COPAC in promoting this event.

ADJOURNMENT: The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Chairperson

Monica Schulte, Acting Secretary-Treasurer

Assistant Superintendent's Report

At the Superintendent's request, I'm reporting on the progress to date of the Preschool Partnerships Program.

When the Board approved the program in November 2002, a community and School District committee was formed to guide the process of the Board's vision in this area. The committee has been actively working on the Board recommendations.

To date, we now have nine preschool partners with two additional schools identified and preschool partners in the process of being selected for them.

The program has already supported over 200 children in quality preschool opportunities and as a result we are seeing an increase - the first in 20 years - in the number of children registered in Kindergarten this September.

The committee has produced a video describing the preschool partnerships process as well as a brochure and numerous documents to facilitate the selection of sites and partners and provision of subsidized space to at-risk children.

In addition, they have been active in requesting grants to support the program, receiving a \$50,000 Vancouver Foundation Grant which has helped to fund the committee's work.

I'm pleased to announce that this week the Central Okanagan Foundation has awarded a \$4000 grant to the Preschool Partnerships Committee to support at-risk children.

This fall, the committee will be circulating a draft document - the Early Learning and Development Framework - to act as a guide for the preschools and schools. This framework outlines best practices for 3 to 5 year olds to support a quality learning environment.

In the past year and a half, the committee has worked diligently to develop and support the processes and practices which provide a quality early childhood opportunity for the many children served by our Preschool Partners.