

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 85 (VANCOUVER ISLAND NORTH)**

June 10, 2019

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Leightan Wishart, Chairperson of the Board of Education, at the School Board Office, Port Hardy B.C. at 6:04 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Paul Cann, Trustee
Leanne Farrell, Trustee
Jeff Field, Vice-Chair
Lawrie Garrett, Trustee
Eric Hunter, Trustee
Carol Prescott, Trustee

WELCOME

Chairperson Wishart opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional territories of the Kwakwaka'wakw people.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES
54/19**

Farrell/Hunter:
That the regular meeting minutes of the May 13, 2019 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

**ADDITIONS TO THE
AGENDA**

1. PHSS Italy and Germany Trip Approval (Assistant Superintendent)
2. Presentation – Japan Trip (Assistant Superintendent)

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA
55/19**

Farrell/Hunter:
That the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

**PRESENTATION:
JAPAN TRIP**

NISS Vice Principal, Stacia Johnson announced that five students (three from PHSS and two from NISS) were chosen to attend the World Tsunami Summit in Japan. Four of the five students gave a presentation on their upcoming trip to the Summit taking place September 5 – 12, 2019. The students will share their knowledge with the Board at the October Board Meeting following their return. Chair Wishart and Superintendent Carol Robertson congratulated the students on being the five chosen to represent our country.

**PHSS INTERNATIONAL
FIELD TRIP**

PHSS teachers Holly Kunstar and Melanie Demoe gave a presentation on the PHSS 2020 spring break field trip to Italy and Germany. They provided documentation from EFP Tours on safety and an outline of the daily itinerary. Chair Wishart requested that students give a short presentation at the Board Meeting following the trip.

**DISBURSEMENTS – May
2019
56/19**

Field/Hunter:
That May 2019 disbursements statement be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

- INQUIRY** Superintendent Robertson advised that Judy Halbert and Linda Kaser from Spirals of Inquiry visited the district on May 30 and 31, 2019 to review school inquiry plans. Ms. Robertson thanked everyone for attending and referred the Board to the draft school inquiry plans included in the Board agenda package.
- ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CORPORATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)** Superintendent Robertson advised that she, Assistant Superintendent Christina MacDonald, and VINTA Local President Shawn Gough attended the OECD conference where 40 countries were represented. Superintendent Robertson noted that it was a privilege to attend and she gave the Board a short presentation of some of the slides provided by Scott MacDonald, Deputy Minister of Education. Ms. Robertson noted that completion rates are improving along with the gap between all students and Aboriginal Students. She reviewed BC's high ranking in reading, science, mathematics and student learning surveys. Ms. Robertson stated the key message given by Mr. MacDonald on behalf of Canada and specifically BC was that every child can learn and every student can succeed.
- CALENDAR** Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Christina MacDonald advised that the October Provincial Pro-D Day in the 2019 – 2020 Calendar is incorrect. This day would normally fall on the 18th however due to the date on which Thanksgiving falls this year, following BCTF guidelines, the Provincial Pro-D Day should be scheduled for October 25th. Ms. MacDonald requested Board approval for the calendar change.
- 57/19** Field/Hunter:
That the 2019-20 School Calendar October 18th Provincial Pro-D date be corrected to October 25th as per BCTF guidelines.
CARRIED
- JAPAN FIELD TRIP** Ms. MacDonald requested Board approval for the Japan field trip as presented earlier.
- 58/19** Prescott/Field:
That the Japan field trip to the World Tsunami Summit on September 5 – 12, 2019 be approved.
CARRIED
- TRUSTEE SHARING** Trustee Prescott advised that she was part of the very successful Bee Fair at SVEJSS on May 28th. She stated that the knowledge and excitement of the student and community is great to see. Trustee Prescott also stated she very much enjoyed the Inquiry, Gallery walk, and dinner on May 30.

Trustee Prescott shared about the Alert Bay Cultural Celebration she attended. Trustee Prescott advised that SVEJSS is having a bike rodeo on June 13th and the police have already done checks on all the bikes and given the students bike safety information for the summer. Trustee Prescott also advised that she will be attending the Year End Celebration in Sointula on June 28th and the SVEJSS Year End Celebration on the following day.

Trustee Hunter attended the final FNEC meeting of the school year on June 6, 2019 where he felt Leah Hubbard made a particularly impactful statement that 'First Nations culture is not just dancing and singing in the Bighouse, it is where we practice our culture'. Trustee Hunter also attended the Alert Bay event where the children performed what he felt was a very touching and wonderful dance of bees, demonstrating how everyone matters. Trustee Hunter then complimented the Board Chair and Superintendent on their speeches and recognition of the previous CEO. Trustee Hunter also complimented the staff of NISS on an extremely well done grad ceremony.

Chair Wishart noted that there was \$81,200 worth of Scholarships and Bursaries given to students in Port McNeill and approximately \$39,000 in Port Hardy noting it is one of the largest he has ever heard of in the district. Trustee Hunter added he was disappointed that First Nations' achievement in Scholarships and Bursaries was lower than last year's.

Chair Wishart reported from council that a member from Port Hardy Fire and Rescue recently saved a life and will be recognized by the Mayor and Council. He also reported from council that there was a third application for a Cannabis store which was turned down due to the close proximity to Sacred Wolf Friendship Centre where a large number of young people attend events. He also noted that the Lost at Sea Memorial Dedication is coming up soon on the waterfront. Chair Wishart then stated that the Gallery Walk was very interesting and it was great to see all the hard work being done. Chair Wishart attended a recent FRES PAC which he noted was also attended by a large number of parents as usual and involved planning of lots of festivities. Chair Wishart advised that he and Trustee Farrell sat in on a suspension hearing on June 5th. He then noted that he attended both the PHSS and NISS grad ceremonies on June 8th and that it was awesome to see so many students getting recognition for all the hard work they had been doing. Chair Wishart stated that it was also great to see the staff receiving recognition for their hard work and support that helped with the students' success.

Trustee Garrett did some work with Kokish Hatchery where Mr. Greg Muirhead from NISS brought his Outdoor Education Class to help clip the fins on this year's Coho salmon. Trustee Garrett then recognized the owner of Subway in Port McNeill who provided lunch for the 25 people in the group. Trustee Garrett stated that he attended the Inquiry Gallery seeing the projects together for the first time and noticed the interplay between different schools and how the Inquiry gives them a chance to collaborate. He also expressed that he always enjoys the school visits and the enthusiasm of students.

Trustee Field stated he enjoyed the school visits earlier in the day. He noted PHSS Grad was a little different this year and he appreciated the change to the welcome dance as he felt it was a wonderful addition to the beginning of the celebration. Trustee Field stated it was nice to see Ms. Irene Isaac, District Principal First Nations Programs involved when the Assistant Superintendent was giving her speech. Trustee Field felt that the FRES PAC meeting was impressive. Parents learned about the Zones of Regulation and they work for all students, including those who have experienced trauma. Trustee Field expressed how great it was to see the EVES outdoor kindergarten class and such a good use of that outdoor area.

Trustee Farrell stated that she really enjoyed the inquiry gallery walk and thinks it would be nice to have it more public as she feels it would be interesting for the community to see all the schools are different but that the work is being done by everyone. Trustee Farrell noted that she very much enjoyed the school visits today.

FNEC

Trustee Hunter stated that Mr. Martin presented the draft budget at FNEC showing increases. A brief budget meeting had been held just prior to FNEC and was well attended with excellent discussion on various topics. Mr. Martin noted that there was an increase of about 25% to the FNEC budget.

STUDENT TRUSTEE

There was no student trustee present.

DPAC REPRESENTATIVE

DPAC Chair, Mr. Jason Lansdowne stated he will be attending the Long Range Facilities Planning Meeting tomorrow, June 11th, 2019 at 1 p.m. He also noted there are no appendices in the Privacy Impact Assessment and requested a copy of the Appendix A which is the school district letter of agreement.

VINTA REPRESENTATIVE

VINTA President Shawn Gough very much enjoyed his time at the OECD Conference. He felt that with 6 year grad rates we are expecting failure and that he is in favour of 5 year grad rates. He also noted there was a lot of talk about artificial intelligence and metrics which worries him due to the increased corporatization of the education system. Mr. Gough stated that he left the conference with two main questions being 'Who's agenda are we working from?' and 'Who's at the table to create that agenda and who wasn't invited?' He feels there is a disconnect between the people discussing education and the realities of the classroom. On behalf of the community band, Mr. Gough expressed their disappointment in not being able to attend grad this year due to the number of people out of town but added that they do plan on making it happen for next year. Mr. Gough then introduced the new VINTA local President, Jason Voth.

Chair Wishart thanked Mr. Gough for his service as the leader of our teacher organization. Chair Wishart also noted that although the Ministry of Education looks at a 6 year completion plan, our Superintendent is striving for 5 year completions. Superintendent Robertson added that if a student doesn't complete in 5 years it is not viewed as a failure. She then also thanked Mr. Gough for his service and wished him luck in the classroom.

VINTA President Mr. Jason Voth stated that he is a little disappointed that the School Board cancelled the last two sessions of local bargaining as it feels like they aren't willing or able to continue. He noted that members have a different motivation with many issues deserving meaningful conversation at the table and advised that VINTA will be proceeding with the facilitated local impasse procedure to address these issues.

**CUPE
REPRESENTATIVE**

No representative from CUPE was present.

**ADJOURNMENT
59/19**

Prescott:
That the regular meeting of June 10, 2019 be adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

CARRIED

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer