

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

October 07, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Leighton Wishart, Chairperson of the Board of Education, at North Island Secondary School, Port McNeill B.C. at 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance:

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

Not in Attendance: Leanne Farrell, Trustee

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**WELCOME**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
69/19**

Farrell/Hunter:  
That the regular meeting minutes of the September 09, 2019 meeting be approved.

**CARRIED**

**ADDITIONS TO THE  
AGENDA**

1. Climate Change – *Trustee Garrett*

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA  
70/19**

Garrett/Prescott:  
That the agenda be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED**

**THE GREAT SHAKEOUT**

Superintendent Ms. Carol Robertson noted that the annual mock emergency earthquake scenario 'The Great Shakeout' will take place on October 17 at 10:17 am. Superintendent Robertson advised that Sr. Leadership will be out of the district at this time however, the roll call to schools will go out from the School Board Office as usual. As in previous years, the Manager of Maintenance and Operations, Mr. Darby Gildersleeve will have the mock scenario emailed out just prior to the event.

**COAL HARBOUR SURVEY**

Superintendent Robertson referred to the amended draft of the Coal Harbour Survey in the Board Package and requested approval from the Board.

**71/19**

Cann/Garrett:  
That the draft of the Coal Harbour Survey be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

**DISBURSEMENTS  
72/19**

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

**CARRIED**

**NEW EMPLOYEE  
ORIENTATION**

Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Christina MacDonald informed the Board that approximately 25 new employees from all employee groups

attended the New Employee Orientation at the Quatse Hatchery in Port Hardy on Thursday, October 3, 2019. Ms. MacDonald noted that the orientation opened with a Welcome and Welcome Song from Elder Ms. Maggie Sedgemore, hereditary Chief David Knox, Ms. Irene Isaac, PHSS First Nations Connections Worker, Mr. Eric Baker and Ministry of Education's Director of Indigenous Education, Mr. Kaleb Child. Presenters at the orientation included Superintendent Robertson; Assistant Superintendent, Ms. MacDonald; District Principal of Aboriginal Programs, Irene Isaac; Benefits and Payroll Clerk, Ms. Muffy Jones and Manager of Operations & Maintenance, Mr. Darby Gildersleeve. VINTA President, Jason Voth and CUPE President, Jody Welch were also in attendance and each gathered with their members for information sessions towards the end of the orientation.

**ENROLLMENT REPORT**

Ms. MacDonald referred to the enrollment numbers set out in the Board Package which are the last set of numbers from the end of September. Ms. MacDonald noted that the final numbers were very close to projections with an approximate 14 student difference.

**SEISMIC UPGRADES**

Mr. Gildersleeve advised that the four schools originally set as priority for seismic upgrades have been put forth to the Ministry and that he is awaiting a response.

**POLICY COMMITTEE  
REPORT 73/19**

Field/Prescott:  
That PM 6-35 Flag Protocol receive 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading.

**CARRIED**

**74/19**

Field/Prescott:  
That PM 5-75 Immunizations receive 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings.

**CARRIED**

**75/19**

Field/Prescott:  
That PM 1-45 Recognition of Territory receive 1<sup>st</sup> reading and be circulated for feedback.

**CARRIED**

**76/19**

Field/Prescott:  
That PM 5-90 Provision of Menstrual Products to Students receive 1<sup>st</sup> reading and be circulated for feedback.

**CARRIED**

**77/19**

Field/Prescott:  
That PM 2-181 School Completion (Evergreen) Certification receive 1<sup>st</sup> reading and be circulated for feedback.

**CARRIED**

**78/19**

Field/Prescott:  
That PM 3-170 Donations receive 1<sup>st</sup> reading and be circulated for feedback.

**CARRIED**

**79/19**

Field/Prescott:  
That PM BYLAW Number 2 – Appeals Bylaw receive approval of the housekeeping amendments.

**CARRIED**

**80/19**

Field/Prescott:

That PM 2-72 Criminal Records Review Process receive approval of the housekeeping amendments.

**CARRIED**

**CLIMATE CHANGE**

Trustee Garrett received inquiries from community members asking what SD85 is doing regarding climate change. Mr. Gildersleeve advised that the district's main target is to reduce energy thus reducing its carbon footprint. Mr. Gildersleeve noted that upgrades to reduce energy have been made in the past and that they are currently looking into LED lighting. He also noted that electric vehicles for maintenance staff are in discussions and they are currently looking into places for staff to plug in personal electric vehicles. Mr. Martin advised that electric school buses have been looked into as well noting that they are three times the cost of diesel school buses and due to our geographical area, it would be best to wait until they are piloted in another district first. Discussions also took place noting that excess energy from the Port McNeill arena is used to assist in heating North Island Secondary and that there is a possibility to do the same for Port Hardy Secondary but the distance is much greater. Chair Wishart advised that there is potential in the future with the construction of the new arena to heat the schools in its proximity.

**TRUSTEE SHARING**

Trustee Prescott stated that she enjoyed the school visits and she felt students were enthusiastic and anxious to show the trustees what they were doing. She noted that it is always a pleasure to see the younger students. Trustee Prescott invited everyone to attend the District Wide Cross Country Meet on October 23 in Sointula adding that it is amazing to see the effort students put in each year. Trustee Prescott informed the Board that the MERSociety presented Port Alice students with the opportunity to name two humpback whales that had been seen daily in the Port Alice area. Marine Detective, Ms. Hilderling provided valuable information and answered student questions via Skype while on the water. Due to the students' interest and participation, Ms. Hilderling will be hosting a presentation in Port Alice on October 16.

Trustee Garrett advised that he attended several PAC meetings in his area noting a good turn out from parents with lots of enthusiasm. Trustee Garrett informed the Board that North Island Secondary and Port Hardy Secondary in partnership with Community Futures are working on putting up job boards for students in the two high schools. Local businesses looking to hire students will be able to submit their information to be posted on the job boards.

Vice-Chair Field stated that he also enjoyed the school visits, especially the very energetic Kindergartens. Vice-Chair Field noted that he attended the Port Hardy Secondary 40-Year Reunion of the first graduation class. He stated that it was quite a lot of fun and that it was very interesting to see what everyone had done since graduation.

After the school visits, Trustee Hunter felt that the district is very well served by the principals and staff at both Cheslakees and Sunset. He noted that both schools in different ways are moving along very nicely.

Trustee Hunter noted that he spoke with one of the principals in regards to some children feeling quite a lot of anxiety which is possibly a result of the economic uncertainty in the area.

Chair Wishart feels that the district has excellent staff working at our school who are truly there for the students. He stated that one of the best parts about being a trustee is getting into the schools and seeing the students in action.

**BCPSEA**

Vice-Chair Field advised the Board that the two parties are awaiting the mediator's report which is expected November 1. He noted that a special Representative Council would be called together on November 8 if there is anything from the mediator's package that would need to be voted on. Vice-Chair Field also noted there may need to be some communication after the mediator's report to discuss certain items with the Board. Mr. Martin advised that a Special Board Meeting can be called if this is required.

**BCSTA**

Trustee Prescott advised that as the Provincial Council Meeting is taking place on October 25, she will report at the next Board Meeting noting that the VISTA Fall Conference is taking place at the same time. Trustee Prescott also advised that she will be attending the DPAC Meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup> but will not be available for the FNEC Meeting as she will be at the Cross Country Meet in Sointula. Trustee Hunter confirmed that he will be attending the FNEC Meeting and therefor the Board will be represented.

**FNEC**

Trustee Hunter advised that as the FNEC Meeting will take place on October 23, he will report at the next Board Meeting.

**STUDENT TRUSTEE**

Student Trustees were present, however did not have any items to share.

**DPAC REPRESENTATIVE**

There was no DPAC representative present.

**VINTA REPRESENTATIVE**

VINTA President, Mr. Jason Voth advised that there was a glitch when BCPSEA reported out to the public on Provincial Bargaining when there is a media ban in effect. He noted that there is not a lot of information at this point but is hoping for a fair and peaceful outcome.

**CUPE REPRESENTATIVE**

There was no CUPE representative present.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**81/19**

Prescott:

That the regular meeting of October 07, 2019 be adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Chairperson of the Board

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Secretary-Treasurer