

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

December 09, 2019

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Leightan Wishart, Chairperson of the Board of Education, at North Island Secondary School in Port McNeill, B.C. at 6:02 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

Secretary Treasurer John Martin opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional territories of the Kwakwaka'wakw.

**ELECTION OF BOARD
CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

Mr. Martin called for nominations for the position of Board Chair. Trustee Farrell nominated Trustee Wishart for Board Chair, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no further nominations. Trustee Wishart was acclaimed as Board Chair. Chairperson Wishart assumed the Chair.

Chairperson Wishart called for nominations for Board Vice-Chair. Trustee Eric Hunter nominated Trustee Jeff Field, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no further nominations. Trustee Jeff Field was acclaimed as Board Vice-Chair.

**ELECTION OF BCPSEA
REPRESENTATIVE AND
ALTERNATE**

Chairperson Wishart called for nominations for BCPSEA Representative and Alternate. Trustee Eric Hunter nominated Vice-Chair Field who stated a willingness to accept the position. No other nominations were made. Vice-Chair Field was acclaimed BCPSEA Representative.

Trustee Hunter nominated Chair Wishart as BCPSEA Alternate, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. No other nominations were brought forth. Chair Wishart was acclaimed as BCSPSEA Alternate.

**ELECTION OF BCSTA
PROVINCIAL
COUNCILLOR AND
ALTERNATE**

Chair Wishart called for nominations for the BCSTA Provincial Councillor and Alternate. Vice-Chair Field nominated Trustee Carol Prescott as BCSTA Provincial Council Representative, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no further nominations. Trustee Prescott was acclaimed as BCSTA Provincial Councillor.

Trustee Prescott nominated Trustee Hunter as BCSTA Provincial Councilor Alternate, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. There were no further nominations. Trustee Eric Hunter was acclaimed as BCSTA Provincial Councillor Alternate.

**ELECTION OF FNEC
REPRESENTATIVES**

Chairperson Wishart called for nominations for two FNEC representatives. Vice-Chair Field nominated Trustee Hunter as FNEC Representative, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected. Trustee Farrell nominated Trustee Prescott, who stated a willingness to accept the position if elected.

There were no further nominations. Trustee Hunter and Trustee Prescott were acclaimed as the FNEC Representatives.

Trustee Prescott nominated Trustee Cann and Trustee Farrell as FNEC Alternates, who both stated a willingness to accept the positions if elected. There were no further nominations. Trustees Cann and Farrell were acclaimed as FNEC Alternates.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES
86/19**

Garrett/Field:
That the regular meeting minutes of the November 18, 2019 meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

**ADDITIONS TO THE
AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA
87/19**

Field/Garrett:
That the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

PRESENTATION

Chair Wishart advised the Board that due to conflicting schedules, the Solid Pathways Program presentation will take place at the February Board Meeting.

SAFE SCHOOLS/PRO-D

Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Christina MacDonald reported that the November 22 Pro-D Day was well attended with the theme being 'Small Act, Big Impact'. She also noted that the Safe Schools VTRA Training took place on November 21 and 22 and was well received and attended by almost all LARTS and School Counsellors. Ms. MacDonald advised that the second level of training will take place in February.

MENTAL HEALTH GRANT

Assistant Superintendent MacDonald announced that School District 85 was the recipient of \$32,500 grant to use for mental health and well-being in our district. Each school will receive an allocation to be used to support various initiatives.

FIELD TRIPS

Ms. MacDonald presented a field trip request from Eke Me-Xi for Board approval.

88/19

Field/Farrell:
That the field trip for six Eke Me-Xi students to visit Montreal, Quebec on April 13-19, 2020 be approved.

CARRIED

Ms. MacDonald presented a field trip request from Sunset Elementary for Board Approval.

89/19

Prescott/Field:
That the field trip for 33 Grade 6 students from Sunset Elementary to visit Mount Washington on February 13, 2020 be approved.

CARRIED

**DISBURSEMENTS
90/19**

Field/Cann:
That November 2019 disbursements statement be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

BUDGET UPDATE

Secretary Treasurer, Mr. John Martin advised the budget is close to completion and just awaiting funding numbers from the Ministry which are expected just before Christmas. Mr. Martin will work with Ray McDonald to present this budget at the February meeting in plenty of time to meet the budget bylaw deadline of February 28.

POLICY COMMITTEE

91/19

Field/Prescott:

That PM 1-45 Recognition of Territory have 'children' changed to 'students' and receive 2nd and 3rd readings.

CARRIED

92/19

Field/Prescott:

That PM 5-90 Provision of Menstrual Products to Students receive 2nd reading and be circulated for feedback.

CARRIED

93/19

Field/Prescott:

That PM 2-181 School Completion (Evergreen) Certificate receive 2nd and 3rd readings.

CARRIED

94/19

Field/Prescott:

That PM 3-170 Donations receive 2nd and 3rd readings.

CARRIED

95/19

Field/Prescott:

That PM 5-120 Smoke Free Environment receive 1st reading and be circulated for feedback.

CARRIED

96/19

Field/Prescott:

That PM 1-02 Strategic Direction receive housekeeping changes.

CARRIED

97/19

Field/Prescott:

That PM 2-150 Retention and Destruction of Records receive housekeeping changes.

CARRIED

TRUSTEE SHARING

Chair Wishart announced that during the Trustee Academy, discussions took place surrounding SD85 hosting the 2021 VISTA Conference. The Board discussed general organization details around the table. Vice-Chair Field noted it is not too early to start this type of planning and that as SD85 does very well in Aboriginal Education, it should be made part of the program. The Board discussed that this should be done as a group with one person leading. Trustee Cann offered to take leadership on the project. Each Trustee offered assistance noting where they may be able to assist most. Chair Wishart will put Trustee Cann in touch with a couple of people who have organized this event before to help assist him. Trustee Cann stated that he will start compiling a list of ideas for the event via email with the other Trustees.

Trustee Farrell attended the recent Mount Waddington Health Council Meeting where a discussion took place regarding the impacts of the WFP strike on schools, particularly the need to provide more food.

Trustee Garrett felt that the Trustee Academy had very interesting speakers and that he quite enjoyed it.

Chair Wishart noted that there was a negative article in the media by a previous SD39 trustee about unnecessary spending to attend the Academy. Trustee Garrett felt that he gained knowledge from sitting with trustees from other districts, not just by attending the workshops. Chair Wishart advised that with the exception of the VISTA breakfast meeting, sitting with different Boards is a great idea that is followed by many other trustees at the Academy.

Trustee Hunter noted that he was invited to sit in on a music class at one of the district schools where he very much enjoyed teaching the children some tricks to playing music including how to change the notes to make the music more dramatic and interesting. He stated that one student in particular became a mentor during the class for the other students and shook Trustee Hunter's hand at the end of the class thanking him for helping.

Trustee Prescott advised that Sea View Elementary/Jr. Secondary will be having their Christmas Coffee house and that she will email everyone to confirm the date. She also advised that AJ Elliott Elementary is having their Christmas Celebration on December 18th and that Alert Bay Elementary students have been practicing all week for their production on Friday. Trustee Prescott felt that the visit at Alert Bay Elementary was very exciting noting that the administrator is very happy to be there and very pleased with the way the programs have been working out. Trustee Prescott also noted that Alert Bay Elementary will be teaming up with AJ Elliott Elementary to share the same successes and she is very happy to see the two schools collaborating.

Vice-Chair Field attended PAC meetings at Fort Rupert Elementary and Eagle View Elementary pointing out that the effects of the strike were discussed at both meetings. Specifically at Eagle View, the feedback was that students are experiencing a general anxiety. He stated it is nice to see the schools having their Christmas events and is looking forward to seeing a Strong Start Program at Alert Bay Elementary as he feels this is a positive move.

Chair Wishart attended the PAC meeting at PHSS which he noted was very short as there were not enough members for a quorum. He also stated that he enjoyed the school visit today as it is always great to be inside the school noting it would be nice to have a little more time.

BCPSEA

Vice-Chair Field advised that he has forwarded all information he has received from BCPSEA noting that the two sides are meeting with the mediator tomorrow and the 11th but that it is mostly procedural.

BCSTA

Trustee Prescott advised that she has nothing to report at this time regarding BCSTA.

FNEC

Trustee Hunter advised that there is nothing to report from FNEC at the moment. He noted the next meeting date is expected to be set soon.

STUDENT TRUSTEE

Student Trustees asked if there was anything they can do to help relieve anxiety for the students during the strike. Chair Wishart advised discussing this with their principal noting there are lots of local places taking donations. The Student Trustees then noted that they would like

to host a lunch program twice a week. Secretary Treasurer Mr. Martin advised to the students to discuss a budget with their principal and come back to him with some figures to see how he can assist.

DPAC REPRESENTATIVE

Ms. Miranda Berry noted that a small meeting took place with three attendees. All PACs eligible for registration are registered and they will be looking at paying fees early next year if feasible. Ms. Berry advised that SD85 Grade 12 Students can apply for the BCCPAC \$1,000 Educational Award by submitting their application and essay on or before February 28th. Ms. Berry noted that the presentation with Andrea Sinclair was very well received and information will be shared out via email. Ms. Berry announced the next DPAC meeting will be on January 16th at 5pm in the Sunset Elementary Library. She also noted that she will begin a poll shortly to see what topics parents would be interested in for future workshops noting that some suggested topics currently are SOGI 123, Safer Schools, and Social Media Safety.

VINTA REPRESENTATIVE

VINTA President, Mr. Jason Voth stated that the much needed Christmas Break is being looked forward to by most of the staff and he feels it might help restore some of the work life balance a little.

CUPE REPRESENTATIVE

There was no CUPE representative present.

**ADJOURNMENT
98/19**

Chair Wishart wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Safe and Happy Holiday

Prescott:

That the regular meeting of December 09, 2019 be adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

CARRIED

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer