

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

June 08, 2020

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Leightan Wishart, Chairperson of the Board of Education, via ZOOM Video Conference at 6:00 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

Board Chair, Mr. Leightan Wishart opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional territories of the Kwakwaka'wakw.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES
30/20**

Prescott/Farrell:
That the regular meeting minutes of the May 11, 2020 meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

**ADDITIONS TO THE
AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA
31/20**

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

CARRIED

DEPUTY MINISTER LETTER

Superintendent, Ms. Carol Robertson referred to the Deputy Minister Letter in the Board Package that confirmed approval of return to school plans submitted for the district.

**RETURN TO SCHOOL
PLANS/UPDATE**

Superintendent Robertson reported that Monday, June 1, 2020 was the start of the Ministry of Education's Stage 3 return to school plan with a maximum of 50% of K-5 students back in school buildings at any one time and a max of 20% for grades 6-12. Plans allowed for social distancing protocols with some students travelling by bus and many others being dropped off by parents. All staff are working in buildings unless they requested and received accommodations. Some teachers are providing online learning from home due to the bandwidth in the schools unable to support all teachers working online at once. The IT Department is working on the issue. Principals and Vice-Principals reported a sense of relieve as people are feeling safe with the safety measures put in place. Some older students went into the school, received the help they needed, then returned home stating they will come back into the school. Eke Me-Xi Learning Centre was closed to students from outside of the reserve but now has permission to reopen. Any students needing help before the reopening at Eke Me-Xi were able to get assistance at Port Hardy Secondary School. Superintendent Robertson stated that

the partial return has been successful and a great preparation to be ready for September.

Superintendent Robertson advised that currently the plan for September is a 100% return, however guidance is taken from the BCCDC and Ministry of Education. Superintendent Robertson also reported the proposed numbers for partial return across the district was for 238 students and schools reported 261 students in attendance throughout the week with approximately 33% reported as having returned across the province.

**DRAFT BOARD MEETING
SCHEDULE**

Superintendent Robertson reviewed the proposed 2020-2021 Board Meeting Schedule. She noted grad dates may change and asked the Board to advise Executive Assistant, Ms. Christine Ley if there are any issues noted. Superintendent Robertson requested approval of the schedule.

32/20

Cann/Hunter:

That the 2020-2021 Board Meeting Schedule be approved as presented.

GRAD 2020

Superintendent Robertson reported on grad plans for all three secondary schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. She noted that no invites will be sent out this year due to the pandemic and that social distancing and all other safety measures will be followed to provide graduates with a convocation ceremony while still adhering to rules and regulations set out by the province.

Graduation for Port Hardy Secondary will take place in the gym on Friday, June 12 at 1pm and North Island Secondary's will take place Thursday, June 18th at 1:30 pm. Only the graduates, principal, vice-principal and someone recording/livestreaming the event will be in attendance. She advised that families of both Port Hardy Secondary and North Island Secondary have taken it upon themselves to have a car parade the following day in the community but that the district is not involved in this event.

Eke Me-Xi will hold their graduation at Walkus Hall on June 25th at 1pm with 7 graduates, 9 staff, 4 drummers and 4 chiefs will be in attendance. The event will also be recorded/livestreamed.

Superintendent Robertson asked Board Chair Wishart to record a speech to graduates that will be shown at the convocation ceremonies. Superintendent Robertson also invited any other trustees to submit a speech if they so wish. She also noted that although it looks very different due to the current pandemic, she was happy the district was able to provide graduates with a recognition of their accomplishments.

**DISBURSEMENTS
33/20**

Hunter/Farrell:

That the May 2020 disbursements statement be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

**HEALTH AND SAFETY
RETURN TO SCHOOL**

Manager of Operations and Maintenance, Mr. Darby Gildersleeve reported that it has been quite an undertaking to create the safety plan and protocols for the district surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Creation involved collaboration with three different agencies and includes risk assessments, health checks, and school bus protocols. Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Ray McDonald added that it is a very extensive document (now posted on our website) and follows all the steps taken to ensure a safe and welcoming workplace/schools. Mr. McDonald stated that this document was instrumental in getting people back to the schools where they can see it was safe to return.

**ANNUAL BUDGET BYLAW
FOR 2020/21 (3 Readings
required)**

Board Chair Wishart asked for approval from all trustees to complete all three readings on this item at this meeting. The Board was in agreement.

34/20

Field/Cann:
That the Annual Budget Bylaw for 2020-2021 receive its first reading.

CARRIED

35/20

Field/Cann:
That the Annual Budget Bylaw for 2020-2021 receive its second reading.

CARRIED

36/20

Field/Cann:
That the Annual Budget Bylaw for 2020-2021 receive its third and final reading.

CARRIED

CAPITAL PLAN

Mr. McDonald advised that there are two sections to the capital plan, the first one being the Annual Facilities Grant at \$718,318 which has been submitted. Mr. Gildersleeve advised that the major items for Annual Facilities Grant include: new floors for Eagle View and Sunset Elementary School gyms, heater replacements at Cheslakees Elementary and the main switch at AJ Elliott Elementary as well as some flooring and tree removal. Mr. McDonald added that there are internet issues at AJ Elliott as Telus does not have fiber optic in Sointula with no future plans to install and the hardwired copper lines are maxed out. One option is for the district to put a line of site tower from Sunset to AJ Elliott requiring some tree removal but would solve the issue and give ample capacity. The second part of the tree removal is that some of the trees at our schools throughout the district are a danger and need to be removed.

The second section is the Major Capital Plan for 2021-2022 where the district was asked to put forward a list of the major items. The approval level of what is selected will not be known until next spring. Mr. Gildersleeve reported that he was asked to additionally submit all outstanding seismic work in the active schools. North Island Secondary has a dollar figure that was not included in last years' plan was added along with three other schools without dollar figures. Also on the capital plan is a request for a new playground in Alert Bay. There is currently no dollar figure on the playground as it is tentative on what the Ministry allocates for it. Moving from second on the list last year to first this year, is the renovation for the Port Hardy Secondary Metal Shop so it can

safely house a full class. Mr. McDonald added that there is also a roof repair at North Island Secondary just over one million dollars.

ENROLLMENT/STAFFING

Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Christina MacDonald referred to the projected enrollment numbers in the Board Package noting that projections are currently at 1267 which is down by 31 from the current year. She advised that final numbers in September will be looked at and a reassessment will be completed. Ms. MacDonald stated that one teacher has been laid off and reposted in a temporary position and that she is still working on recruitment with three postings currently out and all others having been filled.

**POLICY COMMITTEE
REPORT
37/20**

Field/Farrell:
That PM 5-90 Provision of Menstrual Products to Students receive 3rd reading.

CARRIED

38/20

Field/Farrell:
That PM 5-120 Smoke Free Environment receive 2nd and 3rd readings.

CARRIED

39/20

Field/Farrell:
That PM 2-72 Criminal Records Review Process receive approval of housekeeping changes.

CARRIED

**TRUSTEE SHARING
BCPSEA**

Trustee Field advised that all information he has received from BCPSEA has been forwarded, however there was a glitch with the images when forwarded. He advised a text was sent out to everyone with an update on the ratification of contract with the BCTF. Trustee Field also noted that the teacher magazine for May/June has a good article on the ratification of the contract

Trustee Field shared a quote from the teacher's magazine on page 7 "In a world of algorithms, hashtags and followers, know the true importance of human connection"

BCSTA

Trustee Prescott advised there is nothing to report from BCSTA.

FNEC

Trustee Hunter reported that FNEC scheduled meetings have been completed including an extra meeting held to consider the How Are We Doing report noting it was well attended with good discussions.

STUDENT TRUSTEE

There were no Student Trustees present.

DPAC REPRESENTATIVE

There was no DPAC Representative present.

VINTA REPRESENTATIVE

There was no VINTA Representative present.

CUPE REPRESENTATIVE

There was no CUPE Representative present.

ADJOURNMENT
29/20

Prescott:

That the regular meeting of June 8, 2020 be adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

CARRIED

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer