

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

September 11, 2017

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 6:00 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Jeff Field, Trustee
Eric Hunter, Trustee
Werner Manke, Trustee
Carol Prescott, Trustee
Danita Schmidt, Trustee
Leightan Wishart, Trustee
Lyn Skrlac, Trustee

WELCOME

Chairperson Wishart opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional territories of the Kwakiutl First Nation and the Kwak'waka speaking peoples.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES
50/17**

Schmidt/Hunter:
That the minutes of the June 12, 2017 meeting be adopted.
CARRIED

**ADDITIONS TO THE
AGENDA**

Chamber of Commerce Nomination
K-12 Compliance Audit
Coal Harbour School
Field Trip Request
Enrollment Report

**ADOPTION OF
AGENDA
51/17**

Schmidt/Skrlac:
That the agenda be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

**BCSSA SUMMER
LEADERSHIP
ACADEMY**

The Acting Superintendent, Ms. Carol Robertson, presented messages given by the new Deputy Minister of Education, Mr. Scott MacDonald, at the BCSSA Summer Leadership Academy.

SHORT COURSE

Ms. Robertson reported to the Board that a four and a half day intensive course was attended by Mr. Doug Abbot with a focus on technology; ethics; coding; and mental health.

**CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
NOMINATION**

Ms. Robertson announced that the Port Hardy Chamber of Commerce had received a nomination for SD85 in the category of "Workplace of the Year". There is a dinner and presentation on September 30th.

**DISBURSEMENTS
52/17**

Field/Hunter:
That the June, July, and August 2017 disbursement statements be approved.
CARRIED

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2016-17

The Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. John Martin, explained that the Committee of the Whole meeting held earlier in the evening was the Audit Committee meeting. He noted that the independent external auditor, Mr. Aaron Daur had presented the audit findings report and went over the highlights of the financial statements at the Audit Committee meeting. Mr. Martin expressed his appreciation for the work of the office staff during the audit.

53/17

Field/Hunter:

That the Audited Financial 2016/17 statements be approved.

CARRIED

SUMMER CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Manger of Operations & Maintenance, Mr. Darby Gildersleeve, informed the Board about some of the summer projects happening within the school district and expressed his appreciation for the excellent work of maintenance staff and contractors.

TRUSTEE ELECTORAL AREAS REVIEW

Mr. Martin informed the Board that the Ministry of Education is conducting a review of trustee electoral areas and it had found some irregularities in a few districts, including SD85. There are issues with the boundary between Area 1 and Area 3. The Quatsino community should be in Area 1, not Area 3. Lots in and adjacent to Port McNeill should be in Area 3 and not Area 1. A consultation process leading to a correction of the issues has commenced, and it is hoped that the matter is resolved prior to the 2018 School Trustee Elections.

54/17

Manke/Hunter

That the proposed changes to Electoral Areas 1 and 3 be approved by the Board as they reflect the intentions of the Board when the new areas were approved by the Board in 2012.

CARRIED

K-12 COMPLIANCE AUDIT

Mr. Martin reported that the Ministry of Education has decided to reduce SD85's funding by \$14,821 due to the recent enrollment audit at NISS and EMXLC. An appeal was filed and subsequently rejected by Ministry staff. The reduction in funding will be allocated over two years.

COAL HARBOUR SCHOOL

Mr. Martin informed the Board that Mr. Andrew Hory, Regional Director, and representative of the Coal Harbour Community Club, had notified the Board that the lease for CHES would be terminated on December 31, 2017. Mr. Hory thanked the Board for its support over the many years the school had been used by the community. Mr. Martin noted that a determination would need to be made regarding the building. Discussions ensued on various options. Mr. Darby Gildersleeve, Manager of Operations & Maintenance, will prepare a report on the building for the next Board meeting, after consulting with the Regional District of Mount Waddington.

FIELD TRIP REQUEST The Acting Director of Instruction, Ms. Christina MacDonald, presented a field trip request for 30 students from Eke Me-Xi Learning Centre and 8 adults to take a day trip on the Naiad. Funding includes a grant from First Peoples and support by the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations. Ms. MacDonald reviewed the safety precautions and curriculum objectives. The date would be during the week of October 2 to 6, dependent on the weather. Trustee Hunter asked who has the final say with regards to weather, and Ms. MacDonald responded that the principal makes that decision.

55/17

Field/Prescott:
That the Field Trip request be approved.

CARRIED

**ENROLLMENT
REPORT**

Ms. MacDonald informed the Board that as of September 8, 2017 the student enrollment is down 22 from projections. Trustee Field asked if adults who graduated are coming back to upgrade and also asked about graduation program courses. Ms. MacDonald responded that we have not received that specific data from schools yet.

TRUSTEE SHARING

Trustee Schmidt attended the Eke Me-Xi Learning Centre Graduation ceremony in June and in her opinion it was very inspiring. She recommended that all trustees should attend the next one. Trustee Schmidt attended the CSBA meeting in Whistler. She stated there were great keynote speakers and she took steps to help alleviate costs.

Trustee Prescott also praised the Eke Me-Xi Learning Centre graduation ceremony. She stated that the previous Friday, Sea View students were harvesting honey from the school bee hives and harvesting produce from the school garden. Parents and students attended to both over the summer, helping to make it a successful program.

Chairperson Wishart also attended the Sea View School's harvesting and stated the potato beds were impressive.

Trustee Field commented on his attendance at the Recognition of Service awards at two schools. One school had him present the awards and the other had him there to watch. He was concerned about what his role is as a trustee at this event and stated it is nice to be involved.

Trustee Skrlac let trustees know that her knee surgery is booked for October 2, 2017 and for the October board meeting she will be teleconferencing in. Trustee Schmidt added that she may not be able to attend the in-camera meeting in October.

**DPAC
REPRESENTATIVE**

There was no DPAC report.

**CUPE
REPRESENTATIVE**

There was no CUPE report.

**VINTA
REPRESENTATIVE**

VINTA President, Shawn Gough reported there are 13 new teachers hired, he has now met them all in person. Mr. Gough stated that the provincial government has announced a projected \$177 million increase to education funding this year, meaning approximately \$320 extra per student. He estimated that would mean about an extra \$427,000 would be coming to SD85. Mr. Gough also spoke to how the FSA testing will be a major topic at the BCTF meeting in the coming week. With the change of government, BCTF is hoping that school identification will be masked. If it will not be masked, the BCTF will be withdrawing its support.

**ADJOURNMENT
56/17**

Schmidt:

That the regular meeting of September 11, 2017 be adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

CARRIED

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer