

Board of Education Meeting (open to the public)

Minutes



Board of Education Meeting
September 20, 2016 6:30 pm
Fraserview Learning Centre, 32444 Seventh Avenue, Mission, BC

Members Present:

Chair Rick McKamey
Vice-Chair Tracy Loffler
Trustee Randy Cairns
Trustee Shelley Carter
Trustee Jim Taylor

Staff Present:

Superintendent Angus Wilson
Secretary Treasurer Corien Becker
Assistant Superintendent Larry Jepsen
Assistant Secretary Treasurer Derek Welsh
Executive Assistant Tracy Orobko (Recorder)

Guests:

Heidi Owen, CPA, CA, Senior Manager, KPMG

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. by the Board Chairperson. The Chair acknowledged that we are on unceded ancestral territory of the Sto:lo people and that our School District is on Kwantlen, Leq'a:mel, Matsqui and Scowlitz territories.

2. Adoption of Agenda

One Item was added:

- 4.1 Property Disposition – Cade Barr, Durieu, Nicomen, Stave Falls – *Handout Provided*

MOTION (TL/SC)

THAT the Agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION (TL/RC)

THAT the Board of Education meeting minutes of June 21, 2016, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Reporting Out From In-Camera Meeting

Property Disposition – Cade Barr, Durieu, Nicomen, Stave Falls

The Secretary Treasurer introduced the item referring to a handout provided. A key component in maintaining school sites is the long term educational purposes. It is the Secretary Treasurer's recommendation to that the two properties, Cade Barr and Nicomen, be offered for disposition immediately.

Stave Falls: Significant expressions of interest have been received. Concerns with growth population and community use for the area have been expressed. As it may be required for education purposes in future, (students returning from Maple Ridge), and population growth, it has been determined to retain the site at present. It has further been determined that a review is to be held as well as conversations with the District of Mission and School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows).

Durieu: Majority of comments received encourage community use for the facility. There is also a water source on the property. Prior to returning to the Board with a recommendation, staff feel it is prudent to enter into conversations with the Fraser Valley Regional District.

The next step is conducting due diligence of the Board.

MOTION (TL/SC)

THAT the Board of Education authorize the issuance of a Request for Offers for the disposition of the following properties:

1. Nicomen Island School, 40071 Nicomen Island Trunk Road, Lot 4, Plan NWP29588, Part SW ¼, District Lot 474, Section 36, Township 20, Group 1, New Westminster Land District PID 009-023-623;
2. Cade Barr School, 33447 Dewdney Trunk Road, Parcel A, Lot 1, Plan NWP2184, Section 28, Township 17, New Westminster Land District, PID 012-547-565;

AND THAT the Board of Education authorize staff to enter into discussions with the District of Mission and the School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) regarding potential disposition or use of the Stave Falls Elementary School for community use or educational purposes and provide a report to the Board on the discussion and potential options;

AND THAT the Board of Education authorize staff to enter into discussions with the Fraser Valley Regional District regarding the potential disposition of the Durieu Elementary School for community use, and provide a report to the Board on the discussion and potential options.

CARRIED (Opposed: Trustee Cairns)

5. Superintendent of Schools

School Opening Report

The Superintendent reported on:

- ~~New Senior Team — June; Staff has been welcoming and supportive;~~
- Enrolment is up approximately 140 students overall - almost entirely at elementary level. The growth is at a sustainable level however, unevenly distributed;
- Busing announcement: Modest Government funding; buses are operating at capacity level; reminder that registration is still required although fees are not;
- Thanked the District team for a smooth startup;
- The District will be reviewing assessment and changing models of assessment;
- Road safety; commended staff for supporting the two students involved in recent injury incidents;
- Sept. 30 Orange Shirt Day – Commensuration of impact of residential schools (Heritage Park Middle School). Reminder: This is not a celebration but a remembrance ceremony.

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6. Audit

2015-2016 Audited Financial Statements – KPMG in Attendance

The Secretary Treasurer provided an overview of the statements. The School District has received a clean audit report.

Key points: Analysis and Impact (page 7). The District has managed to secure more cash in the bank to manage liabilities.

The Secretary Treasurer further reviewed the annual operating surplus, accumulated operating surplus, and contingency boundaries. Once the Board approves the statements, Auditors can issue their audit letter and the statements can be submitted to the Ministry of Education.

The Secretary Treasurer and Board members thanked Assistant Secretary Treasurer, Derek Welsh, and his financial team.

MOTION (SC/TL)

THAT the draft 2015 / 2016 Financial Statements be accepted; and

THAT the final 2015 / 2016 Financial Statements including the audit report be submitted to the Ministry of Education.

CARRIED

7. Education

Governance/Board Meeting Proceedings

The Secretary Treasurer wishes to hold a meeting with the Board and partner groups on at the School Board Office on Tuesday, September 27, 2016, at 3:30 – 5:30 pm. A complete review of meeting procedures will be conducted. The Agenda will be posted to the School District website. The meeting will be open to the public.

MOTION (JT/RC)

THAT the Board of Education receive the Secretary Treasurer's report on Board Governance and Operations Procedure dated September 20, 2016 for information.

CARRIED

Budget Timelines

The Secretary Treasurer reported on budget activities and the development of a guide to assist with the amended and preliminary budget processes.

MOTION (TL/JT)

THAT the Board of Education receive the Secretary Treasurer's proposed timelines for information.

CARRIED

Five Year Capital Plan

The Secretary Treasurer reported on the Five Year Capital Plan which will assist with long range planning.

MOTION (SC/JT)

THAT the Five Year Capital Plan dated September 20, 2016 be approved; and

THAT the Five Year Capital Plan be submitted to the Ministry of Education for consideration.

CARRIED

Ministry of Education Clarification – Seismic Mitigation Funding

The Secretary Treasurer reported on school utilization rates and seismic upgrades. Correspondence from BC School Trustees' Association Chair, Teresa Rezansoff, was attached to the Agenda.

Student Transportation Funding

The Secretary Treasurer indicated staff has been reviewing the proposed funding announcement in August and analyzing how that would be used. Eliminating busing fees has negatively impacted the School District. Buses are now exceeding capacity and an additional bus is now required. The Manager of Transportation has been trying to schedule routes with minimal operation impact. Staff is in the process of drafting a report for the Ministry of Education.

MOTION (TL/JT)

THAT the Board of Education communicate to the Ministry of Education the actual cost impact of the student transportation funding and in no way addresses the actual cost of transportation in our School District.

CARRIED

The Board agreed to write a letter to the Ministry of Education indicating the cost implications of the Ministry's announcement and expectations.

MOTION (JT/TL)

THAT the Board of Education receive for information the Secretary Treasurer's report on Student Transportation Funding dated September 20, 2016.

CARRIED

District Parent Advisory Council Update

The Chair referred to the report in the Agenda.

DPAC is pleased to present Dr. Charles Ungerleider at the Clarke Theatre on November 28, 2016, at 7:00 pm. Free child care will be provided.

8. Business

Exempt Staff Compensation Scale – Transition Plan

The Secretary Treasurer reported that during summer months, BC Public School Employers' Association communicated School Districts have approval from PSEC to grant compensation to the Exempt staff. The majority of Principals and Vice-Principals are earning less than scale. Four (4) Exempt staff are below step '0' of salary ranges. The School District must now move into a transition plan submission and staff recommends Option 3 in the Agenda. At this point, the School District does not have authorization to move staff through the grid and will be receiving instructions in the next few months.

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MOTION (SC/TL)

THAT the Salary Ranges for Principals and Vice Principals, Effective August 1st, 2016 be approved; and

THAT the Salary Ranges for Excluded Staff, Effective July 1st, 2016 be approved; and

THAT the Exempt Staff Compensation Transition Plan Option #3 for Mission Public School District be submitted to BCPSEA for review and approval.

Trustee Taylor proposed an amendment to Option #3 (original wording is *italicized*):

“This option will allocate most of the increased costs between two school years, with incremental increases of no more than 5% in July 2017 (*from no year indicated*) each year for exempt staff and August for principals and vice principals, and a final adjustment in January 2019 (*from 2018*) for exempt staff and February for principals and vice principals. All adjustments that are less than \$1,000 are to be paid in full in 2017 (*from 2016*).”

MOTION (RC/JT)

THAT the Board of Education refer the matter to a future meeting of the Board.

MOTION FAILED (Opposed: Five Trustees)

AMENDMENT

MOTION (JT/) No seconder

THAT the Salary Ranges for Principals and Vice-Principals, Effective August 1st, 2016 be approved; and

THAT the Salary Ranges for Excluded Staff, Effective July 1st, 2016 be approved; and

THAT the Exempt Staff Compensation Transition Plan Option #3 as amended, for Mission Public School District be submitted to BCPSEA for review and approval.

MOTION FAILED

MOTION (SC/TL)

THAT the Salary Ranges for Principals and Vice Principals, Effective August 1st, 2016 be approved; and

THAT the Salary Ranges for Excluded Staff, Effective July 1st, 2016 be approved; and

THAT the Exempt Staff Compensation Transition Plan Option #3 for Mission Public School District be submitted to BCPSEA for review and approval.

CARRIED (Opposed: Trustee Taylor)

There has been a significant freeze across the board for exempt employees. Attracting and retaining staff is difficult due to our size.

In summary, the scale is approved; the transition plan has yet to be submitted.

MOTION (TL/) No seconder

THAT the Board of Education direct staff to draft an Exempt Staff Compensation and Benefits Policy, incorporating the compensation scales submitted by BCPSEA, and return it to the Board for future discussion and approval.

MOTION FAILED

Banking Resolution

MOTION (JT/TL)

THAT the Banking Resolution between the Bank of Nova Scotia for Account No 03020 05604 13 (Summit Learning Centre) dated September 20, 2016 be approved; and

THAT the Banking Resolution between the Bank of Nova Scotia for all other general banking purposes dated September 20, 2016 be approved.

CARRIED

Committee/Trustee Reports

Trustees reported on:

- Fraserview's walking trail ground breaking;
- A visit to Riverside College and the International Education program;
- Aboriginal Education: Reconciliation and "Truth";
- Strategic Planning day of the Board;
- Thanked staff for the Mission Secondary Commencement in June;
- Mission Community Garden project at Mission Central;
- Principal/Vice-Principal Summer hirings/interviews;
- Fraser Valley BCSTA Branch Chair/Elections Engagement Committee: Trustee Carter;
- Dewdney wetlands;
- Deroche waterways with the painted turtle and working with the Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans.

9. Question Period

Questions asked must be related to items discussed on the Agenda and related to the Agenda. Personnel, land and legal issues will not be discussed.

A question was asked regarding pay increases to exempt staff; requested the Board write a letter for the \$6500 busing and half million cost for wages.

A question was asked for the Board to write a letter to BCPSEA suggesting CUPE's interest in a wage reopener to review wage parity: losing custodians from the School District to Municipal. It was acknowledged that 6K student District compared to 30K - difference in pay. A question was asked as to who sits on the BCPSEA committee that makes this decision. Answer: An outside source was used. It was also acknowledged that the Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer do not receive increases.

A question was asked regarding the increase of 140 students and how it equates to in teaching and support staff time? The Superintendent indicated he will send an email with information regarding staffing. The School District is still waiting for final numbers after 1701s are filed.

A question was asked if schools were being closed schools would the District still be giving significant wages? The Superintendent responded smaller Districts are struggling closing schools and having to meet salary adjustments.

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A question was asked regarding busing, increased ridership and monitors. Are students at risk? The Secretary Treasurer indicated that as the school year started, the plan was to have monitors in place to control and moderate behavior.

A question was asked regarding busing and if ridership has increased with kids moving back because busing is free to which it was responded that the District has not made that correlation.

A question was asked regarding busing options and elimination of fees to which the Superintendent responded the School District has an obligation to provide transportation to your local school and that if a student takes something somewhere else, they have to pay.

A question was asked if bus ridership continues to increase, what will happen next year? Will parents line up waiting for seats? The Board Chair responded with what was presented this year is for this year. With not charging, the District has higher ridership. The process will have to be reviewed. Hopefully in six months the District will have a better idea.

10. Adjournment

MOTION (SC/JT)

THAT the meeting adjourn at 8:47 pm.

CARRIED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott D. Henry".

Chairperson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. B."

Secretary Treasurer