

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 36 (SURREY) HELD IN ROOM #2020 OF THE DISTRICT EDUCATION CENTRE ON THURSDAY, May 15th, 2014 at 7:00 P.M.

IN ATTENDANCE

Trustees

S. Wilson, Chairperson
L. Larsen, Vice Chairperson
T. Allen
C. Dobie
L. McNally

Staff

Dr. J. Tinney, Superintendent
W. Noye, Secretary-Treasurer
R. Ryan, Deputy Superintendent
K. Botsford, Executive Assistant

Absent

P. Glass
R. Masi

[1] **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Presenters & Staff:

In addition to the Table Officers named above, the following staff were in attendance at the meeting:

Simon Ayres, Associate Director Fiscal Management Services; Jennifer Callaghan, Energy Ambassadors Program Coordinator, BC Hydro School Programs; Jennifer Janzen, Administrative Assistant; Alasdair Mackinnon, Director, Energy Management and Sustainability; Kerry Magnus, Associate Director, Business Management Services; Doug Strachan, Manager, Communication Services.

(a) **"O Canada"**

Trustees, Administration and the audience sang "O Canada" accompanied by a recording by Lena Shaw Elementary students.

(b) Approval of Agenda of Regular Board Meeting

It was moved by Trustee McNally seconded by Trustee Allen:

THAT the agenda of the Regular Board meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

(c) Presentation - Student Ambassadors, Energy Conservation and Sustainability – Jennifer Callaghan

Jennifer Callaghan, Energy Ambassador's Coordinator, BC Hydro School Programs provided Trustees with information regarding the Energy Ambassadors program and introduced the following student ambassador's to address the Board:

Enver Creek Secondary, Lovdeep Singh, Mandeash Grewal; Johnston Heights Secondary, Estela Lauron, Farahnas Mohammad, Alfons Rimando, Shesha Adikari; Queen Elizabeth Secondary, Maryam Imran, Waseeta Tanweer, Johnny Nyugen, Simran Gill, Nitika Bassi; Semiahmoo Secondary, Ayush Bansal, Tina Zheng; Frank Hurt Secondary, Shery Sandhu, Harsuman Benipal, Balroop Gill; and Tamanawis Secondary, Prabjot Bamrah, Amandeep Bamrah.

The students outlined the various energy saving activities that they had introduced in their schools over the previous year. Accomplishments were highlighted and in addition, the ambassadors presented their school's energy saving goals for the future. Schools had reached out to Grade 7 students and elementary schools to engage them in energy savings as well. They are looking for support from the Board, administration, teachers and students.

Chairperson Wilson thanked the group on behalf of the Board, for their insightful presentations and their continued efforts towards energy conservation throughout the district. He also mentioned that the interaction with the elementary schools was very important as the younger students are very interested in care for the environment.

Trustees expressed their support for the work the Ambassadors do and for the difference Energy Ambassadors make by saving the district money every year. Trustees during the budget process are very aware of correlation between energy savings and monetary savings. They thanked the group for their hard work, for their influence in the district and expressed their support for the program.

Trustees expressed their appreciation for the teacher sponsors and Alasdair MacKinnon, Director of Energy Management and Sustainability was acknowledged for his work in supporting the program and in the district. Mr. Mackinnon will be retiring at the end of August and Mr. Noye thanked him for his many contributions to the district and for successfully engaging students in energy management. Mr. Mackinnon was chosen to work in the Energy Management area as he was a teacher and an administrator rather than a business person. He has done an exemplary job and the energy savings programs have continued to build under his leadership.

[2] **DELEGATIONS**

(a) French Immersion Parents – Douglas McCall

Erin Miller and Douglas McCall reported that parents are concerned about French Immersion in Surrey. On May 14th parents met to discuss the lack of space in the district for French Immersion. Mr. McCall presented facts regarding the financial funding for French Immersion. They would like to see a proven method to grow French Immersion in the district. They mentioned that there are 150 families who were left out of the program due to lack of space and are on wait lists. The communication with waitlisted families has been poor and people on the waitlist do not know where they stand. Improved communication, action and answers to requests for information were requested.

(b) Montessori Parents – Sandy More

Ms. More, PAC President, Mountainview Montessori Elementary, expressed concern regarding the potential restructuring of Montessori classrooms due to budget cut backs. She gave an overview of the program and the classroom groupings currently in place and mentioned that all students would be affected by the restructuring of classrooms and the illumination of a Grade 7 class. She stated that there are 80 families (375 students) who drive to the school and who are committed to the teachers and the Montessori program. Ms. More pointed out that the loss of a teacher would compromise the integrity of the program. She presented the Board with a petition with 282 signatures on it requesting that the Surrey School District continue to support the current structure at Mountainview Montessori Elementary.

[3] **ACTION ITEMS**

(a) Adoption of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting Held 2014-04-10

It was moved by Trustee Allen, seconded by Trustee McNally:

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held 2014-04-10 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

(b) Carbon Neutral Action Report - 2013

It was moved by Trustee Dobie, seconded by Trustee McNally:

THAT, the Board approve the 2013 Carbon Neutral Action Report and a copy of the report be submitted to the Ministry of Education prior to 2014-05-30.

CARRIED

(c) Statement of Operating Fund Expenditures – Nine Months Ended 2014-03-31

It was moved by Trustee Allen, seconded by Trustee Larsen:

THAT the Board accept the Statement of Operating Fund Expenditures for the nine (9) months ended 2014-03-31, as presented.

CARRIED

(d) Interim Financial Report – Special Purpose Funds – Nine Months Ended 2014-03-31

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Allen:

THAT the Board accept the Special Purpose Fund Schedules for the nine (9) months ended 2014-03-31, as presented.

CARRIED

(e) Recommended External Auditors Appointment

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Larsen:

THAT the firm of Grant Thornton LLP be appointed as External Auditors for the Financial Statement Audit services, commencing 2014-2015 fiscal year, and the Board's signing officers be authorized to execute an agreement with the firm.

CARRIED

(f) Acknowledging Traditional Territory Protocols

It was moved by Trustee Larsen, seconded by Trustee Dobie:

THAT the Board of Education endorse the Aboriginal Education Council's Protocols for Acknowledging Traditional Territory.

CARRIED

[4] **INFORMATION & PROPOSALS**

(a) Trustee Reports

Trustees reported on their activities since the last Board meeting.

(b) Progress Report – Active Capital Projects

Trustees received a progress report on Active Capital Projects.

(c) Incoming Correspondence

There were no correspondence items requiring Trustees' attention.

[5] **FUTURE BUSINESS**

(a) Items for Future Discussion

The Trustees noted topics requiring discussion by the Board in the future, outlined on the agenda administrative memorandum schedule.

(b) Future Meetings

Trustees made note of future meetings outlined on the agenda administrative memorandum schedule.

[6] **QUESTION PERIOD**

An informal question period of up to 30 minutes will be provided immediately following the conclusion of the meeting.

[7] **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Dobie:

THAT the Regular meeting of the Board be adjourned at 9:08 p.m.
CARRIED

S. Wilson
Chairperson

W. Noye
Secretary-Treasurer

WDN/kb