



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 46 (SUNSHINE COAST)**

Held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016
At the School Board Office, Gibsons, B.C.

PRESENT: **TRUSTEES:** B. Baxter (Chair), D. Mewhort, L. Dixon, L. Pratt, P. Ruth,
C. Younghusband, W. Henley (Student Trustee)

STAFF: P. Bocking, Superintendent of Schools
V. White, Director of Instruction
N. Weswick, Secretary-Treasurer
E. Reimer, Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

REGRETS: Trustee G. Russell

#51. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Baxter acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the traditional territory of the Squamish Nation on International Women's Day.

#52. Presentations:

a. Celebrating Education: Working with Wood to Celebrate SD46

District Principal Kerry Mahlman shared the story behind the school district logo, created by former school district employee, Bradley Hunt. District Principal Mahlman indicated that the raven carrying the sun in his beak symbolizes enlightenment, work and sacrifice.

Bill Clarke, a recently retired woodworking teacher from Elphinstone Secondary, and two students, Charlie Richards (grade 11) and Brendan Swanson-Wolansky (grade 12), presented their reproductions of the district logo. The students, under the direction of Mr. Clarke, helped to create the logos using a CNC machine in the Elphinstone wood working shop. Several reproductions have been made in two sizes and will be distributed to schools throughout the district. Mr. Richards And Mr. Swanson-Wolansky shared their enthusiasm for the project and their pride in being able to see their work at schools in the future.

#53. Public Question Period

- A member of the press asked for clarification on a rumor regarding a district school. Superintendent Bocking confirmed that it was indeed a rumor.

#54. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: Pratt/Ruth

“THAT the agenda of March 8, 2016 be adopted.”

Carried.

#55. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings and Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings

MOTION: Mewhort/Younghusband

“THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 9, 2016 and the Record of the Closed Meeting of February 9, 2016 be adopted.”

Carried.

#56. Reports

a. Executive Reports

i. Strategic Plan Update:

1. Goal 1.c. – Math

Superintendent Bocking spoke to his written report and shared data which indicates improvement for mathematics competency at both the elementary and secondary levels. Information was provided regarding a partnership with the Sunshine Coast Credit Union to help provide financial literacy skills to secondary students. The district is establishing a math committee to further review competency data and to provide strategies to meet the strategic plan goal.

2. Goal 2.a. – Leaders

Director Bishop spoke to his written report and highlighted the K-12 Innovation Partnership awards that were granted to six schools in the district. Additional information was shared regarding the Non-Instructional Day scheduled for March 29, 2016.

3. Goal 2.h. – Safe and Healthy Schools

Director Bishop highlighted the next steps listed in his written report, which include health fairs taking place at three secondary schools, the “Out in Schools” and TCO2 presentations in late February, and his attendance at a recent Ministry workshop on Emergency Preparedness.

4. Goal 3.c. – International Students

Director Bishop reported on the status of the International Education program. He highlighted many of the activities that international students experience while visiting the district.

ii. Superintendent’s Report

The report was provided as written. Superintendent Bocking reported that the musical theater production of “Into the Woods, Junior” was well received by audience members and that students were well trained and highly skilled, thanks to the leadership of Sara Douglas and Tom Kellough.

Superintendent Bocking indicated that Environmental Education Committee has provided information to all schools with suggestions for environmental activities and initiatives for the month of April.

Student Trustee Henley reported that secondary students are interested in seeing band scheduled in the timetable.

Trustees requested additional information on FreshGrade and shared feedback from students and parents using the application.

1. 2016/17 School Calendar

Director Bishop presented the 2016/17 School Calendar for adoption.

MOTION: Younghusband/Mewhort

“THAT the 2016/17 School Calendar be adopted”

Carried.

Director Bishop indicated that a survey would be distributed to parents and stakeholder groups after the two-week spring break in order to determine the impacts of the lengthened break.

iii. Secretary-Treasurer’s Report

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick shared community interest in discussing the quality of fields on the Sunshine Coast and reported on the status of school fields. He also reported that a number of schools are working on creating gardens. A license agreement has been developed for community schools interested in maintaining a community garden on school sites. Gibsons Elementary, Roberts Creek Elementary, Madeira Park Elementary and Davis Bay Elementary have expressed interest in developing community gardens or greenhouses at their sites.

Trustees discussed the report on school fields and previous local initiatives for an all weather playing field.

1. Larger Cheques Written in the Month of February 2016

The report was submitted as written.

2. Expenditures by Object

The report was submitted as written.

b. Board/Committee Reports

i. Board Report

The report was submitted as written. Chair Baxter led trustees in a mindfulness exercise and reported back on the recent mindfulness session with Dr. Guptka and Mr. Skene. Additionally, Chair Baxter reported that the South Coast Branch meeting was well received by participants.

MOTION: Dixon/Mewhort

“THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) forward letters of appreciation and acknowledgement to senior staff for their excellent work in the district.”

Carried.

1. Student Trustee/DSLIT Report

Student Trustee Henley reported on efforts at Chatelech Secondary and Elphinstone Secondary to encourage eco-friendly and energy conscious efforts, including a planned reduction in energy use during Spirit Week and efforts to create a composting program at Elphinstone Secondary.

Student Trustee Henley indicated that the two-week spring break has allowed for students to participate in organized school trips over the break without losing any schooling. He reported that many grade 12 students are pleased to have the extra time to work on scholarship applications.

2. BCSTA Report

Trustee Mewhort shared information from the Provincial Council meeting that he attended in February and highlighted the following:

- BCSTA will not have a dues increase in the coming year,
- Results of the 2014 ombudsperson report as it pertains to school boards,
- Plans for a trustee learning and recognition program to celebrate professional development achieved through BCSTA functions,
- Shared the disposition of motions carried at the AGM.

Chair Baxter reported that BCSTA is requesting feedback from school boards on the Co-Governance Memorandum of Understanding that was signed with the ministry.

MOTION: Pratt/Younghusband

“TO move to a Committee of the Whole.”

Carried.

Trustees engaged in a fulsome conversation and provided preliminary feedback to the questions posed in the survey.

MOTION: Pratt/Ruth

“TO move out of a Committee of the Whole.”

Carried.

Chair Baxter indicated that the feedback would be drafted into a response and available at the April board meeting for further discussion prior to submitting to BCSTA.

3. BCPSEA Report

Trustee Younghusband provided a report.

4. DPAC Report

A recap of the meeting was included in the agenda package. Information was shared regarding the FORCE Parent in Resident, providing supports for families of children with mental health issues.

ii. Operations Committee Notes – February 18, 2016

The meeting notes were submitted as written.

iii. Committee of the Whole Notes – February 23, 2016

The meeting notes were submitted as written. The meeting notes will be corrected to indicate that Trustee Baxter chaired the meeting.

MOTION: Younghusband/Pratt

“THAT the Board initiate an annual community recognition event and/or award to celebrate inspiration.”

Carried.

iv. Policy Committee Notes – February 23, 2016

The meeting notes were submitted as written.

v. Education Committee Notes – February 24, 2016

The meeting notes were submitted as written.

MOTION: Pratt/Ruth
“TO receive the reports.”

Carried.

#57. Questions and Enquiries from the Public Relating to the Board Meeting

- A member of the audience commented on a statement from the Secretary-Treasurer’s report and asked for clarification on the status of the dedicated staff for field maintenance. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick provided a response.
- A member of the audience shared concerns regarding the 2016/17 school calendar and the loss of pay to some CUPE members due to the two-week spring break. Chair Baxter shared information regarding ministry timelines for submission of school calendars.

#58. Next Meeting

The next public board meeting will be held on April 12, 2016.

MOTION: Younghusband/Pratt
“TO approve the committee agendas.”

Carried.

#59. Adjournment

MOTION:
The meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Carried.



Chair



Secretary-Treasurer