



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 67 (OKANAGAN SKAHA)



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2007, AT 7:30 P.M.
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE

L. Little, Chair
G. Manning, Vice Chair
K. Andrews, Trustee
W. Huebert, Trustee
L. Van Alphen, Trustee

G. Doi, Superintendent of Schools
F. Regehr, Secretary-Treasurer
D. Burgoyne, Director of Instruction
L. Hauptman, Director of Instruction
G. Schafer, Director of Instruction
J. Hickling, Director of Maintenance
D. Adey, Executive Secretary

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Little welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Andrews/Van Alphen that the agenda and addendum be approved.

CARRIED

3.0 PRESENTATIONS BY SCHOOLS AND/OR STUDENTS

3.1 Penticton Secondary and Summerland Secondary Schools

Students from Penticton Secondary and Summerland Secondary Schools, accompanied by Vice Principal Sandra Richardson and teachers Tom Brickenden and Cathy Brickenden, participated in the recent Vimy Ridge 90th Anniversary Celebrations in France. Only two students, Mark Theilmann and Lindsey Richardson, were available at the board meeting to present highlights of their participation in the ceremonies. They presented a slide show and spoke to the Board about their experience. It was noted that Mark Theilmann was one of five students chosen from all students participating to read the tribute he had written to one of the veterans as part of the ceremonies.

Following a number of questions, appreciation was extended to the group for their presentation.

4.0 RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS AND GUESTS

5.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

MOTION: Huebert/Manning that the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 12, 2007 be approved.

CARRIED

6.0 REPORT FROM CLOSED MEETINGS

The secretary-treasurer reported on the closed meetings held on March 12 and 13, 2007:

Regular Meeting held on March 12, 2007:

1. Received correspondence;
2. Received reports from the buildings, grounds, safety, and transportation committee and discipline committee;
3. Confirmed teaching, excluded, and CUPE staff changes;
4. Approved arrangements with the City of Penticton related to upgrade of and access to school district fields;
5. Approved requests for teacher leaves of absence;
6. Received information on student suspensions;
7. Received information related to StrongStart centres;
8. Received information regarding a meeting of the Okanagan Labour Relations Council;
9. Received information related to the CUPE Collective Agreement. (*Declaring a possible conflict of interest, Trustee Little left the meeting for discussion of this topic.*)

Special Closed Meeting held on March 13, 2007:

1. Considered a request from the City of Penticton regarding the Penticton Secondary School site development.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**7.1 Letter from Citizen**

A letter from a citizen, Norman Yates, supporting the preservation of the Penticton Secondary gymnasium.

7.2 Letter from Save the North Gym Committee

A letter from the Save the North Gym committee proposing that the north gym and auditorium at Penticton Secondary School be saved.

7.3 Letter from Citizen

A letter from a citizen, Jim Rheame, requesting that the Pen High gym be saved.

7.4 Letter from Citizen

A letter from a citizen, Michael Yates, recommending the city and school board together review their plans to demolish the Pen High gym and follow recommendations of the Save the North Gym Committee to maintain the gym and auditorium complex for all the community.

7.5 Letter from CUPE BC Division

A letter forwarded by CUPE BC Division regarding the recently negotiated Trade Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement with Alberta and its potential impact on public schools. The article prepared by their staff is available in the trustee reading file.

7.6 Letter from School District No. 34 (Abbotsford)

A letter from School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) to the Board advising their board discussed the issue of parental rights and affirmed its support of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child.

7.7 Letter from Queen's Park Parent Advisory Committee

A letter from the Queen's Park Parent Advisory Committee requesting that the Board consider a sponsorship proposal that will allow the PAC to raise the necessary funds to replace the school's obsolete playground equipment.

7.8 Summary of Copies of Letters to the Board

Copies of the letters to the Board listed below are available in the trustee reading file:

- Penticton Badminton Club to the City of Penticton Mayor and Council advising the club would be available to enter into negotiations with municipal staff to formulate a policy of use for the north gymnasium and auditorium;
- School District No. 72 (Campbell River) forwarded to the Minister of Education regarding the expansion of the summer learning program;
- School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) to the Minister of Education requesting that reconsideration be given to the recent announcement that boards must ask school planning councils permission to impose school fees at each school in the district;
- School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) to the Catholic Civil Rights League confirming the district will continue to honour obligations under the Human Rights Code to accommodate the concerns of students based on their religious beliefs;
- School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) to the Minister of Education requesting an explanation as to why \$22.5 million of the provincial holdback was not distributed to the school districts this past December;
- School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) to the Minister of Education regarding the holdback of \$22 million in the 2006-07 final funding allocation;
- School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) to the Minister of Children and Family Development regarding the recently announced changes by their ministry to child care operating funds;
- School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) to the Minister of Education applauding the Ministry on providing information pertaining to the prevention of substance abuse while pregnant and requesting that the Ministry work with the Ministry of Health and the Solicitor General's office to develop a provincial prevention strategy aimed at youth with respect to the gateway drugs, tobacco, alcohol and cannabis;
- School District No. 57 (Prince George) to the Minister of Education regarding the power of achievement superintendents to recommend changes to the Minister that overturn decisions of locally elected officials;
- School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) to the Minister of Education regarding the formula used to determine the allocations of funds to support early learning initiatives;
- School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) to the Minister of Education commending the Ministry for supporting early learning and school community connections and proposing that the Ministry consider that capacity currently being used in schools for programs such as Strong Start, Day Cares and other community use groups be exempt from the utilization capacity calculation;
- School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia) to the Minister of Education regarding the disposition of the \$22.5 million of the provincial holdback that was not distributed to school districts this past December.

7.9 City of Penticton

A letter from the City of Penticton enclosing a copy of the proposed additions and revisions to the Official Community Plan Bylaw 2002-20 and requesting comments by May 14, 2007.

MOTION: Andrews/Van Alphen that the correspondence be received and that items 7.7 and 7.9 be referred to the buildings, grounds, safety and transportation committee for review and recommendations.

CARRIED

8.0 REPORT OF COMMITTEES

8.1 Education Committee

Trustee Van Alphen reported that the education committee visited Trout Creek Elementary on April 10, 2007, noting that trustees were warmly greeted by grade 5 ambassadors, escorted to classrooms, responded to questions from students, and enjoyed lunch with the staff. The school motto of “We learn, we care, and we cooperate” was displayed during the visit.

April 12, 2007:

a. Middle School Ad Hoc Committee Report

The recommendations of the Middle School Ad Hoc Committee for increased teacher preparation time, school-based “at-risk” programs staffed by teachers, and collaborative teacher planning time were presented by Committee Chair Don MacIntyre (Principal, McNicoll Park Middle School) and the OSTU President Terry Green. The positive working relationship amongst all groups at the table was noted and support was voiced, by both the presenters and Superintendent Gary Doi, for continuing the committee’s work in the upcoming school year.

b. Dogwood District/Authority Awards

Changes to the District Scholarship Program were reviewed by Assistant Superintendent Brian Celli. Key points amongst these were an increase from six to 34 local awards and a change in eligibility guidelines to allow provincial scholarship winners to apply. Recommended changes to the district selection process will be brought forward to the May 2nd meeting for trustee consideration.

c. New Government Legislation

Superintendent Doi reviewed new government legislation impacting education:

- BILL 10 Tobacco Sales (banning tobacco and smoking in public places and schools) Amendment Act, 2007 (Third Reading, March 27, 2007)
- BILL 20 School (Student Achievement Enabling) Amendment Act, (First Reading, March 26, 2007)
- BILL 21 Teaching Profession (Teacher Registration) Amendment Act, 2007 (First Reading, March 2007); reviewed by Director of Human Resources Dave Burgoyne
- BILL 22 Education Statutes Amendment Act, 2007 (First Reading, March 29, 2007)

MOTION: Van Alphen/Andrews that the report of the education committee be received.

CARRIED

8.2 Finance and Management Committee

Trustee Manning reported on the finance and management committee meetings held on March 28 and April 11 and the public budget meeting held on April 2, 2007:

March 28, 2007:

a. 2007-08 Budget Development

Secretary-Treasurer Regehr reviewed the provincial funding and budget estimated for 2007-08. Estimates are based on an enrolment decline of 150 students for an estimated total of 6,802 for 2007-08. The current budget estimate for 2007-08 is a balanced budget. This estimate includes provision for:

- maintaining current service levels for students;
- providing for employee salary and benefit cost increases;

- budget provision to continue the 2006-07 funding for class size and composition support.

The committee noted the provincial funding allocation includes a reserve for the fall recalculation of \$45.3 million. The committee expressed the hope that SD67 will receive its proportionate share of these funds.

Public Budget Meeting April 2, 2007:

a. 2007-08 Budget

Secretary-Treasurer Regehr and Superintendent Doi presented information regarding the school district's finances, achievement goals, and increased responsibilities related to changes resulting when the board becomes a Board of Education. Terry Green, President, OSTU distributed and spoke to a paper titled "Kids Matter, Teachers Care" and presented eight recommendations for consideration during the development of the 2007-08 budget. CUPE representatives Zoë Magnus, Shirley Pretty, and Rob Forbes presented eight requests during the CUPE presentation.

April 11, 2007:

a. 2007-08 Budget Update

Secretary-Treasurer Regehr reviewed the current budget estimates and budget requests for next year. The committee was also advised the February special education enrolment and distributed learning enrolment increases resulted in a 2006-07 funding increase of \$68,474.

b. Photocopier Contract Renewal

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Shongrunden reviewed the recent tendering of 12 photocopiers. The contract was awarded for Xerox copiers for a four-year period.

c. Drinking Water at Schools

Director of Maintenance Hickling advised that Naramata Elementary School is now connected to the new community water system which will eliminate the requirement for bottled water. For Summerland schools, a boiled water advisory was recently announced which will result in the use of bottled water.

MOTION: Manning/Van Alphen that the report of the finance and management committee be received.

CARRIED

8.3 Curriculum Development Advisory Committee

Trustee Andrews reported regarding the curriculum development advisory committee meeting held on April 11, 2007:

a. Selection of Chairperson

It was noted that Assistant Superintendent Celli was elected as chairperson of the committee.

b. Board Authorized/Approved Course Proposals

A course proposal for Stage Craft 9/10 was submitted and reviewed by the committee. The committee has referred the course back to the teacher for further clarification. This course will be brought forward for reconsideration at a future meeting.

MOTION: Andrews/Huebert that the report of the curriculum development advisory committee meeting be received.

CARRIED

9.0 REPORT OF SECRETARY-TREASURER

9.1 Penticton Secondary School Reconstruction Committee

Director of Maintenance Hickling reported that the traffic report commissioned from Opus Hamilton has been received and will be incorporated into the design of the new school. The tilt-up walls for gym concrete has been placed and will be lifted in three weeks, the administration exterior walls are in place, the floor for the library will start soon, and the glue laminated beams for the multipurpose roof are being constructed. We are still on schedule for completion in early June 2008.

9.2 Financial Report

In reviewing the financial report to March 31, 2007 provided in the agenda package, the secretary-treasurer noted that 33% of the funding is available for the balance of the fiscal year. Mr. Regehr added that the district is headed towards a balanced budget.

9.3 2007-08 Budget Development

The secretary-treasurer reported that work is continuing on the development of the 2007-08 budget and that \$210,000 will be available for service level additions for next year. A number of meetings are scheduled prior to the proposed adoption on May 7.

10.0 REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

10.1 Student Achievement

a. District Goals

Directors of Instruction Hauptman and Schafer highlighted activities, workshops, and meetings related to furthering the district's goals of literacy, numeracy, and social responsibility.

b. Early Learning

Director of Instruction Hauptman reported that she is currently gathering the names of partner and community group representatives who will form the early learning committee. Some of the committee members have visited or will be visiting early learning centers to gather suggestions being used in other districts. Additionally, she attended a provincial conference related to the topic and will be meeting with other community resource groups who provide early learning initiatives.

c. Later Learning

Superintendent Doi advised the Board is obliged to develop a district plan related to adult literacy. A separate committee will be formed next month which will formulate a literacy plan to be adopted by the Board by July 15, 2007.

d. Regional Literacy Forum

Mr. Doi noted the district will be hosting a regional literacy forum on Thursday, May 24, for nine districts in the Okanagan Mainline area to talk about their work related to literacy. Three or four representatives from our district will attend the forum.

e. Celebrating Student Achievement

The superintendent reviewed plans for the "Celebrating Student Achievement" presentation to be held on Wednesday, May 30, at 4:00 p.m., at the Penticton Lakeside Resort. Invitations will be sent to school staff, trustees, parent advisory councils, and the media to attend the celebration which will showcase student achievements in the district.

f. School Progress Report

School progress reports will be reviewed and approved at the education committee meeting to be held on June 5.

10.2 Communication and Access

a. Field Trips

The superintendent of schools reviewed a listing of field trip requests circulated with the agenda package, four of which had been approved by the superintendent pursuant to district policy.

MOTION: Van Alphen/Huebert that the field trip request for May 27 to 30, 2007, for 40 grade 11 and 12 students from Princess Margaret Secondary School to participate in a spring music trip to Banff, Alberta, be approved.

CARRIED

MOTION: Huebert/Manning that the field trip request for May 9 to 12, 2007, for 58 band students from KVR Middle School to participate in a band trip tour to Edmonton, Alberta, be approved.

CARRIED

MOTION: Van Alphen/Andrews that the field trip request for March 8 to 10, 2007, for 12 students from Skaha Lake Middle School to compete in the grade 8 girls' provincial basketball tournament in Pitt Meadows, BC, be approved and that funding be provided as per board policy.

CARRIED

MOTION: Manning/Huebert that the field trip request for May 9 to 12, 2007, for 45 grade 8 band students from Skaha Lake Middle School to participate in a spring tour and school concerts to Edmonton, Alberta, be approved.

CARRIED

MOTION: Van Alphen/Andrews that the field trip request for April 20 to 22, 2007, for eight students from Penticton Secondary School to compete in the provincial mock debating trial competitions in Victoria, BC, be approved and that funding be provided as per board policy.

CARRIED

MOTION: Andrews/Manning that the field trip request for June 26 to 30, 2007, for ten grade 9 to 11 students from Summerland Secondary School to participate in a team basketball camp at Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Washington, be approved.

CARRIED

b. Summer School 2007

Director of Instruction Burgoyne outlined changes that are planned for the 2007 Summer School Program. In order to alleviate the growing challenge of teacher recruitment, the number of weeks in session will be reduced from three to two but the amount of instruction time will remain the same as last year. The elementary program will operate from July 3 to 13 and the secondary program from July 9 to 20 to allow students needing remedial courses sufficient time to register for the courses.

10.3 Other Items

a. Enrolment

The superintendent of schools reported on enrolment noting that as of March 31, 2007, there were 7,087 students in the district or 6,788.881 FTE.

b. Class Size and Composition Report

The superintendent reviewed details on school class size and composition consultation meetings held between March 10 and April 13, 2007. It was noted that all principals have submitted a report to the superintendent confirming these classes are appropriate for student learning. School planning councils and DPAC have been informed regarding the class sizes and composition.

MOTION: Van Alphen/Manning that the report on school class sizes/ composition consultation meetings be received and accepted.

CARRIED

11.0 REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES**12.0 NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS****13.0 INFORMATION ITEMS****13.1 BCSTA Annual General Meeting**

The annual general meeting of British Columbia School Trustees Association will be held April 19 to 22, 2007 in Victoria.

13.2 Date of Next Meeting

- May 7, 2007, 7:00 p.m., special board meeting, school board office
- May 14, 2007, 7:30 p.m., regular meeting, school board office

14.0 TRUSTEE COMMENTS**14.1 Recognition of Student Success**

School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) extended congratulations to the students and groups for outstanding examples of success as shown on the recognition sheet included with the agenda package. Students and staff were commended for their efforts in student success.

14.2 Recognition of Student Artwork

Students from Princess Margaret Secondary School were congratulated for their artwork currently on display at the school board office:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| • Shelby Burgart, Grade 11 | Colourful abstract ball and designs |
| • Rayna Desjarlais, Grade 11 | Downtown city/ninja on top of building |
| • Karissa Feux, Grade 12 | Fuschia and purple/girls posing |
| • Emily Ludington, Grade 11 | Reflections of a girl in different forms |
| • Megan McNee, Grade 12 | Red, purple and blue city scape/family |
| • Amber Rodan, Grade 11 | Purple and aqua whimsy drawing with flower |
| • Megan Shiosaki, Grade 11 | Dolphin and girl/ocean floor |
| • Kelly Styles, Grade 11 | Rainbow pool and cloud |

14.3 Trustee Comments

Trustees provided general comments related to district and school activities including the SAFE graduation at West Bench Elementary and the recent grade 6 health fair at the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre. The school district was acknowledged with a plaque for its support to the Central Okanagan Regional Science Fair and appreciation was extended to Mr. Michael Doyle for his efforts in working with teachers to get veterans from the community into classrooms.

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Manning/Van Alphen that the meeting be adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

CARRIED

16.0 QUESTION PERIOD

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer