



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



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 14, 2007, AT 7:30 P.M.
AT THE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE

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

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

E. Woodd, Vice Principal, Queen's Park Elementary School

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Little welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Denesiuk/Manning that the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

3.0 PRESENTATIONS BY SCHOOLS AND/OR STUDENTS

3.1 West Bench Elementary School

West Bench Elementary School has been using "Guided Reading Instruction" with the goal of making West Bench students become independent readers. Principal Chris Philpotts and teachers Lisa Edwards, Grade 1, and Moira Hennen, Grades 3 and 4, made a presentation to the Board explaining why guided reading is an excellent strategy to use with students as well as their experience with guided reading in their classrooms. This literacy based strategy allows children to develop at their own pace and to become independent readers. It was noted that 16 teachers from other schools visited Ms. Edwards' classroom during March to watch children learning from this strategy.

4.0 RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS AND GUESTS

4.1 Community Foundation of the South Okanagan

Deborah O'Mara, Executive Manager, Community Foundation of the South Okanagan, attended the meeting and announced new projects involving the school district. Two new scholarships will be awarded this year in memory of a past teacher, Mrs. Jordan; Summerland Middle School has received \$13,000 towards a rock climbing wall at the school; and \$25,000 has been granted to assist School District 67 and Wiltse Elementary Parent Advisory Council with their playground replacement. It was noted that the Foundation, which does not normally support playground equipment, has made an exception in this instance as there is no public parkland in the Wiltse area. Principal Miles Smitten and PAC Vice Chair Derek Hurst commented it will be inclusive for all children to play on and will become a centennial project.

Additionally, Ms. O'Mara introduced the Foundation's Spirit of Penticton Centennial Education Grants program which has been created to assist Penticton schools with centennial projects. Grants will range from \$1,750 to \$4,500, a criteria package will be developed, and the projects will have a completion date of June 30, 2008. It was requested that Ms. O'Mara meet with the superintendent and secretary-treasurer to finalize details of the proposed Spirit of Penticton Centennial Education Grants program.

Appreciation was extended to Ms. O'Mara for the presentation and for the funding commitments from the Community Foundation of the South Okanagan.

4.2 Save Our North Gym Committee

Dr. Sandy Congram, representing the Save Our North Gym committee, presented a proposal to the Board to keep the north gym and auditorium. The proposal would plan for the school district to retain ownership of the facilities with the City of Penticton leasing and managing the buildings under a joint use agreement. The proposal also contained a plan and cost estimates, prepared by Greyback Construction Ltd., to have the gym and auditorium as a standalone building. The plan also listed groups and organizations who would be willing to use the facilities. It was requested that the Board consider the proposal and that a meeting be held with technical staff to explain the proposal.

Chairman Little extended appreciation to the delegation for the proposal, assured the group the proposal will be reviewed, and promised a response to the proposal. Mr. Little added that during an extensive consultation process for the new school, the City came forward agreeing to save the Shatford building, and based on comments from the community, the Board agreed to provide an opportunity for a group to come forward to save the auditorium. The Penticton Secondary reconstruction committee, during their review, made a plan for the new facility based on the needs of our students and the Board agreed that the new facility did not require a second gym or the auditorium. The City requested in March, and the Board agreed, to extend the deadline to June 1 to allow sufficient time for a cost analysis of keeping the auditorium on the site. Due to the interest expressed by the community and the City with respect to the auditorium, gym and Shatford building, the Board has directed staff to determine what would be the implications to the site if these buildings were to be retained. However, Mr. Little stated that four preconditions that are non negotiable requirements are student safety, proper bus access to and from the site, adequate parking and some green space. He also advised the school district has no interest in retaining the gymnasium. Mr. Little further clarified that the gym and auditorium are not part of the district's educational plans and that if the auditorium were to be saved the district has no funds for such a project.

5.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

MOTION: Manning/Huebert that the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 16, 2007 and special board meeting held on May 7, 2007 be approved.

CARRIED

6.0 REPORT FROM CLOSED MEETING

The secretary-treasurer reported on the closed meeting held on April 16, 2007:

1. Received a report from the finance and management committee;
2. Confirmed teaching, excluded, and CUPE staff changes;
3. Discussed details of a proposed meeting;
4. Received information on student suspensions;
5. Approved changes to a personnel contract.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Letter from Okanagan Skaha Teachers' Union

A letter from the Okanagan Skaha Teachers' Union expressing sincerest sympathies to the Board and the family of Trustee Pennie Jamieson on Pennie's sudden passing.

7.2 Letter from City of Penticton

A letter from the Mayor Kimberley of the City of Penticton and Sharon Amos, Centennial Advisory Committee Chair, regarding Penticton's 100th Anniversary and encouraging a Centennial Project be undertaken at some time during the year.

7.3 Letter from Royal Canadian Legion

A letter from the Royal Canadian Legion, Penticton Branch #40, regarding the destruction of the north gym and the auditorium at Penticton Secondary School.

7.4 Letter from the University of British Columbia

A letter from the Head Coach, Men's Basketball, University of British Columbia, regarding the proposed demolition of the Penticton Secondary School gymnasium.

7.5 Letter from British Columbia Teachers' Federation

A letter from the British Columbia Teachers' Federation enclosing a copy of the Draft Program Guide for Graduation Transitions Brief 2007. The brief is available in the trustee reading file.

7.6 Summary of Copies of Letters to the Board

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

- School District No. 43 (Coquitlam) to the Minister of Education supporting BCSTA's response to the Bill 20, 21, and 22 legislation;
- School District No. 38 (Richmond) to the Minister of Education supporting the North Vancouver analysis and their suggestion to fairly distribute the Early Learning initiatives money;
- School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia) to School District No. 57 (Prince George) supporting the issues raised in their letter to the Minister of Education regarding Bill 20;
- School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) to the Minister of Education expressing concerns with the proposed legislation contained in Bill 20;
- School District No. 63 (Saanich) to the Minister of Education regarding the proposed legislation of Bill 20;
- School District No. 38 (Richmond) to the Minister of Education requesting more information about the proposed provincial demonstration schools and expressing comments as currently understood;
- School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) to the Minister of Education regarding the disposition of the 2006-07 holdback funds that was not distributed to school districts as it has traditionally been distributed.

MOTION: Van Alphen/Denesiuk that the correspondence be received.

CARRIED

8.0 REPORT OF COMMITTEES

8.1 Curriculum Development Advisory Committee

Trustee Andrews reported regarding the curriculum development advisory committee meeting held on May 2, 2007:

a. Board/Authority Authorized Course Proposal

A course proposal for Stage Craft 10 was re-submitted and reviewed, and the committee agreed to recommend to the education committee and to the Board that the Stage Craft 10 course be forwarded to education committee for approval as a board/authority authorized course.

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

CARRIED

8.2 Finance and Management Committee

Trustee Manning reported on the finance and management committee meeting held on May 2, 2007:

a. Rental – Daycare Request

The committee discussed a request regarding the rental of schools for preschool and daycare. The secretary-treasurer reviewed practices for daycare rentals used for seven schools in the district. The committee requested that the practices be reviewed and noted their support for preschool/daycare as part of the expanded role of boards of education.

b. Scholarships

Assistant Superintendent Celli distributed information and application forms for Dogwood District/Authority Awards and District Scholarships. Mr. Celli described the development process to review the forms and advised one of the awards will now be available for a student in the home learners' program.

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

CARRIED

8.3 Education Committee

Trustee Van Alphen reported on the education committee meeting held on May 8, 2007:

a. Cyberbullying

Vivian Lieskovsky, a learning assistance teacher at KVR Middle School, provided an overview of cyberbullying by examining the 'who, what, where, when, why and how' of this issue and noting that this form of bullying is particularly prevalent amongst girls.

b. Graduation Transitions

The Ministry's Graduation Transitions Program and plans for its implementation in our school district next school year were presented by David Kalaski (Career Coordinator). Mr. Kalaski also provided an overview of the district's Career Development Program.

c. Crystal Meth

Chad Teigen, Substance Abuse Prevention Co-ordinator, Pathways Addiction Resource Centre, reviewed the Ministry's Crystal Methamphetamine teaching resource kit and outlined the district's training program to facilitate its delivery in each middle and secondary school starting next school year.

d. CommunityLINK

Director of Instruction Garth Schafer reviewed the purpose of CommunityLINK, the considerations taken into account in the identification of vulnerable students, and the proposed commitments for use of CommunityLINK funding for the 2007-08 school year.

e. School Fees

Previous work on school fees was reviewed by Superintendent Gary Doi who noted that a detailed schedule of fees would be brought forward to the June meeting for trustee consideration and approval.

f. Board/Authority Authorized Course

Stagecraft 10 was presented by Assistant Superintendent Brian Celli. The committee recommended that Stagecraft 10 be approved.

MOTION: Van Alphen/Manning that the Board approve Stagecraft 10 as a Board/ Authority Authorized course.

CARRIED

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

CARRIED

8.4 Buildings, Grounds, Safety and Transportation Committee

Trustee Huebert reported on the buildings, grounds, safety and transportation committee meeting held on May 9, 2007:

a. Queen's Park Elementary School

The secretary-treasurer and director of maintenance reviewed the current status of replacing the adventure playgrounds at 11 elementary schools. Parent advisory councils at these schools are all working to enhance the core equipment that will be installed by the district.

Principal Kelly Jones and Tracy St. Claire of Queen's Park PAC were welcomed and spoke regarding work to replace their school's adventure playground. The committee was asked to consider allowing the placement of a sign in recognition of donors. Ms. St. Claire discussed a contemplated sign of 4' x 8' size with donor names, displayed one week at a time, and noted company logos were not intended for display. The committee was advised of Policy No. 211 which requires advertising that is associated with an event to be minimal, discrete, and in good taste. Following discussion, the committee supported that district administration work with parent advisory councils wishing to promote fundraising for adventure playground enhancements by allowing donor recognition on signs. Guidelines discussed included signs up to 5' x 10', identified recognition of playground fundraising, no logos, and up to a three-month time period.

The committee was also advised of a request to post signage for a daycare operating in a school and supported allowing an information sign being displayed at the school.

b. City of Penticton

The committee did not identify any concerns for the OCP proposal for the City of Penticton.

c. Proposal for Vehicle Signage – "No to Meth"

The secretary-treasurer reviewed a proposal to place a "No to Meth" sign on two maintenance vehicles. The sign would be placed on the back of the van, not block window visibility, may contain a small sponsor acknowledgement, and be at no cost to the district. The committee supported the concept and it was noted this type of

advertising may also be appropriate for advertising educational goals and initiatives.

d. Portable Toilets by City on School Fields

The director of maintenance reviewed ongoing problems with evening rentals not having access to washrooms. The school district has offered access to certain school washrooms if a sports team commits to providing a commissionaire for supervision. Mr. Hickling proposed allowing the city to provide portable washrooms that would be locked except when used by evening renters and would be managed by the city. Following a discussion of safety and management issues, the committee supported allowing Uplands Elementary and KVR Middle school fields to start this program on a trial basis.

e. Penticton Secondary Colour Scheme

Director of Maintenance Hickling showed the committee the colour scheme developed for Penticton Secondary School. The display included floor and wall materials for the inside and outside of the school.

f. Summerland Secondary School Entry Update

Mr. Hickling advised the planning for the school's front entry has resulted in a further plan development which will be reviewed with the school.

MOTION: Huebert/Andrews that the report of the buildings, grounds, safety and transportation committee be received.

CARRIED

9.0 REPORT OF SECRETARY-TREASURER

9.1 Penticton Secondary School Reconstruction

Director of Maintenance Hickling displayed the colour scheme for Penticton Secondary School and noted that concrete walls and columns are approximately 90% complete. The tilt up panels are about 60% complete and the structure and steel is about 50% complete. Work has begun on the exterior walls and roofing as well as the wood deck over the multipurpose room. Mr. Hickling added the project is still on schedule for a June 2008 completion.

9.2 Trustee Election

The secretary-treasurer advised that Section 36 of the *School Act* requires a by-election be held to fill the trustee vacancy left by Trustee Pennie Jamieson. The responsibility to conduct the election will be undertaken by the City of Penticton as she represented the electoral area of Penticton. There are certain timelines required for holding a by-election, the earliest of which would be August. The Board would like to see the election held closer to early September.

MOTION: Andrews/Denesiuk that in accordance with Section 36 of the School Act, the council for the City of Penticton be advised of one trustee vacancy for the City of Penticton electoral area.

CARRIED

10.0 REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

10.1 Student Achievement

a. District Goals

Superintendent Doi reminded everyone that the district has had the same three goals of literacy, numeracy, and social responsibility for the past four years and it may be time to refine the goals in the coming year. Directors of Instruction Schafer and

Hauptman highlighted activities, workshops, and meetings recently held related to the goals.

b. Early Learning

Director of Instruction Hauptman reported that the steering committee for early learning will meet on May 29. The committee is comprised of representatives for all partner groups as well as community representatives. It is expected the committee will hold a second meeting in June.

c. Regional Literacy Forum

A regional literacy forum will be held on Thursday, May 24, for Okanagan Mainline districts.

d. Celebrating Student Achievement

The superintendent reviewed plans for the annual “Celebrating Student Achievement” to be held on Wednesday, May 30, 4:00 p.m., at the Penticton Lakeside Resort. Invitations have been sent to school staff, parent advisory councils, and school planning councils. The media is also invited to attend.

10.2 Communication and Access

a. Field Trips

The superintendent of schools reviewed a listing of field trip requests circulated with the agenda package, three of which had been approved by the superintendent.

MOTION: Denesiuk/Manning that the following field trip request be approved:

- September 14 to 18, 2007, from Summerland Secondary School, for 20 to 30 grade 11/12 students to participate in a marine biology field trip to the Bamfield Marine Station on Vancouver Island.

CARRIED

b. Kindergarten Registration

The superintendent advised that children who are born in 2002 are eligible to enter kindergarten in September 2007 and parents are encouraged to register their children at their neighbourhood school as soon as possible.

10.3 Other Items

a. Enrolment

The superintendent of schools reported on enrolment as of April 30, 2007. The district’s current enrolment is 7,085 students or 6,785.68 FTE.

b. Class Size and Composition Report

Superintendent Doi reviewed details on school class size and composition consultation meetings held between April 13 and May 11, 2007. It was noted that all principals have submitted a report to the superintendent confirming these classes are appropriate for student learning and school planning councils have been informed.

MOTION: Van Alphen/Andrews 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

12.1 Trustee School Liaison Appointments

Chairman Little noted that trustee school liaison appointments for the coming school year are normally made at the June meeting and requested that trustees advise him of any special preferences for schools.

13.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

13.1 Ministry Meeting (April 30, 2007)

The Ministry of Education held a meeting for all board chairs and superintendents on April 30, 2007 to provide an opportunity to discuss the upcoming legislation on the impact on school districts. Superintendent Doi and Chairman Little attended the meeting as well as Trustee Denesiuk who represented the BCSTA. Positive comments were made regarding the meeting.

13.2 BCSTA Annual General Meeting

Trustees were reminded to bring to the meeting their reports of their attendance at the BCSTA AGM held April 19 to 22, 2007 in Victoria for inclusion in the trustee reading file.

13.3 BCSTA Okanagan Branch Meeting

It was noted that the BCSTA Okanagan Branch Meeting was held on April 20, 2007.

13.4 Date of Next Meeting

- June 11, 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.

14.2 Recognition of Student Artwork

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| • Katie Filek, Grade 10 | Bananas/apples and green brushes/watercolour |
| • Meagan O'Shea, Grade 10 | Red pencils/clothes pegs and triangles/watercolour |
| • Brian Csati, Grade 11 | Pencil crayon boy riding on dock |
| • Jessica Head, Grade 12 | Aqua and blue snowflake abstract watercolour |
| • Brittany King, Grade 12 | Sardine cans (4) mimics Andy Warhol |
| • Kari Graff, Grade 10 | Multi-coloured veins and nest/burst of colour |
| • Molly-Anne Sherwood, Grade 11 | Hand with symbols and letters |
| • Calvin Dool, Grade 10 | Eight images – photography |
| • Brittany King, Grade 12 | Hand image with snowflake description |

14.3 Trustee Comments

Trustees provided general comments related to district and school activities including the Shakespeare Festival hosted by Summerland Secondary, the KVR talent show arranged by grade 8 leadership students, and the Wall of Fame. Appreciation was extended to the Penticton Herald and Western News for their coverage on school events. On behalf of the BCSTA, Chairman Little presented Trustee Connie Denesiuk with a certificate recognizing 15 years of service as a school trustee.

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Huebert/Manning that the meeting be adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

CARRIED

16.0 QUESTION PERIOD

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer