



**PACIFIC RIM SCHOOL DISTRICT
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 23, 2024, 5:00 p.m.
EJ Dunn Elementary School, Port Alberni**

Pam Craig - Board Chair
Cherilyn Bray - Vice Chair
Cynthia Orr - West Coast Trustee
Janis Joseph - Trustee
Larry Ransom - Trustee
Christine Washington - Trustee
Helen Zanette - Trustee
Tim Davie - Superintendent
Peter Klaver - Assistant Superintendent
Barbara Ross - Secretary Treasurer
James Messenger - Director of Instruction, Learning and Innovation
Greg Roe - Director of Operations
Michell Bennett - Director of Instruction, Inclusive Education
Siri Curliss - Manager of Mental Health and Wellness
Darrin Olson - Principal
Stephanie Prizeman - Vice-Principal
Paula Mason - Manager of Corporate Services
Ryan Dvorak - ADTU President
Audience Members:
Joseph Walter Leskosek

1. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair acknowledged that we work and learn on the ḥaḥuuḥi of the Hupačasath(Hupacasath), Huu-ay-aht (Huu-ay-aht), ḥaḥuukʷiḥaḥ (Tla-o-qui-aht), Ciṣaaḥaḥ (Tseshaht) and the Yuuḥuḥiḥaḥ (Yuu-cluth-aht) Nations.

2. Approval of Agenda

Add Item 9.1 Ad Hoc Committees - VISTA / Trustee Bursary
Add item 10.1 Trees at Wickaninnish

Moved by: Trustee Joseph

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Board of Education approve the April 23, 2024 Public Board Meeting Agenda as amended

Carried

3. **Conflict of Interest Declaration**

There were no conflicts declared.

4. **Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by: Trustee Bray

Seconded by: Trustee Washington

THAT the March 12, 2024 Public Board Meeting Minutes be approved as presented.

Carried

5. **Announcements of the Chair**

Trustee Craig advised that the Board's motion re: additional funding for StrongStart was passed at British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA).

6. **Good News from the Schools**

6.1 **School Presentation (10 minutes)**

Students Sebastian, Aidan & Katie from Grade 7 presented a welcome video with teacher Krista Dhillon and Vice-Principal Stephanie Prizeman. Principal Olson thanked Krista Dhillon and her students who developed the video with the volunteer school ambassadors. These students welcome all new people who come to the school, providing gifts for newcomers/water bottles for teachers daily. They wear the pink hoodies every day so they can easily be identified to anyone who needs help.

7. **Trustee Statements**

Trustee Washington: Advisory Traffic Committee is now called the Traffic Advisory Committee. Our letter sent to the Committee recently re: traffic concern at EJ Dunn was discussed at their last meeting. Trustee Washington said there was a motion made at the meeting sending the letter/issue to the City of Port Alberni for further investigation. They will get back to us to let us know if we fit the criteria for getting a new crosswalk.

Trustee Zanette had a conflict-of-interest discussion with Chris Beneteau, British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) who advised that she should continue as alternate representative to British Columbia Public School Employer's Association (BCPSEA). BCPSEA is reviewing the policy to provide better clarity and will get back to Boards within the next couple of months.

8. **Petitions/ Delegations/ Presentations**

8.1 **Long Range Facility Plan (20 minutes)**

Joel Palmer, Palmer Management Consulting, spoke to the final draft document, then provided a PowerPoint presentation in review.

Moved by: Trustee Washington

Seconded by: Trustee Ransom

THAT the Board of Education approve the 2023-2032 Long Range Facilities Plan document as presented.

Carried

9. Unfinished Business/ New Business

9.1 Fall 2024 VISTA Conference Committee / Trustee Bursary Committee

Trustee Craig asked who would like to be on each Ad Hoc Committee.

Trustee Bursary: Trustees Joseph, Zanette, Washington and Craig will have their first meeting by May 8, 2024 to review, comment and pass along their decision.

Fall VISTA Planning Committee: Trustees Washington, Zanette, Bray and Joseph volunteered - meetings will be set up to start planning the event.

10. Emergent Issues

10.1 Trees at Wickaninnish Daycare

Trustee Orr would like to bring a Notice of Motion to the next meeting for discussion. Some Douglas Firs were taken down at Wickaninnish Community School sparking major community conversation. Trustee Orr understands the reason behind the removal of the trees, but moving forward feels the Board should consider having something in place to prevent this from happening again, with consultation from rights holders. She would like the Board to discuss the development of a Tree Protection Policy.

11. Staff Reports

11.1 District Wellness Survey Report (10 minutes)

Manager Curliss presented a PowerPoint regarding the recent Wellness Survey and its results. Trustee Zanette asked if we are doing anything to focus on supporting new teachers and burnout resilience. Ms. Curliss answered that the focus is on equitable support, not teacher-focused only. Other than providing learning options to access individually, they'll be building a menu of things available for teachers in schools.

Manager Curliss and Director Bennett left the meeting.

11.2 SD70 2024/25 Capital Plan Bylaw (10 minutes)

Moved by: Trustee Ransom

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Board of Education approve all three readings of Capital Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD70-01 in the April 23, 2024 Public Meeting of the Board.

Carried

Moved by: Trustee Washington

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Capital Bylaw of the Board for the 2024/25 Capital Plan as approved by the Minister, to include the supported capital project(s) specified in the letter addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer and Superintendent, dated March 15, 2024, is hereby adopted.

Carried

Moved by: Trustee Ransom

Seconded by: Trustee Joseph

THAT this Capital Bylaw may be cited as School District No. 70 (Pacific Rim) Capital Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD70-01.

Carried

11.3 BCSTA IEC Call Out Questions (10 minutes)

There were no questions on the report presented. Trustee Ransom said the Indigenous Education Council (IEC) will be meeting later this Summer, he'll submit this information for their comments and questions.

11.4 Graduation Speeches Discussion (10 minutes)

Trustee Joseph would like the Board to open up the opportunity for Trustees that would like to speak at the graduation ceremonies, to be able to. Trustee Washington appreciates the premise behind it but has a concern regarding the Chair being the person that speaks on behalf of the Board. She would prefer to have the Chair continue to speak on behalf of the Board at ceremonies. Trustee Zanette supports the motion as it allows Trustees the opportunity to learn and to share their unique style of mentorship - all Trustees are connected to the schools. Trustee Ransom suggested a friendly amendment to add "all Trustees who wish to". Trustee Orr commented that she spoke at the graduation ceremony in Ucluelet last year, using the Chair's speech. Trustee Craig noted that speeches must address all students, not just particular students. There are a total of 6 ceremonies plus the Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council ceremonies. Trustee Bray is in favour of the motion for Trustees that are comfortable speaking.

Director Roe left the meeting @ 6:13pm.

Moved by: Trustee Joseph
Seconded by: Trustee Washington

THAT the Board of Education open opportunities for all Trustees who would like to, to speak at Graduation Ceremonies.

Carried

11.5 Regular Board Motion Tracking (2 minutes)

Staff felt that a number of motions are being brought forward by the Board, which should be tracked to ensure completion and then reported back to the Board. Trustees thanked staff for all their hard work.

11.6 Healthy Schools Manager (5 minutes)

Assistant Superintendent Klaver provided an overview of the position, with a start date in June or early-July of 2024. Trustee Zanette thanked staff for doing this, as she is excited that all the Committees she sits on will have a dedicated person to reach out to. Trustee Washington noted what a hub schools have become, encompassing not only academics, but also teaching and promoting Health and Wellness.

11.7 2024/25 Preliminary Funding Announcements (10 minutes)

Secretary Treasurer Ross presented her report and answered questions asked by Trustees.

11.8 Wage Adjustments (10 minutes)

Cost-of-Living-Adjustments (COLA) are approved for all employee groups effective July 1, 2024, with adjustments for exempt staff requiring an additional level of approval. That process generally takes place after the start of the year but will be retroactive to July 1, 2024. Funding for exempt and COLA adjustments will be announced as a special grant.

11.9 Student/Family Affordability Fund (5 minutes)

The Ministry has released an additional replenishment grant of \$125,000 with the only exception being food-related items. Trustee Zanette asked where we are at for spending for this year's funds? Secretary Treasurer Ross noted that schools have not yet spent the \$67,000 remaining, so we'll be planning how the \$125,000 + \$67,000 is to be spent.

11.10 2023/24 Feeding Futures (2 minutes)

Secretary Treasurer Ross said the same amount will be coming next year (based on enrollment) with this year's funding being spent on the new Healthy Schools Manager and food supplies.

12. Policy Development

12.1 Policies to be sent for 30-day Public Consultation

12.1.a XXX: Acceptable Use of Cellular Phones, Smart Watches, and Electronic Devices: Usage in Schools, on School Property or During School Related Activities (P)

Trustee Zanette asked if there had been any feedback. There was no feedback.

Moved by: Trustee Washington

Seconded by: Trustee Joseph

THAT the Board of Education direct staff through the Superintendent to publish the draft XXX: Acceptable Use of Cellular Phones, Smart Watches, and Electronic Devices: Usage in Schools, on School Property or During School Related Activities (P) for a period of 30-days for public consultation.

Carried

12.1.b XXX: Personal Expenses On Official District Business Policy (P)

Moved by: Trustee Washington

Seconded by: Trustee Zanette

THAT the Board of Education direct staff through the Superintendent to publish the draft XXX: Personal Expenses On Official District Business Policy (P) for a period of 30-days for public consultation.

Carried

12.2 Policies for Adoption

12.2.a Privacy Policy

Staff noted that there was feedback received, the content of which will be addressed in the Administrative Procedure.

Moved by: Trustee Washington

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Privacy Policy as presented.

Carried

12.2.b Housing Policy

Moved by: Trustee Washington

Seconded by: Trustee Joseph

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Housing Policy as presented.

Carried

12.2.c Trustee Bursary Policy

Moved by: Trustee Washington

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Trustee Bursary Policy as presented.

Carried

12.2.d Environmental Stewardship Policy

Trustee Zanette asked if there had been any feedback. There was no feedback.

Moved by: Trustee Washington

Seconded by: Trustee Zanette

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Environmental Stewardship Policy as presented.

Carried

12.2.e Appeal of a Decision by an Employee Policy

Staff noted that there was feedback received, the content of which will be addressed in the Administrative Procedure.

Moved by: Trustee Washington

Seconded by: Trustee Ransom

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Appeal of a Decision by an Employee Policy as presented.

Carried

13. Notice of Motion

13.1 Trees at Wickaninnish

Trustee Orr will be bringing a Motion regarding the development of a Tree Protection Policy to the next meeting for discussion.

14. Correspondence- Action Required

14.1 2024-03-21 Taylor, Linda - Backpack Program

The Board directed staff to send a letter on behalf of the Board thanking the group for their hard work and dedication but advising them that the District does not have funding to provide at this time.

14.2 2024-04-11 Invite to NIC Port Alberni Convocation

There is a conflict of time commitments on that date. Trustee Joseph will be there in her capacity at North Island College; perhaps another Trustee could also attend, to represent the dual credit PRSD students. Trustee Ransom suggested a letter of regret be sent.

15. Correspondence - For Information

15.1 Referral Response Request - AR1 Zone Multi-Family Text Amendment - Tofino, BC

16. External Board Committees

16.1 2024-03-05 ACRD Emergency Network Meeting Minutes

16.2 Port Alberni Air Quality Council Update - March 9-April 8, 2024

16.3 2024-04-03 Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage Commission Meeting Minutes

16.4 2024-02-20 ACRD Agricultural Development Committee Meeting Minutes

16.5 2024-03-20 ACHN Table of Partners Meeting Minutes

17. Internal District Committees

17.1 2024-04-02 Education Committee Meeting Minutes

17.2 2024-04-09 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

18. Audience Question Period

Audience member Joseph Leskosek asked if the Community School was included in the survey. Trustee Craig answered that the Community School based out of ADSS is run by a Board, not by teachers from our district staff. Vice-Principal Prizeman clarified that it's not a school, it's an organization.

Ryan Dvorak commented how much the ADTU appreciated Manager Curliss' work on the survey, thanked Dunn Elementary for hosting tonight's meeting, but noted that teachers (a whole one-seventh) are self-reporting a low well-being, which is a concern. He noted both the Mentorship Program and the Health and Wellness Program are fully funded by

ADTU and BCTF with a focus on recruitment /retention and the delivery of a rewarding career for all teachers.

19. **Next Meeting**

20. **Adjournment**

Board Chair

Secretary Treasurer