



**SD70 PACIFIC RIM BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 27, 2024, 5:00 p.m.
Wood Elementary School**

Pam Craig - Board Chair
Cherilyn Bray – Vice Chair
Cynthia Orr - Trustee (via Teams)
Janis Joseph - Trustee
Larry Ransom – Trustee (via Teams)
Christine Washington - Trustee
Helen Zanette - Trustee
Tim Davie – Superintendent
Peter Klaver – Assistant Superintendent
Barbara Ross - Secretary Treasurer
Greg Roe - Director of Operations
Dave Maher – District Principal
Paula Mason - Manager of Corporate Services
Darrin Olsin – Principal
Jayne Chase – Vice Principal
Caitlin Mollon – Teacher
Ryan Dvorak – ADTU President
Nadine White – CUPE President (via Teams)

Audience Members:

Alysa Maschak
Joseph Walter Leskosek
Erin Cootes
Barbara Sam
Erin Fontaine

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Agenda

Item 10.1 BCSTA draft budget was added.

Moved by: Trustee Joseph

Seconded by: Trustee Washington

THAT the Board of Education adopt the February 27, 2024 Public 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 Zanette

THAT the Board of Education approve the January 23, 2024 Public Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Carried

5. Announcements of the Chair

Trustee Craig acknowledged Koyah Morgan, a former student of USS, for her artistry on the Pink Shirt Days clothing being worn around the district. She read out the Artist's statement "This piece is inspired by unconditional love and support, designed to encapsulate the feeling of support and your ability to "uplift" those around you. It's important for all of us to remember that we really do carry the hearts of others in our hands."

The Board has recently finished a Board Performance Review with 10 different summaries over a two-day session, thanks to Trustees, the Superintendent, the Secretary Treasurer and Gordan Li from BCSTA.

6. Good News from the Schools

Caitlin Mollon, who teaches Grade 4/5 at Wood Elementary School provided a fabulous presentation on Learning Circles, which was created using funds from the Learning Projects Grant. Highlights were supporting student literacy and promoting engagement through multimodal instruction and learning. She showed pictures and video of a Cafe that she had set up to create a fun event for students to try different genres of books.

7. Trustee Statements

Trustee Zanette acknowledged deep appreciation for all the work the Director of Instruction – Inclusive Education, Michell Bennett and her team have done around the development of mental health resources/programs such as the FIT / ICY / Wellness Committee. She also thanked Secretary Treasurer Ross for offering a budget workshop. Trustee Joseph thanked Caitlin Mollon for her work with students and spoke to a program she'd seen on CBC related to children suffering from Nature Deficit Disorder;

she's so glad to see students having these opportunities in schools. Trustee Craig thanked École Alberni Elementary School for the wonderful event they hosted with Grades 2, 3 & 4 students.

8. Petitions/ Delegations/ Presentations

9. Unfinished Business

10. Emergent Issues

10.1 draft 2024/25 BCSTA budget

Trustee Orr noted that the draft budget had been sent to Trustees and asked that any questions or comments be emailed to either her or Trustee Ransom, prior to the March 7, 2024 deadline. A synopsis should be available by March 12, 2024.

11. Staff Reports

11.1 2023/24 Amended Annual Budget (10 minutes)

Secretary Treasurer Ross noted that the date on the Action Sheet should read February 28, 2024, not June 30, 2024, and clarified that the only changes were updated capital and amortization schedules. Ms. Ross read the bylaw in its entirety.

Moved by: Trustee Bray

Seconded by: Trustee Washington

THAT the Board of Education approve the 2023-2024 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw as presented.

Carried

Moved by: Trustee Bray

Seconded by: Trustee Washington

Be it resolved as having been read a first, second and third time as provided for in the bylaw, THAT the Board Chair and the Secretary Treasurer be authorized to execute this Bylaw 2023-2024 on behalf of the Board of Education and that the corporate seal of the Board be affixed thereon.

Carried

11.2 District Mileage Rates (2 minutes)

The Board requested that the second part of the motion "THAT the Board of Education direct staff through the Superintendent to revise 4020: Personal Expenses on Official District Business (A/P) and bring forth to the Policy

Committee for review." be deleted. Trustee Orr mentioned that the Provincial Council rates were also increased.

Moved by: Trustee Washington

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Board of Education approve an increase to the per kilometer mileage rate used for personal travel expense claims from \$0.68 to \$0.70, effective March 1, 2024.

Carried

11.3 Trustee Remuneration (5 minutes)

Moved by: Trustee Joseph

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Board of Education direct staff through the Superintendent, to apply a 6.75% increase to the Trustee Remuneration Grid, retroactive to July 1, 2023.

Carried

11.4 Learning on the Land Framework - Final Acceptance of Report Recommendations (10 minutes)

Trustee Zanette asked if we had spoken previously about bussing students from ADSS to Eighth Avenue Learning Centre, to which the answer was No, but we will likely replicate the current system using existing systems. The West Coast will still need to be solidified. Principal Maher clarified the amount of the daily food costs being budgeted for, is \$5,000 per semester per group, or about \$250 per week. Trustee Washington expressed her excitement for the program and suggested a report back from the first group of students after they've been through the program.

Moved by: Trustee Bray

Seconded by: Trustee Joseph

THAT the Board of Education direct staff through the Superintendent, to commence Land Based Learning Programs for Alberni District Secondary School and Ucluelet Secondary School, starting in September 2024; and to commence the Pacific Rim Wild Experience and Pacific Rim Wild Guide and Outfitting Programs, starting in the Summer 2024.

Carried

11.5 BCSTA Comprehensive School Health Working Group Survey Report (5 minutes)

Superintendent Davie thanked Michell Bennet, Siri Curliss, Jessica Gilchrest & Paula Mason for putting the report together. He reminded the group that the survey submission is due by February 28, 2024. Trustee Craig thanked everyone for their hard work in creating such a comprehensive report. Manager Mason will send it on behalf of the Board.

11.6 Enrolment Projections / 2024-2025 Annual Budget (2 minutes)

Secretary Treasurer Ross provided an overview of her report and upcoming timelines, noting the BCSTA's Financial Planning & Accountability Guide and its valuable information. Trustee Orr asked what the projections named "Newcomer/Refugees/FTEs" and wondered what the category of student would this apply to. Ms. Ross noted that the line has been there for years and as we haven't had any yet, we haven't budgeted for them.

11.7 Operational Plan Progress Update (5 minutes)

Superintendent Davie noted the colour changes to the report and the corresponding detailed key showing Green = Implementation of task is underway, Yellow = Ongoing work to bring to implementation stage, Red = Task has passed its due date and has not been completed yet, and White = Task has not yet reached its due date. Trustee Craig asked that the Superintendent pass along the Board's thanks to staff noting the amazing amount of work being done. She said that they know everyone is always working hard, but to see the actual workload in a report such as this is overwhelming. Trustee Zanette asked if there are Start / Due Dates listed? the Superintendent said that although Start Dates are listed, Due Dates are not listed as much of the work is ongoing. We will continue to rebuild, readjust and implement new strategies as we go.

Trustee Craig passed the chair to Trustee Bray.

11.8 Co-Governance (5 minutes)

Trustee Craig moved the recommended motion.

Trustee Zanette asked why the Yuuʔuʔiʔʔaʔh Government was not Anglicized in brackets like the other Nations listed, to which the Superintendent noted that we have had communication from the Yuuʔuʔiʔʔaʔh Government requesting that they be referred to in the manner their Nation is written. Trustee Washington spoke to how extremely proud she is of this moment, and that with over 30% of the student population being Indigenous, how exciting it will be to have the thoughts and ideas from the Nations being a part of the discussion. Trustee Craig thanked Trustee Bray for the opportunity to read the motion, that it is a bold step as this is the only district to date in the Province to move forward in this way. She noted how much work will be coming up in the weeks ahead and thanked previous Boards for the past work they have contributed.

Moved by: Trustee Craig
Seconded by: Trustee Washington

THAT the Board of Education direct staff through the Superintendent to invite the following Nuuchahnulth Nations, ʕaahʕuusʔaḥ (Ahousaht First Nation), čišaaʔaḥ (Tseshaht First Nation), diitiidʔaaʔtx (Ditidaht First Nation), ʕaʔuukʷiiʔaḥ (Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation), ʕukʷaaʔaḥ (Toquaht Nation), hiškʷiiʔaḥ (Hesquiaht First Nation), hupačasath (Hupacasath First Nation), ʕuučuqʕisʔaḥ (Uchucklesaht First Nation), huuʔiiʔaḥ (Huu-ay-aht First Nation), and Yuuʕuʔiʔaḥ Government, to provide written expression of their interest in moving forward with Co-Governance, sitting with the Board of Education and Standing Committee members at Public Board Meetings and Standing Committee Meetings, in a collaborative, consultative and consensus building manner, supporting the decision-making processes of the governing body; and

THAT the Board of Education direct staff through the Superintendent, to request each of the above-named Nuuchahnulth Nations to provide the name of a selected representative, selected to sit in the above-described co-governing structure, on behalf of their respective Nation.

Carried

11.9 Board Sign Approval - motion

Moved by: Trustee Bray
Seconded by: Trustee Joseph

THAT the Board of Education direct staff through the Superintendent, to proceed with the replacement of the board office sign using design Option 1 as recommended by the Finance, Operations and Assets Committee on February 20, 2024.

Carried

12. Policy Development

12.1 Policies to go out for Public Consultation - add Motions

12.1.a Trustee Bursary Policy

Moved by: Trustee Zanette
Seconded by: Trustee Washington

THAT the Board of Education direct staff through the Superintendent, to publish the draft Trustee Bursary Policy for a period of 30 days for public consultation.

Carried

12.1.b Housing Policy

Moved by: Trustee Zanette

Seconded by: Trustee Joseph

THAT the Board of Education direct staff through the Superintendent, to publish the draft Housing Policy for a period of 30 days for public consultation.

Carried

12.1.c Privacy Policy

Moved by: Trustee Zanette

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Board of Education direct staff through the Superintendent, to publish the draft Privacy Policy for a period of 30 days for public consultation.

Carried

12.2 Policies for Adoption

12.2.a Records Retention Policy

Moved by: Trustee Zanette

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Records Retention Policy as presented.

Carried

12.2.b Public Interest Disclosure Policy

Moved by: Trustee Zanette

Seconded by: Trustee Washington

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Public Interest Disclosure Policy as presented.

Carried

13. Notice of Motion

14. Correspondence- Action Required

15. Correspondence- For Information

15.1 2024-02-12 City of Port Alberni Council Summary

16. External Board Committees

16.1 2024-02-21 ACHN Table of Partners Minutes

16.2 2024-01-23 ACRD Agricultural Development Committee Meeting Minutes

16.3 2024-02-07 Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage Commission Meeting Minutes

16.4 2023-12-21 COPA Advisory Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

17. Internal District Committees

17.1 2024-01-16 Finance, Operations and Assets Committee Meeting Minutes

17.2 2024-02-06 Education Committee Meeting Minutes

17.3 2024-02-13 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

17.4 2024-02-20 Finance, Operations and Assets Committee Meeting Minutes

18. Audience Question Period

Ryan Dvorak, ADTU President mentioned that March 8, 2024 is International Women's Day.

Joseph Walter Leskosek spoke to parent engagement/involvement and his impression that it is currently lacking, noting some examples of issues that he feels were not discussed with parents. Trustee Zanette spoke to the specific examples given, noting that these topics were brought to both PAC and DPAC meetings for discussion. She noted that meeting minutes are available to the public on the SD70 website, as re all Policies and Administrative Procedures. She noted how important the parent voice is, but also how much of a struggle it has been to get parents to engage. Specific examples of how to improve on this are welcomed.

Erin Cootes, Erin Fontaine, and Barbara Sam spoke to a book that had recently been checked out of the École Alberni Elementary School that had content that was inappropriate for the age group it was being signed out to. They asked who approved the book to be in the library, what's the process of screening literature, and suggested that it might not be appropriate for any school-aged people, including high school students.

Superintendent Davie noted that the issue had been brought to his attention, that the district had taken immediate steps to remove the resource from an elementary school setting. He assured the room that the book was not in any other school and that he was working with the school administrator and communicating with parents on the matter.

He requested that the audience members stay behind so he could speak further with them after the meeting was finished.

19. Next Meeting

20. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm.

Board Chair

Secretary Treasurer