



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 7:00pm

West Vancouver School Board Office

Present: C. Broady, Chair; D. Stevenson, Vice Chair; N. Brown, S. Donahue, P. Dorsman, Trustees; C. Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools; D. Eberwein, Deputy Superintendent of Schools; J. Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer; S. Nosek, Director of Instruction; L. Tomlinson, Director of Instruction; D. Nelson, Director of Instruction

Absent: P. Dorsman, Trustee; K. Martin, Director of Human Resources; W. Hickey, Director of Facilities; B. Pausche, Manager of Communications

A. CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Broady called the meeting to order and acknowledged that we are on the traditional lands of the Squamish Nation and said we so appreciate our relationship with the nation as we work together to build relationships and increase learning.

The Chair highlighted the launch event for the West Vancouver Place for Sport campaign on May 26 at 7pm at the Kay Meek Centre. This event will officially start the fundraising portion of the revitalization of the track and infield at WVSS and will include special guests. Though the event is free, tickets must be obtained through the Kay Meek box office.

Apologies were extended on behalf of Trustee Dorsman, who was unable to attend the meeting as he was away on business.

B. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

"Education Through the Arts – A Journey" – Gleneagles Ch'axáy Elementary

Principal Scott Wallace, Vice Principal Natalie Mendes, teachers Daniela Gielnik and Andrea Smith, Admin Assistant Maria Pistilli, and PAC Chair Kelly Richter

Principal Wallace introduced his core planning team, consisting of Vice Principal Natalie Mendes, teachers Daniela Gielnik and Andrea Smith, Admin Assistant Maria Pistilli, and PAC Chair Kelly Richter, and noted that they have been instrumental in helping to shape the changes at Gleneagles Ch'axáy during the last four years.

He described how, in the face of declining enrollment and surrounded by an abundance of choice programs, staff and stakeholders engaged in meaningful consultation to establish a Gleneagles Ch'axáy identity based on their existing strengths and strong community base. The school's rich history in the arts, combined with the same in the surrounding communities of Gleneagles, Horseshoe Bay, Lions Bay and Eagle Harbour, made the infusion of the arts into everyday learning an obvious choice. Inquiry-based learning, 21st century skill development and the introduction of the new curriculum all helped facilitate the change from the ground-up.

Commitment from all staff and stakeholders was essential, and Ms Pistilli explained how the core planning group held several consultation meetings over the course of each school year. It was decided that given the natural strengths of the school that were already in place, and the identification and development of Gleneagles learner core values, the best fit for the school would be an education through the arts focus. Ms Richter agreed and summarized the different ways in which parents were encouraged to engage directly with Mr Wallace. She said that the transition was an organic one and that parents were happy to focus on existing strengths and community connections. Parents found it comforting that the school would not undergo a branding or re-branding and because of the efforts by Mr Wallace and staff to include parents in the process, they were happy to participate and align the PAC goals and budget to support the shift to arts-infused inquiry.

Mrs Gielnik explained how teachers understood that any lasting change starts with the teaching. Staff had professional development to address any concerns about infusing the arts into the new curriculum and said that people very quickly became invested when they could see the meaningful learning that was taking place. The arts were simply a means by which students could express themselves and demonstrate learning. With community support from local businesses and community centres providing gallery space and parent volunteering for various projects, there was an increase in dialogue and a greater understanding among staff, students and stakeholders of the value of process and reflection. As well, the core competencies included in the new curriculum were more easily understood as transferable skills. Ms Smith described how the visits by staff to five different schools made it clear that there is no one-size-fits-all model, and that the structure and approach to learning must be a response to the community. She said staff learned that physical space matters, that teaching must be effective, and that learning happens for everyone – students and staff. With relevant professional development and strong leadership comes increased inclusiveness and engagement, which has academic, social and emotional benefits.

Vice Principal Mendes thanked the district, the facilities department, and the PAC for their help and support in creating flexible spaces that are helping the school pursue its vision. She said that now that the groundwork is laid, they can move forward in their work to engage students through the arts in a broad sense, with the notion that the arts also encompasses communication, design media, digital arts, and critical thinking. As well, the school's ties with the community foster enthusiasm outside the classroom and contribute to what she called their ongoing transformative practice.

Principal Wallace concluded by saying that Gleneagles Ch'axáy remains a neighbourhood community school first, not a program of choice. With transference of learning, the new curriculum and core competencies, the First Peoples Principals of Learning, and the ongoing transformative practice that is education through the arts, the school's journey is not finished – it is only just beginning.

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#1224	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Agenda of the Regular Meeting May 17, 2016 be adopted.
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Carried.

D. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 minutes)

No questions or comments from the gallery.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting April 19, 2016

#1225	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting April 19, 2016 be approved.
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Carried.

- General Record May 17, 2016

#1226	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the General Record May 17, 2016 be approved.
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Carried.

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No business arising.

G. BOARD BUSINESS

1. Mental Health Initiatives

Maureen Lee, District Administrator – Student Support Services

District Administrator Lee began by explaining why there is a need for sexual abuse/exploitation prevention education, citing anecdotal evidence, such as the prevalence of sexting in Grades 8 and 9, sharing photos of self and others, and students as young as Grades 4 and 5 viewing online pornography, to statistical evidence, such as the McCreary Report results indicating that 10% of youth in West Vancouver have been physically abused, and 4% sexually abused. It was noted that the sexual abuse figure is very likely low, as many students don't realize that abuse means more than just physical touching – it also means exposure, photos etc.

Ms Lee outlined the comprehensive prevention education plan that West Vancouver Schools has in place for students from Kindergarten to Grade 10. There are some changes

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and additions for the 2016-2017 school year which will better address relevant topics in age-appropriate ways. In Kindergartens, students will continue with Let's Talk About Touching; Grades 1-3 will have a new, locally-developed program that replaces the Care Kit; Grades 4 and 5 will have Kids in the Know (Molly & Zoe online); Grades 6 and 7 will have Kids in the Know and Taking Care of Ourselves, Taking Care of Others (TCO²); Grade 8 will have TCO²; Grade 9 will have SafeTeen Level 1; and Grade 10 will have SafeTeen Level 2.

In TCO², online luring and exploitation will be covered, explaining what those might look like and how to avoid victim-shaming, as it could happen to anyone. The SafeTeen program is what self-regulation looks like at secondary and the introduction of Level 2 for the first time is a highlight. These three-hour workshops are delivered separately, by gender, and while many topics are common to both presentations, there are some specific to gender, particularly at Level 2. It was noted that the recent sexual assault involving local youth highlights the need for increased education and awareness. Feedback from students, particularly to SafeTeen, is that it is an amazing presentation, one that makes them feel confident and better able to stay safe.

Ms Lee said that ultimately that is our goal: to give students skills that help them stay safe now and in the future.

2. Inquiry and Digital Lead Teachers

Lynne Tomlinson and Sean Nosek, Directors of Instruction

Director Tomlinson began the presentation by introducing the district's innovation, inquiry and digital lead teachers: Janet Hicks, Kelly Skehill, Scott Lawson, Kelly Brady, Dale Addis, Jordan Al Assadi, Keith Rispin, Michael Richardson, and Cari Wilson. She reported that the work they do in the district is pivotal to student engagement and implementation of the new curriculum.

Ms Hicks reported that this year in her role as an elementary innovation and inquiry lead teacher, she has found teachers ready to delve into the big ideas and implement the new curriculum. She said she feels the CLT model (curriculum lead teacher) is a powerful one and that the co-planning and sharing of units has increased interest in engagement. The discussions have shifted from 'what to teach' to 'how to teach'. There is a continued focus on inquiry and school-wide inquiry, which has led to higher levels of engagement, work in multi-age groupings, and increased teacher collaboration.

Ms Skehill reported that innovation and inquiry is flourishing at the secondary level and that the innovation grants have been transformative for the work secondary teachers do. With the redesign of the new curriculum, she has seen an increase in the connections between elementary and secondary. These connections have provided leadership opportunities for secondary teachers, allowing them to share their knowledge and learning, and have been critical for the Grade 7/8 transitions and mentorships. With the increased understanding and support for the transition to high school, anxiety has decreased and engagement increased. The focus on inquiry at secondary has also promoted interdisciplinary unit planning, a shift in the way libraries are used, and increased connection to the community and the use of local experts.

Director Nosek then explained that the next part of the presentation was a challenge to teachers to tell their school's story in 60 seconds, using one slide.

Mr Lawson and Mrs Brady spoke of their experiences during the first year of Grade 8 BYOD at Rockridge. The use of technology increases the opportunity for personalized learning, and coupled with things like google classroom, allows for increased collaboration between students and teachers and support for different learning styles. It was noted that the use of google classroom has been a huge benefit for the Grade 10 MYP personal project as well, allowing for better tracking of student progress and easier feedback.

Mr Al Assadi and Mr Addis reported that in Sentinel's second year of integrated device usage, they no longer refer to BYOD, but to technology-infused learning. With the assistance of their feeder schools, who have emphasized responsible digital citizenship, they have increased positive messaging about balanced choices regarding the use of devices. Posters have been developed and will be displayed in all of Sentinel's family of schools. It is felt this common language will also help to ease the transition from Grade 7 to 8. This year, teachers are more comfortable with google classroom and its use in problem and inquiry based learning has eased the shift to student-centred learning.

Mr Rispin and Mr Richardson also reported that in their second year using google apps for education (GAPE), less time is being spent on helping teachers to navigate the programs and more on making the technology work for teachers and students by exploring different pathways to digital tools. They said teachers are increasingly creating digitally-augmented learning environments.

Ms Wilson said that elementary schools in the district are actually ahead of secondary in terms of tech integration into curriculum. She said she encountered no pushback regarding GAPE and that adoption rates in elementary were very quick. As well, teachers have embraced Fresh Grade, which allows collaboration between teachers, students and parents to enhance a child's educational experience. Coding has also grown in popularity and Ms Wilson noted that the Ministry is now building a coding curriculum for elementary, which she feels is important, saying that coding teaches transferable skills and supports the core competencies.

Students Gillian and William then gave a demonstration of what coding can look like, using Tickle, a visual coding app. William moved a Sphero around the board room with his code, while Gillian flew a small drone, using Tickle to control its flight. Mr Rispin reported that as a result of a STEM grant applied for by Kim Adams and awarded to WVSS, 20 small drones were purchased: five for each secondary school and five for Ms Wilson to use with elementary schools. A drone competition has been organized for June 22, during which each school will bring a programmable obstacle course for the others to attempt to navigate. This fun and educational event will bring students, teachers and schools together.

Mr Rispin then demonstrated a large drone, equipped with a 1080p video camera. He said that there are many opportunities to use the drone for different disciplines, such as biology or film making. Mr Rispin said the practical application of coding in the ways demonstrated takes it beyond the theoretical and increases student engagement and a sense of accomplishment.

Director Tomlinson concluded by saying the teachers' presentations show the remarkable work being done with students in our district, and how things have changed and grown during the last five years. She thanked the teachers and the board for their commitment to the innovation grants.

Chair Broady also thanked the teachers for what she called their fabulous presentations and said that during the budget process, the board heard and understood the importance of the innovation grants to our district.

3. School / Academy Fees

Dave Eberwein, Deputy Superintendent

The Deputy Superintendent reviewed the process for determining school, academy and program fees, noting that they must adhere to School Act section 82 and WVSD Administrative Procedure 505. Fees are as consistent as possible across the district and all schools have a waiver for hardship. Academy fees are determined by principals and Director Nelson and approved by PACs. For 2016/17, there are only minimal changes, with eight or nine increasing between \$5 - \$15 and other fees reduced in order to create alignment. Elementary band remains unchanged at \$350. For comparison, the North Vancouver School District Band/Strings program is \$460.

It was reported that three Ignite Your Passion programs will run next year: All Hands on Tech (WVSS); Big Bad Bot Builders (WVSS); and Touché Fencing (Eagle Harbour). The first two programs are full, with 24 students in each.

Ten different academies are planned for next year, with recruitment continuing for three: dance, rugby, and the re-vamped hockey program.

Chair Broady encouraged PACs at WVSS and Rockridge to note that Sentinel's PAC fees are \$5 higher and said she would like to see them aligned next year.

Trustee Brown thanked Director Nelson for her efforts to help students find their passions by exploring possible options for new and different academies.

#1227	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Board approved the school and academy fees for 2016-2017 as proposed. <div data-bbox="1323 1255 1442 1291"><u>Carried.</u></div>
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H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting – April 26, 2016

- Draft 2016/17 Preliminary Annual Budget

2. Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting – May 10, 2016

- Manager of Purchasing & Transportation
- International Fees for 2017/28
- ERAC - Annual Savings report
- 2016/17 Annual Budget

Vice Chair Stevenson briefly reviewed the minutes and made special mention of the addition of Douglas Dunn to the district. He is the new Manager of Purchasing and Transportation and is based at Facilities. Mr. Dunn replaces Sonya Margolles, who recently retired after 17 years with the district.

The floor was then passed to the Secretary Treasurer who briefly reviewed the budget feedback process and key factors affecting the budget for 2016-2017.

We have a status quo budget for 2016-2017, but do need to draw on our reserves to cover the budgeted structural deficit of \$1.5 million.

The challenge for 2017-2018, a year in which we potentially have only \$500,000 in reserves, is to balance the budget. It was stressed that this is not a time for panic, but a time to find efficiencies and re-evaluate how we do business in the face of continued financial restraint. The 2016/17 year will be spent exploring ways to continue to do the things that set West Vancouver Schools apart.

Vice Chair Stevenson then read the bylaw pertaining to the 2016-2017 Preliminary Budget.

#1228	<p><u>MOTION</u> THAT the Board approve A BYLAW of the BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 45 (WEST VANCOUVER) (hereinafter called the “Board”) to adopt the Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2016/2017 pursuant to Section 113 of the <i>School Act</i>, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the “Act”).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Board has complied with the provisions of the Act respecting the Annual Budget adopted by this bylaw.2. This bylaw may be cited as School District No. 45 (West Vancouver) Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2016/2017.3. The attached Statement 2 showing the estimated revenue and expense for the 2016/2017 fiscal year and the total budget bylaw amount of \$75,393,886 for the 2016/2017 fiscal year was prepared in accordance with the Act.4. Statement 2, 4 and Schedules 2 to 4 are adopted as the Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2016/2017. <p>READ A FIRST TIME THE 17th DAY OF MAY, 2016;</p> <p>READ A SECOND TIME THE 17th DAY OF MAY, 2016;</p> <p>READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ADOPTED THE 17th DAY OF MAY, 2016.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried.</p>
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Chair Broady thanked the Secretary Treasurer and her team for their hard work, saying the Board is aware of the increasingly difficult task that preparing the budget has become.

#1229	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee meetings of April 26 and May 10, 2016 be received.	<u>Carried.</u>
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3. Human Resources Committee Meeting – May 10, 2016

- Summer School Enrollment
- Enrollment 2016-2017
- Spring Recruitment – Teachers / Support Staff
- Professional Development (WVMEA)
- Wellness Committee
- Exempt Retirements / Recruitments

In Trustee Dorsman’s absence, Trustee Brown briefly reviewed the minutes of the final Human Resources Committee meeting of the school year.

#1230	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting of May 10, 2016 be received.	<u>Carried.</u>
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I. CORRESPONDENCE

A list of the correspondence from the past month is posted online at <http://westvancouver.schools.ca/board-correspondence>

J. TRUSTEE MEETINGS & EVENTS

8 th Annual Anti-Bootlegging Campaign Cedardale Renovation Grand opening Chartwell Annual Charity Pancake Breakfast Finance and Facilities Committee meeting Gary Cords’ Retirement Reception Gleneagles PAC meeting Human Resources Committee meeting Ignite the North Shore event Lighthouse Festival Launch Concert Lighthouse Festival – Various events Metro ELL Meeting	North Shore Immigrant Inclusion Partnership Opening of the Kelty Dennehy Resource Centre Presidents’ Committee Meeting Properties Family Hub Open House School Traffic and Safety Committee Streamkeepers Adopt-a-Fish Campaign Streamkeepers AGM West Bay Grade 7 Exhibition Projects West Vancouver DPAC meeting World Class Learners with Dr. Yong Zhao WV District Student Council
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K. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minutes)

Rob Millard – President, WVTA

- Reported that the WVTA is having their AGM on Thursday, May 19
- Said they are encouraging as many members as possible to attend the retirement reception on June 2 and that they appreciate the district hosting this annual event
- Said that the Inquiry and Digital Lead Teachers presentation was a hidden highlight and one of the best half hours of board meeting he has experienced
- Said it gave a great snapshot of all the different things our teachers and students are doing around the district, without many different trips to schools

The Chair thanked him for his comments and once again thanked the Secretary Treasurer for her work on the budget that allows such work to take place in our schools, especially at a time when we know so many districts are struggling.

L. ADJOURNMENT

8:54pm

BOARD CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER