



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday, June 14, 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; K. Martin, Director of Human Resources; W. Hickey, Director of Facilities

Absent: 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 are so appreciative of our relationship with the Nation as we move to build relationships and increase learning.

The Chair said she hoped everyone was enjoying year-end activities and that she was sure everyone was looking forward to the summer break.

B. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

"International Success Stories" – International Education

District Administrator Michael Frankowski, District Vice Principal Crystal Tanfara, and students Hannah, Aiden, Daniel, Rayna, Jim and Nicolo

District Administrator Frankowski introduced a number of this year's international students and asked them to briefly share their thoughts on their experiences in West Vancouver Schools.

Hannah, a Korean student in Grade 4 at Hollyburn, said she enjoys being here and thinks the staff are kind and patient, and the students are friendly. She is taking swimming lessons, looking forward to summer camps, and says she is very happy in West Vancouver.

Aiden, a Korean student in Grade 4 at Ridgeview, says he loves exploring the forest and large playground at school. School is fun, his English is improving, and he loves participating in lots of sports, including table tennis, basketball, and Tae Kwan Do.

Daniel is a Korean student who started in North Vancouver and moved to West Vancouver Secondary for Grade 8. He found the West Vancouver international orientation program helpful and fun, and loves his “awesome and big” school. He likes the way we learn, by rotating classes and teachers. At first everything was new and scary, but he played gold-level soccer, is joining the robotics academy next year and is interested in learning more about coding. All these things helped him get used to life here.

Rayna, a Sentinel Grade 10 student, is originally from Shanghai and has been here for two years. She loves all aspects of Canadian life and says this opportunity has allowed her to broaden her horizons and improve her English. She loves being able to participate in AP courses that leave her free to challenge herself in any aspect she chooses, liked psychology or human geography, while still being able to participate in the fine arts such as drama, singing, and the visual arts – something she says she wouldn’t have been able to do in China.

Jim is in Grade 11 at WVSS, having come from Vietnam in Grade 10. He agreed with Daniel that the orientation for international students is great. He was initially concerned about being the only Vietnamese student, but joined a dance group at school and made friends. He recommended that all students join clubs they are interested in, as it is the easiest way to meet people. Jim also spoke of how much it meant to him to be able to choose subjects, even within the IB Diploma program, as that freedom of choice is not available in Vietnam, where students have to follow a set program. He has also enjoyed skiing and hiking, and loves dance so much that he is now part of a semi-professional dance crew outside school.

Nicolo is an Italian student in Grade 12 at WVSS. He said he found the transition difficult at first, but after 10 months here, has many friends and participates in many different activities. He, too, likes the teaching style here, and the ability to make his own choices regarding classes. Though many things were difficult, he is happy with his choice to come here and it has been a great year.

District Vice Principal Tanfara said that these stories make clear that student success in all aspects of their experience with us is necessary for a sustainable, holistic program. That magic starts in the orientation program, where students are introduced to the city and what living and learning in West Vancouver looks like. She and the department’s multicultural worker work hard to support students in all aspects of their life here, intervening if necessary, but being sure to praise students and give them a pat on the back as well. She will continue to capture and share students’ stories and is looking forward to introducing a student survey, supported by a district innovation grant. Ultimately, what we want to provide is a positive, enriching experience for all our students.

“Chartwell Capstone Connect: From Idea to Reality” – Chartwell Elementary

Principal Aron Campbell, Head Teachers Rose Johnston and Christine Desai, and students Erin, Celine, Neimat, and Oscar

Principal Campbell reviewed the process Chartwell has gone through during the last few years as they seek to rebrand and refocus in a way that best serves their diverse student population. An examination of the successful AP Capstone program at Sentinel Secondary and the skills with which it equips students were of great interest to Chartwell staff and work began around a visioning process for a similar program in Grade 6/7. With the support of an innovation grant and district innovation teachers, the Grade 6/7 team at Chartwell launched the Capstone Inquiry Pilot Project and Exhibition in September 2015.

While taking into account the level of ELL support students in Grade 6 and 7 received, teachers were determined that all students experience a significant depth of learning and complexity of research. This required rigour, effort, patience, collaboration, coaching, and compassion, not only on the part of students, but of staff as well.

Students Erin, Oscar, Neimat, and Celine spoke of their experiences related to the Big Idea 'Many cultural practices have endured and continue to influence people today.' By webbing ideas, they found connections and then chose areas of personal interest. Working in groups, students started to develop many skills: researching and selecting reliable sources; note taking; writing essays with proper structure and supporting evidence; collaboration and compromise; and improving communication and presentation abilities. In their reflections, they all said how much they enjoyed the process and how much they felt they had learned. Mr. Campbell spoke about how proud he was of all 50 students who participated in this pilot project and how the project will extend student learning and preparedness for secondary school in the future.

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#1232	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Agenda of the Regular Meeting June 14, 2016 be adopted.	<u>Carried.</u>
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D. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 minutes)

Judy Duncan – President, WVAA

- Said the board highlights were great and that the student testimonials were a wonderful way to end the year

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting May 17, 2016

#1233	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting May 17, 2016 be approved.	<u>Carried.</u>
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F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No business arising.

G. BOARD BUSINESS

1. Superintendent's Report

Chris Kennedy, Superintendent

The Superintendent gave brief updates on several different topics:

Curriculum

This has been the dominant item on the learning agenda this year and will continue to be so during the next school year as well. The incorporation of the First Peoples' Principles of Learning was highlighted, as were the two very successful non-instructional days, during which teachers engaged in district-wide collaboration. There will be continued work around the core competencies, particularly at the Grade 8/9 level.

The 2016-2017 school year will see full implementation of the Kindergarten – Grade 9 curriculum, and the introduction of the new Grade 10-12 graduation program. Some areas in the new Grade 10-12 curriculum, such as math, will be similar to what is in place now, while others, such as social studies, will look significantly different. Is it also too early to determine which courses universities will value for entrance requirements. The recent announcement regarding provincial exams is a positive one, as it gives teachers embracing the new curriculum the freedom and flexibility to effectively explore the new curriculum. With full implementation required in September 2017, there is a lot of work to be done in the coming year. District-wide sessions are planned for November 2016 and January 2017, with greater attention paid to the Grade 10-12 curriculum, and continued focus on particular areas of interest in other grades, including Aboriginal learning.

Communicating Student Learning

Feedback from parents and staff regarding student reporting in K – Grade 2 and Grade 4 were very positive overall this year. The primary template will be expanded to Grade 3 for the 2016-2017 school year, overseen by District Principal Sandra-Lynn Shortall, while Director of Instruction Lynne Tomlinson will be taking the feedback regarding Grade 4, and working with teachers to expand it to Grades 5-7. There are no changes to reporting for Grades 8-12.

The parent consultation initiated by the Superintendent last year will continue, as we find greater consensus about what information is wanted and how it is received. The Ministry will be issuing an interim reporting order this summer, so we will work within those parameters, while providing what our community wants.

For some in the larger community, the loss of exams equals a loss of vigour. It seems, however, that those districts which have already introduced different reporting methods are less concerned. As well, universities have said for some time that they do not care about/consider Grade 10 and 11 exams.

Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

This new structure will be in place for the fall and will replace the previous program including the Superintendent's Report on Achievement and individual school Achievement Contracts. Director of Instruction Lynne Tomlinson will be working with schools on using an inquiry-based approach that models best practice for teaching and learning. The model will be based on a three-year cycle for both schools and the district. Administrators and WVTA executives have been engaged in the planning and initial feedback from the Ministry has been very positive.

Technology

A refresh/redesign of the school websites is happening over the summer and a template developed with the outside contractors that did the district site last year. As well, there is continued investment in the overall IT infrastructure, including new servers in the data centre, increased storage capacity, and optimization of our virtual environment. Other items of note include the launch of the parent portal in MyEdBC; growth of e-portfolio space like FreshGrade; access to online resources including IXL Math and MyBlueprint; and the continued expansion of BYOD/tech-infused classrooms and GAFE. There will be increased focus on coding and computational thinking in the new curriculum and the district is hosting a coding conference for Grade 4-6 teachers on the Tuesday before opening day.

Enrollment Planning 2016-2017

Numbers are below those for the current year, but are above February projections and continue to be on track. There does not appear to be any particular trend geographically within the district or with any particular grade level, but numbers do seem down for out of district students transferring into our schools after Grade 8. Academy numbers continue to be strong.

The Superintendent concluded by noting that Dean Shareski and Natalie Panek will be speaking at the traditional Opening Day for staff on September 1st. As well as honouring our long-service employees, the morning sets the tone and vision for the school year and everyone is encouraged to attend.

2. Academies Update

Diane Nelson, Director of Instruction

Director Nelson gave a brief update on academies for the 2016-2017 school year:

Ballet

15 students currently undergoing audition process
Addressing needs of super achiever students

Baseball

26 students – many returning
Excited to be able continue use of the Chief Joe Mathias Centre

Basketball

71 students in four cohorts
Increased interest from international students

Field Hockey

28 students
Collaborative model between WVSD, NVSD, Field Hockey BC and WVFHC – first in Canada
All North Shore students together on field days – grouped according to skill
During inclement weather, will work on skill development indoors with own academy

Hockey

Two teams
Prep/elite team has students from all over BC and the Yukon

Robotics

49 students including eight girls + waitlist

All grades and three secondary schools well represented

Rugby

15 students (boys and girls) from all three secondary schools

Will continue to work with North Star rugby to promote over the summer

Anticipate close to full by the fall

Soccer

51 students

New model – every other day

Tennis

16 students – perhaps can go to 17 or 18

Early morning program – 7 – 8:10am

International students showing interest – sometimes a challenge to accommodate ability

Fencing

25 students

Director Nelson then introduced Igor Gansevic, the fencing academy coach, and a number of fencing students. Mr Gansevic spoke of his vision of the fencing academy as a high performance training program. He pushes the students hard, but says they keep coming back and that he is proud of each one. During the three years the academy has been running, enrollment has gone from 12 students the first year, to 11 this year, to 25 for the 2016-2017 school year. He credits the programs they have run at elementary school for the increase in registrations. The students spoke of their love for fencing, the friends they have made, and how they feel like a big family. Their various achievements were highlighted, including achievements at the provincial level, as well as national team members. Mr. Gansevic concluded by saying that in the future, his goal is to have two groups of students, with the high performance group running in the morning.

3. Aboriginal Education Report

Lynne Tomlinson, Director of Instruction

Director Lynne Tomlinson reminded the board of the current Ministry requirement that districts with an Aboriginal Education Enhancement agreement in place report their evidence of progress. West Vancouver Schools' report will be available in July. Our enhancement agreement covers 2014-2019 and we are already moving beyond the goals laid out within it. The Director highlighted each goal and gave brief summaries of the work done to support each one:

Goal 1 – To improve the sense of belonging and presence of students of Aboriginal ancestry

Statistical evidence of success includes:

- 33% of Ab Ed students surveyed indicate they like school 'all the time'
- 84% of Ab Ed parents surveyed report their children like school 'almost always'

- 67% of Ab Ed students surveyed feel their school supports students of Aboriginal ancestry 'many times'

These results can be attributed to the work done in our schools to increase awareness of local legends and the 10,000 years of local history. We work with local Squamish elders and cultural advisors, including Sa7plek Lanakila (Bob Baker) and Yeltsilewet (Faye Halls), to help bridge the gap between Aboriginal and non- Aboriginal communities. Even though we are on the traditional land of the Squamish Nation, the majority of Ab Ed students in our schools are Metis, and we work to understand and support students from that community as well.

Goal 2 – To improve the academic performance of Aboriginal students

Work is being done, in association with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESEC), to combat the 'racism of low standards', in which Aboriginal students are directed into easier courses. Part of that work includes better-informing students and parents about the differences between the Evergreen and Dogwood Certificates.

There is a continued focus on literacy and numeracy, and the introduction of Aboriginal Success teachers to our schools has helped to earlier-identify those students who need additional supports.

In assessing proof of success for this goal, every report card and FSA result of our Ab Ed students was examined. Results are masked, as the number of students is small, but those results are significant:

- FSA results in Grades 4 and 7 show almost all students are meeting or exceeding expectations in numeracy, and all students are meeting or exceeding expectations in literacy
- Seven of 15 students improved in secondary English
- Eight of 15 students improved in secondary Math
- There are increased enrollment numbers in trades and apprenticeship programs
- 67% of Ab Ed students surveyed say they think they are successful at school 'many times' and 11% 'all the time'
- 69% of Ab Ed parents surveyed think their children are successful at school 'often or almost always'

Goal 3 – To increase the use of accurate, authentic, and relevant First Peoples' resources

District workshops have been held for teachers not only to support the new curriculum, but to educate them about available, current BC resources, as the most authentic resources are the ones that best help students to understand. 80% of teachers attended those workshops and have asked for more next year. Teachers have indicated they want to learn about authentic and local resources, starting with Squamish to increase our immediate sense of place, and then moving outward to embrace others. As well, next year will see a focus on the Squamish Language.

Director Tomlinson concluded by saying that though there is still work to be done, we are seeing progress. The work will continue and expand and the tracking of individual students will be maintained. Trustees will be informed when the report is available.

Chair Broady thanked the Director for her report and noted that there is a push within the BCSTA to increase awareness of the differences between the Evergreen and Dogwood certificates. She feels there is already better understanding than there was even 18 months ago.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting – June 14, 2016

- Administrative Procedure update
- Administrative Savings update
- West Vancouver Place for Sport update
- Capital Bylaw changes
- School Enhancement Fund Award
- Facilities Department update

Vice Chair Stevenson briefly reviewed the minutes and asked the Director of Facilities to explain the new parking configurations around WVSS and the Kay Meek Centre. The Vice Chair then read the new capital bylaw no. 1516CP45-01.

#1234	<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 a Capital Project of the Board pursuant to Sections 143 (2) and 144 (1) of the <i>School Act</i>, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the “Act”).</p> <p>WHEREAS in accordance with provisions of the <i>School Act</i> the Minister of Education (hereinafter called the “Minister”) has approved the Board’s Capital Plan on May 24, 2016.</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE the Board agrees to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) authorizes the Secretary Treasurer to execute project agreements related to the expenditures contemplated by the Capital Plan;(b) upon approval to proceed, commence the Project and proceed diligently and use its best efforts to complete each Project substantially as directed by the Minister;(c) observe and comply with any rule, policy or regulation of the Minister as may be applicable to the Board or the Project(s); and,(d) maintain proper books of account, and other information and documents with respect to the affairs of the Project(s), as may be prescribed by the Minister. <p>NOW THEREFORE the Board enacts as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. The Capital Bylaw of the Board approved by the Minister that specifies the supported projects in the Ministry’s letter of approval 05/24/2016 from the 2015/16 Capital Plan is hereby adopted.2. This Bylaw may be cited as School District No. 45 (West Vancouver) Capital Bylaw No. 1516CP45-01. <p>READ A FIRST TIME THE 14th DAY OF JUNE, 2016:</p>
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READ A SECOND TIME THE 14th DAY OF JUNE, 2016;
READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ADOPTED THE 14th DAY OF JUNE, 2016.

Carried.

#1235 **MOTION THAT the minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting of June 14, 2016 be received.**

Carried.

I. FOR INFORMATION

The Deputy Superintendent reviewed administrative procedures AP 157 – Maintenance of Order Exclusions, and AP 330 – Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect. The changes to AP 157 include increased information for those subject to orders, and AP 330 has been reworked and simplified in order to be more effective. District Administrator Maureen Lee assisted with AP 330 and updated forms and information will be provided to schools in the fall.

J. CORRESPONDENCE

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

K. TRUSTEE MEETINGS & EVENTS

The Chair noted what a busy month it had been and said how much trustees are enjoying going to the wonderful graduation banquets and commencement ceremonies.

Athletic Coaches Appreciation Event BCPSEA Regional Conference Call Caulfeild Assembly Cedardale Blessing District Retirement Reception District Track Meet Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting Gleneagles Pancake Breakfast & Open House Grad Show Opening Reception KMC Fund Raising Gala Launch of WV Place for Sport Meeting with MLAs Ralph Sultan & Jordan Sturdy North Shore Coho Society Scholarship Committee North Shore Congress	North Shore Immigrant Inclusion Partnership Presidents' Committee Meeting Rockridge Grad Banquet Sentinel Commencement Trustees Metro Meeting WV Chamber of Commerce After Work Chat with MLAs WV Community Day Parade WV DPAC Meeting WV Streamkeepers' Course WV DPAC Luncheon WVSS Grad Banquet
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L. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minutes)

Rob Inman – West Vancouver resident and coach

- Said that he has watched Director Nelson develop the academy programs over the 17 years he has been coaching at Sentinel and constantly impressed by the calibre of the programs
- Believes academy students develop athletic skill, but also achieve academic success, gain life skills, and learn about work/life balance and that the academy programs here are the best in Canada
- Asked how many more academies the district can set up and maintain?

Director Nelson thanked him for his comments and said that only time will tell.

Before adjourning, Chair Broady extended congratulations on behalf of the board to all graduates and retirees as they begin the next chapters of their lives. She also took the opportunity to extend thanks to all staff, from custodians, to support staff, to facilities, to teachers and administrators, for the endless hours of hard work put in to make West Vancouver Schools such a special place. She then wished everybody a safe and happy summer.

M. ADJOURNMENT

8:58pm

BOARD CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER