

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.
WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE**

Present: C. Dekker, Chair; C. Broady, Vice-Chair; Trustees: R. Faris, J. Kellett, D. Stevenson; C. Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools; D. Eberwein, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; S. Nosek, Director of Instruction; L. Tomlinson, Director of Instruction; D. Nelson, Director of Instruction; K. Martin, Director of Human Resources; J. Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer; B. Pausche, Manager of Communications

A. CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Dekker acknowledged that we are on the traditional lands of the Squamish Nation and that we are very much looking forward to working together under the new Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement.

She also expressed relief that some middle ground has been found in the provincial labour dispute and that everyone can now get on with the business of educating children. On behalf of the Board, she thanked parents, teachers and the community for their patience and support during this unprecedented time. She is looking forward to rebuilding communities and connections and asked Mr. Millard to pass on her message to the members of the WVTA as well. Chair Dekker then formally welcomed Diane Nelson and Sean Nosek, new Directors of Instruction, both of whom were named among Canada's Outstanding Principals in 2012 and 2013 respectively.

Reminders were given about TEDx West Vancouver Ed – Rethinking Education on September 27 at the Kay Meek, and for the rescheduled DPAC welcome luncheon on October 20.

B. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#1098	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Agenda of the Regular Meeting September 16, 2014 be adopted.
	<u>Carried.</u>

C. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 minutes)

Sheelah Donahue, Past Chair - WV DPAC

- Read a statement on behalf of Abbie Milavsky, DPAC Chair
- Thanked students, parents, support staff, teachers, administrators, district staff and trustees for their patience and professionalism

- Pleased a tentative negotiated settlement has been reached and looking forward to kids being back in schools next week
- Hope that the resolution will make our education system stronger and carry students for many years without any further interruptions

Rob Millard, President – WVTA

- Hasn't yet read the tentative agreement
- Has been a very difficult time for teachers and despite their professionalism and excitement to get back to the classroom, nerves are raw and many have taken difficult financial hit
- Hopes that administration understands that there will be stresses and tensions and while he suspects it will pass, not everyone is happy
- Stated that pickets will remain in place until the WVTA hears from the BCTF to stand down

Chair Dekker asked about the likelihood of them standing down and Mr. Millard declined to comment.

Nick Kzanoski, Vice President – WVTA

- Stated that he had a question on behalf of a colleague: "How does the Chair think the lack of support from trustees and administrators will impact relationships?"

Chair Dekker answered that she and the other trustees have been supportive, have done their utmost to influence a fair and negotiated settlement. She also noted that administrators have been out on the picket lines talking to their staff.

Mr. Kzanoski said he would pass her answer on to his colleague.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting June 17, 2014

#1099	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting June 17, 2014 be approved.	<u>Carried.</u>
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- Special Meeting September 16, 2014

#1100	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the General Record of the Special Meeting September 16, 2014 be approved.	<u>Carried.</u>
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E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Trustee Broady asked for an update regarding the Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) documentation and about the languages our SWIS workers speak. Assistant Superintendent Eberwein confirmed that the agreement with the North Shore Multicultural Society came into effect on July 31, 2014 and that our SWIS workers speak Farsi, Mandarin and Cantonese. He noted that as a result of the new agreement with NSMCS, we have access to a greater range of languages should the need arise.

F. BOARD BUSINESS

1. Superintendent's Report

Chris Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent provided a brief verbal report regarding several areas of interest:

Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement

- Thanked Director of Instruction Lynne Tomlinson and her staff for their work helping to get this important agreement signed and spoke about how meaningful it was to see staff and First Nations come together at the signing ceremony
- Hearing lots of ideas about how to integrate Aboriginal Education into curriculum and learning

Stuart Shanker – The Fourth 'R'

- West Vancouver School District one of six 'first wave' districts in the province embracing self-regulation
- We hosted a conference in late August, which was a great success and he thanked Sandra-Lynn Shortall, Maureen Lee and Judy Duncan for their work organizing and Hollyburn and West Bay for presenting

Enrollment

- No concrete picture about the effect of job action yet – not prepared to say whether our numbers are up or down
- Local picture is mixed: have lost some on the western side to independent schools, but on the eastern side, have more new families than usual
- Looks like academies may take a hit
- Michael Frankowski, Crystal Tanfara and Rebecca Rowley did a lot of work organizing extended orientations for international students, though it looks like we may have lost approximately 12 students as a direct result of the job action

Facilities Readiness

- Our buildings are ready for opening
- Commended the work done during the summer by facilities staff and custodians, from minor work to larger projects - anything outstanding is minor (millwork etc.)

Parent Communications

- WVSD tried its best to keep parents informed during job action and the responses were largely appreciative
- Extended thanks to Assistant Superintendent Dave Eberwein and Manager of Communications Bev Pausche for their work responding to every email received, providing contact email addresses for ministers, MLAs, BCTF etc.
- Logistics information came from the Superintendent – likely will be one more message regarding opening day, but depends upon the ratification vote results and pending decisions regarding Pro-D days, making up time etc.
- First day will look like the Tuesday after Labour Day

Trustee Broady asked if an Aboriginal Education teacher had been hired. Director of Instruction Lynne Tomlinson reported that the position of Aboriginal Education Success

Teacher was a new one and was filled by Jada Harry. Her role will be to review the files of students in Kindergarten – Grade 12 and provide direct support, designing an education program to help each student be successful.

2. Bargaining Update

Kim Martin, Director of Human Resources

Ms. Martin said they were hopeful that the tentative agreement would be approved and noted that the district had met with the WVTA since the last board meeting in June and there were a couple of local issues that still needed signing off.

With regard to the WVMEA, she said it was all good news and that the new agreement was ratified by the West Vancouver Board of Education on June 20, 2014 and by WVMEA members on June 24, 2014.

3. Policy 8 (Appendix) – Approval of Updated Appendix

Julia Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer

The Secretary Treasurer reported that last Spring the Ministry introduced new legislation around elections. As the necessary update affected only an appendix to a Policy, no notice was required.

#1101	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Board approve the Policy 8 Appendix as updated.
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Carried.

4. Resolution re: 2014 General School Election

Julia Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer

The Secretary Treasurer explained that this resolution gives the District of West Vancouver the authority to conduct the trustee election for the school district. A formal agreement is required in order for the district to act on West Vancouver School District's behalf.

#1102	<p><u>MOTION</u> THAT WHEREAS the Board of Education of School District 45 (West Vancouver) is responsible for conducting trustee elections within the School District;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Board of Education wishes to make arrangements for the conduct of the 2014 general school election;</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that:</p> <p>The Board of Education agrees that the Chief Elections Officer and Deputy Chief Elections Officer appointed by the District of West Vancouver will also act on the Board's behalf.</p> <p>The Board of Education hereby authorizes an agreement to be entered into with the District of West Vancouver in order that the District of West Vancouver may conduct the 2014 school trustee election on behalf of the Board of Education and the Secretary Treasurer is authorized to execute and deliver that agreement.</p>
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Carried.

5. BCSTA Provincial Council Motions

Cindy Dekker, Board Chair

Trustee Faris wanted to state publicly that the last few months have been difficult on all parties involved and that she hopes that provincial organizations look at lessons learned. She also hopes that the BCSTA can strengthen the trustee voice at the provincial level, as she has experienced first-hand the hard work that the organization does. She hopes there will be an opportunity to look at how to empower the association and make its efforts more visible, noting that strengthening public education is at the heart of what trustees do.

Trustee Broady echoed her sentiments, noting that the education council is also doing important work and that an effective communications strategy is needed to better inform about the different kinds of work trustees are performing.

Chair Dekker reported that there were no emergent motions or resolutions at this time.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting – September 9, 2014

- Capital Plan 2014/15
- Paper Consumption 2013/14
- ERAC Savings 2013/14
- Financial Status at June 20, 2014

Trustee Kellett briefly reviewed the committee minutes then passed the floor to the Secretary Treasurer to explain the financial statements.

The Secretary Treasurer reported that Deloitte had conducted an independent audit of the district's financial statements for the 2013/14 fiscal year, and had issued an unqualified audit report. She then reviewed the financial statements. The good news was that we completed the year with a better than expected surplus balance sufficient to both maintain the fiscal prudence contingency fund of \$1 million and leave a further \$1 million to balance the 2015-2016 budget. However, it was noted that extreme caution must be exercised moving forward, as much of those monies came from one-time only items and that the long-term effects of job action on enrollment and the international program are not yet known.

Enrollment, international programs, co-operative gains, and increasing costs (hydro etc.) will have an effect on the amended budget for 2014-2015 as well.

Trustee Faris asked whether BCASBO has spoken to the government regarding protection in the case of an enrollment drop. The Secretary Treasurer reported that funding protection is available for a drop in funded FTE students, but not for international. It was also noted that there is a possible extension to the 1701 deadline.

#1103	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Audited Financial Statements for the 2013-2014 fiscal year be approved and forwarded to the Ministry of Education.	<u>Carried.</u>
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Chair Dekker commended the Secretary Treasurer and her staff for their hard work.

#1104	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting of September 9, 2014 be received.	<u>Carried.</u>
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2. Human Resources Committee Meeting – September 9, 2014

- New HR team member
- Staffing – Support Staff, Teachers, other
- Labour Dispute / Job Action Update
- Flu Clinic
- Living with Balance
- My45 update

#1105	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting of September 9, 2014 be received.	<u>Carried.</u>
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H. FOR INFORMATION

Updated Administrative Procedures:

AP 400 – Personnel Practices	AP 401 – Criminal Record Search
AP 402 – Medical Examinations	AP 403 – Personnel Records
AP 404 – Working Alone or in Isolation	AP 405 – Employee and Family Assistance Program
AP 406 – Employee Conflict of Interest	AP 408 – Long Service Recognition
AP 409 – Staff Resignations	AP 410 – Code of Professional Relationships
AP 420 – Selection and Appointment of School Administrators	
AP 430 – Support Staff Training Assistance	
AP 440 – Organizational Structure	AP 450 – Deleted
AP 461 – Support Staff Substitutes	AP 480 – Strike or Lockout
AP 490 – School Volunteers (moved to section 100)	

The Superintendent reported that the changes to the APs were simple housekeeping matters that do not required board approval. Director of Human Resources Kim Martin stated that the intent is to review one section of the Administrative Procedures manual annually, to ensure it is in line with current legislation.

I. CORRESPONDENCE

A list of the correspondence from the past month was part of the Agenda package.

J. TRUSTEE MEETINGS & EVENTS

Trustee Broady noted that the WV Fields group presented to district council and had their report approved. A potential WVSS turf field was included in the master plan. The fields group has now fulfilled their mandate and has disbanded.

Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement Signing Ceremony BCPSEA Conference Calls BCSTA Co-Governance Meeting BCSTA Conference Calls Board of Education/District Leadership Team Planning Day Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting Grosvenor Announcement at the Kay Meek Centre Hollyburn Elementary Graduation	Human Resources Committee Meeting SFU Faculty of Education Summer Institute The Fourth 'R' Self-Regulation Conference with Stuart Shanker Trustees and Administrators Social Year-End Event Trustees' Metro Meeting West Vancouver District Fields Meeting West Vancouver Joint Traffic and Safety Meeting
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K. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minutes)

Rob Millard, President – WVTA

- Welcomed Sean Nosek and thanked the board for the comments about a negotiated settlement, but noted that there is mixed reaction among teachers
- With regard to paper consumption, said he feels that education and monitoring is preferable to set limits, as he says paper is sometimes the life blood of some classes
- Thanked the district for providing employees with flu shots, but noted that last year they had asked that the clinic not be held on a Friday afternoon, as commuting is often difficult and that next year another option would be great

Nick Kzanoski, Vice President – WVTA

- Has listened to teacher comments – everyone's perspective is personal and different
- Kids come first and everyone will be professional, but this has been an exhausting and stressful time and those feelings will linger into the school year
- Hopes administration will be supportive

Chair Dekker agreed with Mr. Kzanoski's comments, noting that she has spoken to many teachers as well and the sense she gets is that despite the difficulties, teachers want to work to rebuild relationships.

L. ADJOURNMENT

8:11

BOARD CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER