



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.
WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE**

Present: C. Broady, Chair; D. Stevenson, Vice Chair; Trustees: N. Brown, S. Donahue, P. Dorsman; C. Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools; D. Eberwein, Deputy 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

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 that we very much appreciate the support and guidance that we receive from our friends in the Nation. She extended a special thanks to Xwalacktun for the two sets of doors blessed this evening and for all his hard work enhancing the relationship between the Nation and the district.

As well, she highlighted the upcoming Remembrance Day ceremonies at our schools and in our communities.

B. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

"Vancouver Biennale, Personal Passions" – Cypress Park Primary

Principal Judy Duncan, Vice Principal Kim Grimwood and former students Marin and Lauren

Principal Judy Duncan opened by saying that the BC Education Plan, with its focus on personalised learning, and district-hosted speakers such as Christopher Gaze, John Abbott and Yong Zhao, had all inspired her staff at Cypress Park and West Bay to think deeply about the role of passion in education. She then introduced Kim Grimwood, vice principal at Cypress Park Primary, who spoke about the Grade 3 PYP Exhibition process.

Vice Principal Grimwood explained the central idea, developed with students, which shaped exhibition last year: Passion helps you understand who you are and makes you wonderfully you. She explained that the school had partnered with the Vancouver Biennale and Young Actors Project to look at big ideas and explore how following your passion can affect the community around you. By visiting Granville Island to see street art and artists' studios, and by working

collectively to create a script with the actor in residence, students took a collaborative, engaged approach to learning.

Ms. Grimwood then introduced two former Grade Three students who are now at West Bay. Marin spoke about her passion for acting. She said she enjoyed learning about the history of acting and theatre, loves costumes and performing, and said that the exhibition process was fun, because there was no right or wrong. Lauren then spoke about her passion, skiing. She said she enjoyed exhibition because it gave her a chance to learn a lot about herself and others, but that it was also a challenge to learn to work collaboratively and have the confidence to speak her lines clearly.

Ms. Grimwood concluded by saying there were two things that had an impact upon her on the day of exhibition. The first was a presentation by a student who had struggled to find his place at school and often went the entire school day without speaking. When he had the opportunity in exhibition to research his passion, soccer, he found his voice, and ultimately gave a great presentation, even when faced with technical difficulties. The second was a spontaneous comment from another student who said school didn't feel like work, because they got to teach others about something they're passionate about.

A video the students' work is posted on the Biennale website at <http://www.vancouverbiennale.com/documentary-videos/cypress-park-primary/>

"Personalizing the Learning: Exploring Passions" – West Bay Elementary

Principal Judy Duncan, Head Teacher Morag Kelpin and former students Lauren, Jonathan and Lucas

Principal Judy Duncan continued the theme of student passions when she introduced West Bay Head Teacher Morag Kelpin, who facilitated last spring's passion projects. Based in part on the school goal of improving students' communication competency, Mrs. Kelpin began to think about how communication skills can be enhanced through passions. She described the process students went through: from being interviewed to identify their passions; to field studies at locations including a local bakery, a seniors' centre and a woodwork shop; to sharing their ideas via interview, blogs and Skype; to taking action to show and share their passion by demonstrating their skills or taking over instruction in PE classes.

Former West Bay students Lauren, Jonathan and Lucas, who now all attend Rockridge Secondary, took turns telling trustees about their experiences. Lauren, whose passion is music, spoke of the value of having a mentor and how she thought the process improved her writing, and how the opportunity to perform in front of an audience helped to build her confidence. Jonathan is passionate about cooking and thought that he wanted to be a head chef. He told trustees that after spending time with the head chef at Brown's Social House, he realized that half the day is spent on politics. He said that is not for him and he would now rather be a line chef, something he would not have discovered if he hadn't had the field study opportunity. He also said his writing and speaking skills improved and that he has become more independent, confident and enthusiastic. Lucas' passion is swimming and he found that the passion project, with a former coach as mentor, reinforced his commitment to the sport and helped him with goal-setting, as well as learning skills that have helped him adjust to high school. He said that by researching something he loved, he found himself really wanting to do the work, rather than having to be told to do it.

Principal Duncan and Mrs. Kelpin concluded by saying that the process allowed students to become engaged, confident communicators, who acquired skills to let their learning go deeper. As well, anxiety levels were noticeably lower and there was a much calmer energy in the learning environment. Moving forward, staff are going to look at ways to improve the action angle of the projects. The hope is to match students' passions and strengths with identified needs in the community and allow students to give back and help others.

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was agreed that a proposal to write letters to the outgoing and incoming local MPs be added as item 5 under section G – Board Business.

#1174	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Agenda of the Regular Meeting October 20, 2015 be adopted as amended.	<u>Carried.</u>
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D. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 minutes)

No questions or comments from the gallery.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting September 15, 2015

#1175	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting September 15, 2015 be approved.	<u>Carried.</u>
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F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Chair Broady asked for an update on the connectivity and functionality of MyEd BC.

Director of Instruction Sean Nosek replied that he was pleased to be able to report that the province was spending time to ensure improved performance and that there have been a couple of fixes implemented in order to improve speed.

Chair Broady then asked for an update on the roll-out to the remaining two secondary schools – Rockridge and West Van Secondary.

Director Nosek replied that the final data conversion from BCeSIS to MyEd BC will take place during the week of November 7. Once the conversion is complete, the two remaining West Van schools will be using My Ed, as well as the two largest districts in the province – Surrey and Vancouver. Superintendent Kennedy noted that this date was pushed back a few weeks in order to deal with the earlier functionality issues.

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Chair Broady asked for one last update – whether or not a date had been set for another visit to the district by Yong Zhao.

Superintendent Kennedy said that the district will be co-sponsoring a parent evening with DPAC on May 10, and that there will also be a session with Yong Zhao in the afternoon for teachers and administrators.

G. BOARD BUSINESS

1. Enrollment Report

Dave Eberwein, Deputy Superintendent

Deputy Superintendent Dave Eberwein presented his annual student enrollment report, saying that it was a good news story for the district. For the second year in row, there is an increase in overall student enrollment, even with the planned reduction in international student numbers.

Total enrollment, including 600 international students (down from 628 last school year), is 7388 FTE, up from 7353 in September 2014. Numbers continue to be strong in the sports academies and specialty programs overall, though there are some decreases in soccer and hockey. French Immersion shows continued good growth, with the increasing numbers in Grades 8-12 of particular note. The efforts around improving transition from elementary to secondary are seen as a contributing factor.

Aboriginal Education numbers, English Language Learner (ELL) numbers, and Special Education numbers have all increased, but are generally consistent with predictions made last spring. The Deputy Superintendent said the increase in self-declaring Aboriginal student numbers over the last few years is a tribute to the work done by Director of Instruction Lynne Tomlinson and, previously, Assistant Superintendent Warren Hicks. Their efforts to support and enhance Aboriginal Education in West Van Schools has improved the sense of belonging and pride for those students.

As of the reporting deadline of Friday, October 2, West Van Schools had only had one class over 30 – AP Chemistry 12 at Rockridge, with 32 students. It is anticipated that enrollment in that class will likely decrease during the fall.

During a general discussion, Superintendent Kennedy responded to a question from Trustee Dorsman about international numbers, noting that the ideal for the district is around 560 students. That figure is based on a combination of factors, including capacity at the secondary level, homestay availability and ensuring cultural diversity. In a response to an inquiry from Chair Broady, the Superintendent told trustees that updated Baragar data would be available in a couple of months, but that population growth in the district continues to look flat.

2. Learning Improvement Fund

Chris Kennedy, Superintendent

Superintendent Chris Kennedy began by explaining that Learning Improvement Fund (LIF) monies are provided to districts to address complex classrooms that present challenging learning conditions. The allocation of those funds is done at the discretion of the district, in order to improve the learning conditions for all students and to support teachers in meeting student needs. For the 2015-2016 school year, \$80 million has been allocated provincially, up from \$75 million last year. Funding will remain unchanged for 2016-2017. West Vancouver Schools receives \$1,150,580.

The LIF is comprised of two funds: the Teacher Education Fund (TEF) which receives 80% of the monies, and the Support Staff component, which receives 20%. In West Vancouver for 2015-2016, the TEF is \$920,464 and the support staff component is \$230,116.

The TEF is allocated exclusively to WVTA positions in the district, based on a series of consultations held in the spring and fall between Superintendent Kennedy, Rob Millard, president of the WVTA, principals and staff representatives. Identified themes for classroom and school support this year include learning support/CONNECT/ACCESS, counselling, ELL, and reduced class sizes. District themes include support in the form of time with the school psychologist, speech-language pathologist, counsellors and increased behaviour support. The Superintendent then reviewed the West Vancouver Schools LIF plan for 2015-2016, explaining that it honoured priorities set by schools and that positions would be posted accordingly.

Chair Broady thanked Mr. Millard and the WVTA for working closely with the Superintendent during consultations and said that she appreciated their flexibility. Superintendent Kennedy agreed, saying the consultation process was getting better and that next year the sessions would be moved earlier, likely before spring break, so that they can better anticipate posting season in May.

3. Summer Learning Review

Dave Eberwein, Deputy Superintendent

Deputy Superintendent Eberwein started his presentation by saying that summer learning was another good news story for the district. Enrollment in the summer learning program exploded this summer, principally because of significant growth in elementary numbers.

In 2015, there was a total of 983 students enrolled in summer learning, up from 735 in 2013. Summer learning was cancelled in 2014 due to job action. The total for 2015 includes 442 funded secondary students, 422 funded elementary students and 119 international fee-paying students. A decrease in funded secondary students was seen, compared to 2013, due to an increase in popularity of distributed learning courses, which are sometimes seen as more convenient.

Looking ahead to summer learning 2016, the elementary program will continue to be housed at Irwin Park Elementary, rather than moved to Ridgeview Elementary as originally intended. The program worked well logistically at Irwin Park and the number of trees on the property affords classrooms more shade during the warm summer weather. Course descriptions will be refined, capacity examined and possibly more creative courses added at

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the elementary level. If necessary, some intermediate classes could be held at WVSS South Campus. The online registration process may also be adjusted for 2016, with staggered opening dates, allowing in-district applicants to register for summer learning before those from outside the district.

4. BCSTA Provincial Council Motions

Carolyn Broady, Board Chair

Chair Broady reported that she will be attending BCSTA Provincial Council this weekend and that a number of motions have been put forward, including two from this Board regarding excluded compensation, approved during the September regular board meeting.

Another motion of note is Motion 9.2 “Reversing public funding of private schools.” Chair Broady reported that the motion is likely to be tabled per Delta’s request until the AGM in April 2016. Vice Chair Stevenson said that the complex issue of private/public funding deserves attention and that, in anticipation of future conversation within the BCSTA, the Board should prepare a position, perhaps with staff assistance. Chair Broady agreed that the matter needs discussion.

5. Letters to Members of Parliament

Dave Stevenson, Vice Chair

Vice Chair Stevenson noted that John Weston, outgoing Member of Parliament for West Vancouver-Sea to Sky-Sunshine Coast, has been a friend to West Vancouver Schools and that the Board should thank him for his service and wish him well in the future. As well, he believes that the Board needs to establish a relationship with incoming MP Pamela Goldsmith-Jones and that an invitation to meet should be extended.

#1176	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Board write letters to outgoing MP John Weston and incoming MP Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, thanking and congratulating them respectively, and inviting Ms. Goldsmith-Jones to visit the district and meet the Board. <u>Carried.</u>
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Chair Broady noted that the federal grant application relating to the WVSS track project is still pending and encouraged trustees and DLT to speak to it with new MPs if the opportunity arises.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting

October meeting cancelled – no report.

Chair Broady encouraged trustees to attend the November meeting if possible, as she said the facilities report regarding work done during the summer is always impressive.

2. Human Resources Committee Meeting – October 6, 2015

- Enrollment
- Learning Improvement Fund
- Recruitment
- Flu Clinic
- EFAP provider change
- Training & Information Sessions

Trustee Brown reviewed the minutes from the HR Committee meeting and noted one change - the 'flu vaccine clinic scheduled for October 5 will now be held on October 22, due to a delay in vaccine shipment.

#1177	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting of October 6, 2015 be received.	<u>Carried.</u>
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I. FOR INFORMATION

Deputy Superintendent Eberwein reported that there have been updates to two Administrative Procedures: AP 317 – Anaphylaxis and AP 319 – Type I Diabetes. Previously covered under medication procedures, protocol changes made in conjunction with Vancouver Coastal Health necessitated that these items now have their own APs.

Administrators have already received training, support staff will receive training during the provincial professional day on October 24, and the procedures will go live on the district website this week.

J. CORRESPONDENCE

A list of the correspondence from the past month is posted at www.sd45.bc.ca/board

K. TRUSTEE MEETINGS & EVENTS

Trustee Dorsman reported that while he thought the TEDx West Vancouver ED event was a great success, he received feedback from the community that promotion could have been better. Trustee Brown agreed that it was a great event and offered congratulations to Craig Cantlie and his team for a job well done.

Chair Broady noted that in addition to Provincial Council this weekend, she will be attending a BCSTA meeting with superintendents and board chairs on Thursday and the BCPSEA Symposium on Friday.

<p>TedX West Vancouver Ed Ambleside Youth Services Review BCSTA Metro Meeting Board Briefing ELL Metro Meeting Hidden Journals School Book Launch Human Resources Committee Meeting Kay Meek / WV Secondary School Track Project Meeting</p>	<p>Presidents' Committee Meeting School Traffic and Safety Meeting WV Police Board Liaison Meeting with WV Board of Education WV District Student Council Regular Meeting WV Student Council Special Meeting WV DPAC "Meet and Greet" Coffee Meeting WV DPAC Meeting WV DPAC Welcoming Luncheon</p>
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L. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minutes)

Rob Inman – West Vancouver resident and coach

- Asked if the 600 international students mentioned in the Enrollment Report had been figured into the budget

Superintendent Kennedy replied to Mr. Inman, reporting that the preliminary budget had included figures for 580 international students.

Rob Millard – President, WVTA

- Thanked the Board and the District Leadership Team for the invitation to what he called a fantastic blessing ceremony, saying he loves cultural events and history

- Reported that he had been directed by his rep assembly to formally ask that the Board include TTOCs in the annual flu shot clinic

- Noted that teachers see TTOCs as colleagues

- Said that it is a divisive, exclusionary issue that comes up every year

- Said that the WVTA does not understand the financial model or rationale for excluding some members of staff

Chair Broady thanked Mr. Millard for his comments and said that she would follow up with Director of Human Resources Kim Martin regarding the flu shot clinic.

Tanya Mah – WV DPAC

- Thanked Chair Broady for hosting the DPAC Welcome Lunch

- Thanked Superintendent Kennedy and West Van Schools for working with DPAC to co-sponsor the Yong Zhao evening in May

Chair Broady thanked Ms. Mah for her comments and said she believes the event in May will be highly anticipated.

Trustee Brown thanked Director Tomlinson for her work with the local branch of the Canadian Legion around Remembrance Day contests. The number of entries dropped last year, perhaps due to the delayed start, but she hopes teachers will encourage students to enter and that numbers will rise.

Chair Broady agreed, saying that Remembrance Day is an important and very special time in West Van Schools. She encouraged parents and staff to attend one of the many assemblies in our schools, which traditionally also have veterans, MPs, MLAs, and Mayor and Council representatives as guests.

M. ADJOURNMENT

8:33

BOARD CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER