



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, December 13, 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

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 very much enjoy our engagement with the Nation as we continue our work to moving education ahead together.

B. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

"Exploring Facets of the ADST Curriculum at Lions Bay" – Lions Bay Primary
Principal Aron Campbell and Head Teacher Eva Perez

Principal Campbell told trustees that at Lions Bay, the Applied Design, Skills and Technology (ADST) curriculum had been re-designed and re-imagined for elementary grades. He said that ADST lends itself to Lions Bay's enthusiasm for creativity, collaboration, and hands-on learning. He then introduced TTOC Ben Scoten, a woodworking specialist, who recently spent a day at Lions Bay "in-residence." Mr. Scoten explained how he adapted and prepared a simple pencil box / treasure box project, adapted for primary-aged children. He told trustees that he is very interested in opportunities to integrate ADST into elementary curriculum in order to pique students' interest earlier, and was thankful for the opportunity to collaborate with elementary colleagues. Mr. Scoten is starting a contract at WVSS in January and hopes to continue to work to provide hands-on learning to students earlier.

Mr. Campbell then introduced Head Teacher Eva Perez, who spoke about some of the coding work being done with students, aided by funding from Fuels Your Schools and Lions Bay PAC. She explained that students had participated in the Hour of Code, and had also been using Bee Bots and Osmos. These programs had introduced students to sequencing, estimating, problem-solving, collaboration and team-work.

“School-wide Inquiry into Story and Sense of Place with a focus on First Peoples Principles of Learning” – Gleneagles Ch’axá’y Elementary

Principal Aron Campbell, Vice Principal Natalie Mendes, and students Maeya and Isobel

Principal Campbell next told trustees about Gleneagles Ch’axá’y’s school-wide inquiry project into story-telling, which complements the embedding of Aboriginal Education in the new curriculum, and the First Peoples’ Principles of Learning. Using the story “The Little Hummingbird” by Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas as a springboard, students made connections between the story and their values (personal and school-based). As the inquiry process evolved, students reflected on their personal stories and their connection to place and memories, understanding that learning is embedded in memory and history. Students Maeya and Isobel shared their reflections and art, explaining how these contributed to their sense of place. Lions Bay resident Maeya explained that her landscape represents her, her family, and her home, and provides her with a sense of place. Vice Principal Mendes concluded by explaining that their next steps include an investigation into story and place, in order to bring students closer to an understanding of their place in Howe Sound.

C. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Outgoing Chair Carolyn Broady passed the floor to Secretary Treasurer Julia Leiterman for the election of Board Chair.

The Secretary Treasurer called for nominations for Board Chair and Carolyn Broady was nominated.

Nominations were called for a second and third time. There being no further nominations, Trustee Broady was declared Chair by acclamation.

The Secretary Treasurer then called for nominations for Board Vice Chair and Dave Stevenson was nominated.

Nominations were called for a second and third time. There being no further nominations, Trustee Stevenson was declared Vice Chair by acclamation.

D. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#1265	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Agenda of the Regular Meeting December 13, 2016 be adopted as amended.	<u>Carried.</u>
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E. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 minutes)

Michelle LaBounty – President, WVAA

- on behalf of WVAA members, thanked the board and DLT for their support regarding the salary increases for exempt staff
- said they were grateful for the ongoing positive relationship with trustees and senior staff and wished everyone a restful and well-deserved break for the holidays

Chair Broady thanked Ms LaBounty for her comments and asked that she pass on that the board very much appreciates the work of all administrators in the district, saying they are “second-to-none.”

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting November 15, 2016

#1266	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting November 15, 2016 be approved.	<u>Carried.</u>
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- General Record December 13, 2016

#1267	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the General Record December 13, 2016 be approved.	<u>Carried.</u>
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G. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Chair asked for an update on the number of classes over 30 in the district.

The Deputy Superintendent replied that while we originally had five, we are now down to one class with more than 30 students –AP Pre-Calculus 11 at Sentinel, with 31 students.

The Chair then mentioned the recent Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) results and said she was very proud of students in West Vancouver Schools and BC for their excellent results – performing highest in the world in reading, third in science, and eighth in math. She asked the Superintendent if the results would have any impact upon the International Program department’s recruiting.

The Superintendent replied that West Vancouver is already the highest performing district in the province, but that these results will be wonderful for recruiting. Combined with the usual data, the PISA results will have a positive impact for us over the next three years and will help to increase diversity in our target markets.

H. BOARD BUSINESS

1. Board Chair Report

Carolyn Broady, Board Chair

Re-elected Board Chair Carolyn Broady reported that the focus in West Vancouver Schools in 2016 continued to be an emphasis on student success, with sustained focus on student learning and full implementation of the new curriculum in grades K – 9. As well, new methods of communicating student learning were piloted and will be monitored, fine-tuned and enhanced during the coming year. Information sessions similar to one held last winter, will be held early in 2017 and will give parents an opportunity to give input about the new reporting methods that support the new ways of learning.

She reviewed the variety of numerous events and activities that took place in the district during the last 12 months, from widespread participation in the Hour of Code, to increased use of Google classroom, to the Lighthouse Festival and school concerts, to new academies, and the numerous achievements of our athletes and sports teams. Special mention was made of one of her favourite events – the Annual District Elementary Track Meet held at WVSS.

The Chair noted that, as always, she and the board are particularly proud of the work that our students do in the classroom. West Vancouver School District has long been considered the highest achieving school district in British Columbia. Last week, the PISA results showed that of the 72 countries that participated in the testing, students from BC ranked first globally in reading, third in science, and eighth in math. She said that these are exceptional results for our province and for our school district in particular.

The continued focus on youth mental health on the North Shore is important to the board, and the Chair said they welcomed the funding of youth-specific beds at the Hope Centre and look forward to the April 2017 opening of the North Shore hub of the BC Integrated Youth Services Initiative, which will house all youth services in one location, providing better access and continuity of care for youth and families. As well, at the April 2016 BCSTA AGM, West Vancouver and North Vancouver School Districts put forth a joint motion asking that post-secondary institutions expand their tuition-waiver program to students formerly in government care, and the Chair was pleased by the widespread support the motion received from other members of their provincial organization.

The Chair then recognized Gary Cords, the former general manager of facilities who retired last spring after a long tenure with the district. She said his contributions and dedication were much appreciated and missed. She then said that Wade Hickey, new director of facilities, was continuing Mr Cord's work to ensure that our schools are well-kept, safe, and welcoming. She noted Mr Hickey's hard work to find efficiencies and enhance the valuable work done by facilities staff.

Further to that, the board continues to advocate for long-term, sustainable and predictable funding from the provincial government. In November, the board chairs of North Vancouver, West Vancouver, and Sea to Sky, along with superintendents and secretary

treasurers met with local MLAs to discuss funding concerns, to express support for increased youth mental health facilities on the North Shore, and to apprise them of how they can help support boards' work. MLAs appreciated hearing their concerns and committed to advocate on boards' behalf in Victoria. It is hoped that such a meeting will occur annually. As well, during the last year the board has met with the West Vancouver mayor and council, the West Vancouver Police Board, and in the New Year plan to meet mayors and councils of Bowen Island and Lions Bay.

Entering the New Year, the Supreme Court ruling on class size and composition will be an immediate focus for the board. The Chair said the board hoped for a quick and positive resolution, with a quickly agreed upon provincial framework, and that we will see fully-funded, increased supports in our classrooms.

The Chair said that the board is very lucky to have continued strong working relationships with their partner groups: DPAC, WVAA, WVTa, and the WVMEA, and thanked everyone for the continued support and hard work on behalf of our students. She said it takes a village to raise a child and that we are very fortunate to have so many people working together for our children.

She concluded by wishing everyone a happy holiday and all the best for 2017.

2. Superintendent Report – Enrollment Trends

Chris Kennedy, Superintendent

Superintendent Kennedy reviewed the West Vancouver Enrollment Report 2016-2017, prepared in November 2016, by Edudata Canada. It was previously shared with administrators and DPAC and reveals some interesting trends. It was noted that the report is 98% accurate.

Referring to Table 3 Percentage of fee-paying students by year 2011-12 to 2016-17, the Superintendent noted that we have returned, by design, to almost the same level as five years ago. We are now sitting at 7.8%, challenged mainly by the number of suitable homestays.

While we are maintaining our overall enrollment, it is interesting to note that a decline in local (West Vancouver) students is matched by an increase in North Vancouver students. It was noted that we are not the only ones experiencing this trend. Mulgrave's enrollment report shows that 60% of their students come from West Vancouver – much lower than a few years ago. Increasingly, schools are reliant on out-of-district students to maintain enrollment.

Referring to Figure 3 Number of North Vancouver students enrolled in West Vancouver by grade, including fee-paying students 2014-15 to 2016-17, it was noted that the numbers may be skewed somewhat by North Vancouver homestays. The leap in grade 8 numbers can be attributed to the popularity of our secondary programming, and in grade 10, to an intake of international students. A slight increase in Kindergarten numbers was also reported.

The Superintendent then related a couple of school-specific stories that he found interesting. Seven or eight years ago, there was much talk about closing Eagle Harbour Primary. With the introduction of the Montessori program and the expansion to grade 5, it

is now the largest of our three primary schools, with 79 students. At Ecole Cedardale, a shifting trend is underway. Currently, there are high numbers of out-of-district students in grades 2 -7. Over the next few years that number will decline to virtually zero as a result of increased in-district interest. A few OOD students will remain with a grandfathering scenario comparable to West Bay's a few years ago, but the challenge moving forward is to see if other schools will draw the 100 OOD students that have traditionally attended Cedardale. Early Kindergarten numbers show that there is still a draw to Ridgeview and Irwin Park in particular, schools where there is no defined specialized program. The percentage of OOD students decreases as you go west, even at secondary, with Sentinel having more than Rockridge.

Trustee Brown said she believed that this report and the West Vancouver numbers should be part of the upcoming liaison meeting with mayor and council, to highlight the increasing reliance on OOD and international numbers. The Superintendent replied that Historical Data Table 5 would be suitable for reference. He also noted that we are close to capacity in the eastern part of the district and ideally we would like to see a shift from east to west.

When asked about expanding the Montessori program at Eagle Harbour to grade 7, the Superintendent replied that there is no real demand for such a thing. If there was a groundswell of support, it would likely make more sense to have an intermediate Montessori class at Caulfeild.

In response to this report, there was a lengthy discussion about the problem of affordable housing in the district and the sustainability of a community with decreasing numbers of young families.

3. Choice Consultative Committee

Diane Nelson, Director of Instruction

Director Nelson presented a summary of proposed BAA course Introduction to Forensic Science 11. She said the committee had been impressed with the presentation by WVSS Chemistry and IB teacher Lily Vu, who has designed a course that offers interdisciplinary and practical experience. In response to a question from the Chair, Director Nelson confirmed that the course will be an elective, rather than a science credit considered by universities. She did say it will be great for those students who are interested in the practical application of science, rather than heavy scientific theory.

#1268

MOTION THAT BAA course Introduction to Forensic Science 11 be approved for the 2017-2018 school year.

Carried.

I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Human Resources Committee Meeting – December 13, 2016

- Teacher Education Fund
- Wellness challenge
- Professional development (WVMEA)
- Flu shots
- Supreme Court decision

Committee chair Dorsman briefly reviewed the minutes and mentioned Director Martin's review of the history of collective bargaining with the BCTF.

#1269	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting of December 13, 2016 be received.	<u>Carried.</u>
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2. Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting

- No meeting this month

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

Chair Broady thanked trustees for their time in the community during this busy month. She said she felt that the performance of "Man Up" was phenomenal and thanked Sentinel Principal Mike Finch for introducing the Boys' Club to our district.

Trustee Brown said she had attended the Fresh Voices awards at the Terminal City Club and found the stories of these accomplished young immigrants and refugees inspiring.

BCPSEA Conference Call Boys' Club Network Play – "Man Up" Fentanyl Forum Human Resources Committee Meeting Learning Forward Conference North Shore Immigrant Inclusion Working Group	Presidents' Committee Meeting Various School Holiday Concerts WV School District Christmas Party WV Chamber of Commerce Dinner WV DPAC Meeting WV Honour Choir Holiday Performance WV Streamkeepers' Annual Wrap-Up
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L. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minutes)

Rob Inman – West Vancouver resident and coach

- said that after hearing about enrollment trends, he wondered if we had an ongoing discussion with British Pacific Properties about future development above the highway and demographics
- also asked if the school district had considered the population growth resulting from development at Britannia Beach and whether we would be able to accommodate them?

The Superintendent replied that we are in ongoing discussions with BPP, as they are interested in having a public school as part of their Cypress Villages plans and have asked about numbers required for feasibility etc. He said they recognize that a multi-use school/community use building is in their interests for the creation of a viable community. The challenge is that BPP wants a school to attract families to their proposed development, but there will be no Ministry capital funding for a new school without students already resident. BPP is aware that West Vancouver School District does not have the resources to independently fund a new school building. With regard to the Sea to Sky development, the Superintendent said the district thought growth would be quicker than it has been. There is still some anticipation, but it hasn't materialized as yet. In the past, there was some discussion about the possibility of expanding Lions Bay School to K – grade 7, as they have the capacity, but there has been no need. He also pointed out that Britannia Beach is not our district, but that like some students from Squamish, families may be drawn by our academies and other choice programs.

Trustee Stevenson noted that while programming may be attractive, we are going to experience problematic times unless there is a way to create opportunities for families to live here in affordable housing.

Rob Millard – President, WVTA

- said that after listening to information about the nutritional challenge in this morning's HR Committee meeting, he was thinking about the vulnerability of lunch time
- in light of all the recent changes in curriculum and reporting methods, lunch time has become a target for meetings etc.
- he made a request that lunch time be respected, as time to eat and look after oneself is important for teacher well-being
- he noted that teachers can be their own worst enemies, but that if honouring lunch time could start at the top, it would send an important message
- he then wished trustees and senior staff a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

The Chair thanked Mr. Millard for his wishes and, on behalf of the board, extended everyone in the district a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a happy and prosperous New Year.

M. ADJOURNMENT

8:20 pm

BOARD CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER