



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2021
6:00 PM
FORUM – PCTC and ZOOM

ATTENDEES

Trustees

Eve Flynn	Chairperson
Julie Austin	Vice-Chairperson
Laura Godfrey	Trustee
Barry Kurland	Trustee (via ZOOM)
Elaine Young	Trustee

Administration

Peter Jory	Superintendent of Schools
Gillian Wilson	Associate Superintendent of Schools
Ron Amos	Secretary Treasurer
Rudy Terpstra	Director of Instruction
Chris Dempster	General Manager of Operations

Education Partners

Mount Arrowsmith Teachers' Association (MATA)
Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 3570
District Parents Advisory Council (DPAC)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Flynn called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Chair Flynn acknowledged that the Board was meeting on the unceded traditional territory of the Coast Salish people and thanked the Qualicum and Snaw-Naw-As First Nations for allowing the board to live, work and play on their shared territory.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Trustee Young added two items under Reports from Outside Organizations

21-90R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) adopt the agenda as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – September 28, 2021
- b. Ratification of In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: September 28, 2021
- c. Receipt of Ministry News Releases
 - Expanded health, safety measures for K-12 students
 - Nominations open to honour excellence in BC education
 - New resources help EASE Anxiety in grade 8-12 students
- d. Receipt of Reports from Trustee Representatives
 - Early Years Table – Trustee Young
 - Oceanside Community Track – Trustee Young
- e. Receipt of Status of Action Items – October 2021

21-91R

Moved: Trustee Godfrey *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve the consent agenda items of the Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2021, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES****a. REVISED Local School Calendar**

Superintendent Jory spoke to his briefing note outlining the need to identify another date for the Ministry designated District Planning Day due to the Federal Government making September 30th a National Day of Truth & Reconciliation. Through consideration of the existing calendar and in consultation with the Mount Arrowsmith Teachers' Association, February 7th has been selected as the new potential date for the Ministry designated day.

21-92R

Moved: Trustee Godfrey *Seconded:* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve the Revised District Instructional Calendars for 2021-2022 as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. MOUNT ARROWSMITH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (MATA)

Matt Woods, President, commented on the following:

- BCTF recently completed a random sample survey of 6000 BC Teachers and highlighted some of the responses that pertain to SD69.
- Acknowledgement of the work being done in the district to support teachers in their practice of teaching students from a trauma-informed lens.
- The 32 Provincial Specialist Associations that exist in BC which support teachers in all areas of their teaching.
- The October 22nd Provincial Professional Development Day during which teachers were engaged in a variety of activities to share ideas and develop knowledge on a number of topics of interest to them.
- Acknowledgement to the Board of Education for their continued support of parent choice with regard to the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) and to the District

for committing to organize a parent forum on the topic of FSA's where both the BC Teachers Federation and the District's views on FSA's will be shared and discussed.

- While concerns were expressed regarding in-person teacher/parent interviews, protocols which were put in place seem to have been effective. However, many teachers still felt unsupported and disrespected since parents were given a choice as to whether to participate in person or not while teachers were not although they had similar concerns as some parents regarding in-person interviews.
- The considerations of using existing classroom space for seamless day care and a request from MATA that further expansion of the program only be considered after consultation with the people involved in the district's pilot program.
- Expression of his personal gratitude and appreciation for all Canadian Armed Forces personnel who have or are serving our country.

8. CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (CUPE) LOCAL 3570

Ewen Rycroft, Vice-President, commented on the following:

- Expression of condolences on behalf of CUPE on the recent passing of Gerhard Kottsieper, who was a past groundskeeper with the district.
- Appreciation to everyone involved in the planning and presentation of sessions for support staff for the October 22nd Professional Development Day. Sessions were offered via ZOOM and in person at Ballenas Secondary.
- There is a high degree of anxiety amongst staff, parents and students regarding safety protocols. The union reiterated its request to have additional daytime custodians in schools and requested that trustees and parents write to the local MLA's to let them know how important and successful daytime custodians were in reducing illness last year and to urge the provincial government to provide funding for extra daytime custodians.

9. DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)

Chair Flynn introduced Angel Delange, the newly elected DPAC President.

Karri Kitazaki, DPAC Vice President, commented on the following:

- DPAC has adopted a new Constitution with collaboration of DPAC volunteers which will be provided to the Board and posted under the Parents tab on the district's website
- A new DPAC executive team has been elected for the 2021/2022 school year. DPAC thanks Andrea Button, Past President, for her years of dedication to parent advisory councils and engaging, empowering and supporting parents/guardians for the success of all learners
- Appreciation to Associate Superintendent Wilson and the district for offering to organize the FSA Information session. It has been determined that it would be timelier to schedule the session in September or October of 2022.
- DPAC is excited to offer and be part of any opportunities to educate parents and they look forward to continuing to work with the Board and district staff to advocate for parents/guardians while building the SD69 community.

Chair Flynn expressed appreciation on behalf of the Board to Andrea Button for her years of service to the students and parents in the district as the DPAC President.

10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS (RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS)

None

11. ACTION ITEMS

None

12. INFORMATION ITEMS**a. Consideration of Provincial Vaccine Mandate**

Chair Flynn advised that the Board wishes to take the time to consult with its union and community stakeholders before making a decision regarding a vaccine mandate. A number of the considerations of a vaccine mandate will be held in-camera as they would involve personnel issues. She reinforced the success the district has had so far in keeping staff and students safe. She thanked the staff, students and parents for working together to keep transmission to an absolute minimum.

b. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jory reported on the following:

- Local conversations have been about conferencing, pro-d, extra-curricular sports, weather bomb, and of course, Halloween. Provincially, conversations have been about the Framework for Enhancing Student learning (FESL), Equity, and what Boards will do (or not do) with the vaccine mandate decision.
- He has been enjoying the fall school planning conversations with the district principal and vice-principal teams and these meetings are filling him with confidence about the quality of the district's learning environments, how thoughtful and student-centered the district's school leaders are, and the deep level of understanding amongst the district's educators of how children learn and what they need to be healthy and regulated. Some more learning data has emerged from those conversations and principals are sharing that their teachers are talking about which numeracy assessment they might like to try in their classrooms, about maybe bringing back the district-wide write, and why did the district stop doing the DART, because that was really helpful.
- After spending two months talking about EdPlan Insight, on Associate Superintendent Wilson's prompting, the district will be securing an account this month, and will be making it available to principals and teachers so they do not have to create their own "learning heatmaps" on which to present data.
- On November 3rd, School District No. 69 will be kicking off the Equity Scan. Thirty-five staff and stakeholders will be meeting with Ministry Secondee, Joe Heslip, and working through a series of exploratory conversations regarding the climate and practices of our school district, and how we can best support our Indigenous learners. There is value to the information that will be collected and how that can inform the district's next steps in regard to policy development, operations, budget, messaging, and most significantly, the district's learning as an organization.
- Thank you to everybody in this District, those who work directly with students, and all those who support that work, thank you for doing such a great job. Providing a first-class education system to the students of our province is tough work at the best of times, and the extension of our COVID scenario has dealt a real blow to everyone who hoped we would be free of it and on to more joyful times. However, everyone has carried on, kept their empathy, and been professional, and things are going very well.

c. Educational Programs Update

Associate Superintendent Wilson, then commented on the following district initiatives and events:

- The district will be participating in the Early Development Index (EDI) again this year with Kindergarten teachers. Denise Spencer-Dahl, new member of the Teaching & Learning Team will be assisting them with the process. There was some concern during the last EDI wave as there were more vulnerabilities identified. Staff will be curious about the impact on the young learners coming into Kindergarten this year, knowing some of them have not been attending organized preschools or play areas.
- The International Program has made a strong comeback this year with 150 FTE International students attending in the district this year. The homestay coordinator is working closely with the homestay families and continuing to recruit for homestays.
- Acknowledgement of MATA president comments regarding trauma-informed practice and good to have the reminder that it is not always just about the children in the system but also the adults.
- The 2nd session with Lisa Bosio on Universal Design for Learning is scheduled for Thursday, November 4th. It is hoped that 45-55 educators will be participating, depending on the availability of TTOC's.

d. Class Size Report: October 15, 2021 Snapshot

Associate Superintendent Wilson reviewed the class size report as presented in the agenda package, noting that there are classes outside the limits. Principals will be moving into remedy discussions with the teachers of those classes, noting that the numbers do fluctuate at the secondary level. The individual teachers can apply for remedy in the form of professional development, preparation time or resources/equipment for the classroom.

Trustees expressed some concerns at the number of students in some of the courses and that all the classes identified were at Ballenas Secondary.

Director of Instruction Terpstra explained the process for organization of classes and conversations with teachers, noting that more grade 10 students have come into the Ballenas catchment so there has been an effort to provide them with the classes they need and want. The principal will consult with the classroom teacher before the end of October and support them with any resources they need as a result of the higher number of students in a class. Student numbers also fluctuate and some of the classes noted might already be right-sized by the end of October.

Associate Superintendent Wilson added that there are a number of schools currently undertaking class and school reviews and the class size consultation falls into that category. Staff work with counsellors and the learning support team to discuss how that particular class composition is working, what additional supports might be needed.

13. EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

Trustee Godfrey referred to the report as provided in the agenda package. Some highlights were a presentation by Don Bold, who gave a snapshot of the Career Education program, being introduced to the Indigenous Learning Support teacher, and the clay hearts created by Springwood Elementary School students to acknowledge the National Day of Truth & Reconciliation.

14. POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**a. Board Policy 700: Safe, Compassionate and Inclusive School Communities****21-93R**

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 700: *Safe Compassionate and Inclusive School Communities* at its Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Board Policy 701: Student Discipline**21-94R**

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 701: *Student Discipline* at its Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Board Policy 601: Employee Conflict of Interest**21-95R**

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading to adopt Board Policy 601: *Employee Conflict of Interest* at its Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. Board Policy 604: Bullying and Harassment**21-96R**

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Kurland

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading to adopt Board Policy 604: *Bullying and Harassment* at its Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. Board Policy 710: Resolution of Student and Parent Complaints**21-97R**

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading to adopt Board Policy 710: *Resolution of Student and Parent Complaints* at its Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

f. Board Policy 303: Enhancing Student Learning

21-98R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve third and final reading to adopt Board Policy 303: *Enhancing Student Learning* at its Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

g. Board Policy 305: Public Interest Disclosure

Trustee Young noted this policy was mandated by the Ministry of Education which provides a safe, legally protected way to report serious or systemic wrongdoing i.e. whistle blower policy.

21-99R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve third and final reading to adopt Board Policy 305: *Public Interest Disclosure* and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15. FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

a. Facilities Review Outline

Superintendent Jory referred to his briefing note as provided in the agenda package. He noted that, although the actual motion for a review dates back to December 2018, the briefing note captures more recent conversations held during Committee of the Whole meetings and a board retreat. He reviewed the series of topics to be discussed as well as the importance of engaging stakeholders through a number of venues i.e. town halls, focus groups, panel discussions and surveys. Communications will be shared in November regarding potential dates for the public meeting which are anticipated to begin the second week of January and continue through February or beyond if needed. He noted that while these sessions could identify areas of concern that require more immediate Board decisions, the majority of outcomes will be addressed through the lifespan of the resulting long-term facilities plan. Staff could capture any decisions that would be part of the budget discussions.

b. Community Schools Working Group

Chair Flynn referred to the briefing note of June 22, 2021 which included a recommendation for the Board to establish a small working group to review the extent to which community school practices are already in place in School District 69, and which opportunities, if any, there are to enhance community engagement through a "community schools" approach.

Superintendent Jory added that staff would need to determine the members of the working group who would then agree on a scope and work forward from that point.

Trustees suggested accessing expertise within the community as well as in surrounding districts and there was a request that one or two members of the

community who have experience in community schools be invited to serve on the working group.

21-100R

Moved: Trustee Flynn *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) direct senior staff to undertake Step 1: Community Schools Working Group as described in the previous Superintendent's report to the Board dated June 22, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS

a. Oceanside Health & Wellness Network

Trustee Young referred to her report provided in the agenda package and highlighted some of the upcoming on-line presentations being offered through the Fall Learning Series which are free and open to the public. Of note was a virtual screening of *The Great Disconnect* scheduled for Friday, October 29th at 10:00 a.m. which will be followed by a question period.

b. BSS Track Fundraiser

Trustee Young noted that a Bottle Drive will be held on Saturday, November 6th in the Ballenas Secondary School parking lot to raise funds for the Oceanside Community Track renewal.

17. TRUSTEE ITEMS

a. West Coast Climate Action Network (WE-CAN) Membership

Trustee Austin referred to her motion and encouraged trustees as an organization to join voices with WE-CAN as they continue to educate and bring action about climate action.

Trustees discussed the recommendation and received assurances that there was no cost to becoming a member and the CATForce would monitor WE-CAN information and initiatives and provide reports back to the Board.

21-101R

Moved: Trustee Austin *Seconded:* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) become members of the West Coast Climate Action Network (WE-CAN).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Climate Action Task Force (CATForce) Update

Trustee Austin referred to the report provided in the agenda package and noted some of the links to additional information on topics that were discussed.

She then noted the following three recommendations coming from the task force for board consideration:

- *That the Cell Tower discussion be moved to the School District Health & Safety Committee*
- *That discussion of 'dead zones' and 'wired technology' be moved to the District's Information Technology Committee*
- *That the concept of a pilot project for School District 69 for a 'WIFI free school(s)' be considered and discussed at the Education Committee of the*

Whole (this may also become part of the facilities and/or strategic planning review)

Trustees discussed the three recommendation and reached consensus that the best place to begin would be for the Superintendent to provide the Board with a briefing note on the topic of WIFI free schools, what would be feasible and what the associated costs might be, after which the Board could determine whether it was interested in pursuing the WIFI free school (or schools) concept.

c. Board Letter to Municipalities re Potential Build of Structures

Trustees Austin spoke to the rationale for writing a letter to the local municipalities to request that the Board be informed of pending proposals that would impact the district's learning community.

During trustee deliberations of the motion, it was noted that while the district does receive notice of potential projects in the vicinity of schools, it is often not enough time for the board to give the proposals fulsome consideration in order to provide input from the district's perspective.

21-102R

Moved: Trustee Austin *Seconded:* Trustee Kurland

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) write a letter to the governing bodies of the Town of Qualicum Beach, the City of Parksville and the Regional District of Nanaimo requesting direct advanced notice of proposals they are considering that may affect a school or our school community. These projects may be initiatives of the municipality or RDN or may be proposals under consideration from an outside entity. i.e.: cell towers, community development plans, road and transportation systems.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. Report on VISTA Fall Conference held October 2, 2021

Chair Flynn provided an overview of the keynotes presentations and topics discussed at the Vancouver Island School Trustees Association fall conference and business meeting held on Saturday, October 2, 2021. Topics included Truth & Reconciliation presented by Dr. John Chenoweth, BCSTA Director, and COVID Protocols, presented by Drs. Sandra Allison and Shannon Waters.

e. Report on BC School Trustees Association Meetings

- **Board Chair Meeting, October 14, 2021**

Topics discussed at this meeting included student assessment as a mechanism for supporting equity and Truth & Reconciliation, as well as board policies, finances and advocacy. Of particular interest was a presentation by Debbie Jefferies of the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC). She spoke on the role of data in supporting equity for First Nations students and wholehearted supports the foundation skills assessment in providing useful data.

- **Joint Partner Liaison Meeting, October 15, 2021**

This was a joint meeting of Board Chairs, Superintendents and Secretary Treasurers hosted by the Ministry of Education. Topics presented/discussed included government priorities and collaboration opportunities, Truth & Reconciliation in BC public schools, Framework for Enhancing Student Learning, equity in education, the Anti-Racism Action Plan and the vaccine mandate.

- **BCSTA Provincial Council, October 23, 2021**
 This meeting was held virtually via ZOOM. Three emergent motions were discussed and approved by the assembly. The three motions considered the provincial teacher shortage, declaration of national opiate death crisis and increased funding for the Annual Facilities Grant. One motion was entertained as a late motion from the floor regarding the COVID 19 Health Authority Notification Processes in Schools which was defeated.

18. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 None

19. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE AND MEDIA
 a. **Letter to Minister of Education re Funding of Electric Buses**

- 20. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**
 Trustees and Senior Staff responded to comments/questions on the following topics:
- Whether the district had a policy of replanting trees to replace those that may be removed for some reason. The district does not have a policy; it works within the regulations of forestry and the needs of architects. Interested parties that wish to plant a tree on a district site could contact the Manager of Operations.

Information will be provided at the next Finance & Operations Committee of the Whole Meeting as to what types of initiatives come into play and reasons for removing trees, i.e. if deemed unsafe.

21. ADJOURNMENT
 Trustee Godfrey moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Original Signed Copy on File

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY TREASURER