



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023
6:00 PM
VIA ZOOM

ATTENDEES

Trustees

Eve Flynn	Chairperson
Elaine Young	Vice Chairperson
Julie Austin	Trustee
Carol Kellogg	Trustee
Barry Kurland	Trustee

Administration

Peter Jory	Superintendent of Schools
Ron Amos	Secretary Treasurer
Gillian Wilson	Associate Superintendent of Schools
Brayden Gordon	Vice-Principal, École Oceanside Elementary School Qualicum District Principals/Vice Principals' Association

Education Partners

District Parents Advisory Committee (DPAC)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Flynn called the Zoom meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Chair Flynn acknowledged that the land on which the board lives, works and plays are the shared territory of the Snaw-Naw-As and Qualicum Nations.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

22-20R

Moved: Trustee Kellogg *Seconded:* Trustee Kurland

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: February 28, 2023

b. Ratification of In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: February 28, 2023

23-21R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Kellogg

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve the consent agenda items of the Regular Board Meeting of March 14, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**a. Concerned Citizens Re: Proposed Hodges Road Cell Tower**

Marcus Schluschen, Certified EMF Radiation Consultant, spoke on behalf of Concerned Citizens and Vancouver Island Safe Tech Alliance regarding a proposed TELUS Cell Tower on Hodges Road. He shared concerns regarding man-made radiation as well as statistics regarding radio frequency radiation, noting that people living close to cell towers are exposed to high radiation levels inside their homes as well as those who are working/studying in schools. He then provided a demonstration of the Gigahertz Solutions, High Frequency Radiation Analyzer, illustrating radiation levels from a cell tower when measuring in a location inside a home.

He encouraged the Board to educate themselves on the risks of man-made radio frequency radiation.

It was noted by Trustee Kellogg that the concern originally expressed by the group in previous emails was that the cell tower in question would be located approximately 2.4 km from the school, which is deemed a safe distance by Health Canada.

Mr. Schluschen explained that cell towers communicate with one another and that distance can easily be overcome by certain frequencies. He recommended that the best way people can stay well is to eliminate everything that is wireless.

Board Chair Flynn thanked Mr. Schluschen for the information for the Board's consideration.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

7. MOUNT ARROWSMITH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (MATA)

No Report

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

No Report

9. DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)

Angel DeLange, President, commented on the following:

- DPAC has confirmed an in-person session with Mischa Oak for SD69 parents/guardians, teachers and support staff that will also be appropriate for children to attend. The event will be held on Wednesday, April 26th at Ballenas Secondary Theatre at 6:30 p.m. and will run for approximately 90 minutes with a question period after with Mischa. DPAC will be preparing and then sharing promotional information to the school community prior to the event. [LGBTQ Corporate Training - Workshops & Consulting](#)
- DPAC offered two Gary Anaka, "The Brain Coach" sessions earlier this month, which were well received with approximately 35 people in attendance for each one.
- Thank you to Jessica Threlfall, DPAC Secretary, for sourcing first aid courses for the school district's parents/guardians. St. John's Emergency First Aid Level C

with Narcan course will be offered on Sunday, April 23rd from 9 to 3:30 – Springwood Elementary School location to be confirmed. There will be 18 seats available and attendees will receive a certificate upon successful completion of the course. DPAC will share sign-up information with PACs shortly.

- The DPAC Swag Fundraiser brought in \$200 profit to put towards the Accessibility Bikes initiative. Thank you to Jessica Threlfall for organizing the fundraiser. When the items arrive, people will be contacted for pick up.

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

None

11. ACTION ITEMS

a. Annual Five-Year Capital Plan Submission for 2023/24

Secretary Treasurer Amos referred to the ministry letter in the addendum regarding the district's submissions for major and minor capital projects. He noted that one major capital project is the False Bay School which has been noted as a seismic risk with the intention that if the Ministry is supporting renovations for seismic, the district would indicate that it would make more sense to replace it outright. The Ministry does support in principle that this project needs to be reviewed as the district's top priority.

Secretary Treasurer Amos further noted that a Food Infrastructure Program (FIP) is a new capital program for 2023-2024 for which details have not yet been provided. This has come from the Student and Family Affordability Fund and the Ministry may be releasing some funding with its Budget announcement on March 15th. What was being shared was the capital portion, a small fund established for schools to provide infrastructure for providing food programs, which will now be included in the minor capital submission in September.

23-22R

Moved: Trustee Kurland *Seconded:* Trustee Kellogg

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve all three readings of the School District No. 69 (Qualicum) Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD69-01 at its Regular Board Meeting of March 14, 2023. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

23-23R

Moved: Trustee Kellogg *Seconded:* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) give first reading to adopt the School District No. 69 (Qualicum) Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD69-01 at its Regular Board Meeting of March 14, 2023. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

23-24R

Moved: Trustee Austin *Seconded:* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) give second reading to adopt the School District No. 69 (Qualicum) Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD69-01 at its Regular Board Meeting of March 14, 2023. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

23-25R

Moved: Trustee Kurland *Seconded:* Trustee Kellogg
THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) give third and final reading to adopt the School District No. 69 (Qualicum) Capital Project Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD69-01 at its Regular Board Meeting of March 14, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Superintendent's Report

Peter Jory, Superintendent of Schools, reported as follows:

- Superintendent Jory hoped that everyone in schools is enjoying their last week of school before a well-deserved break and that they all get a chance to relax with friends and family, whether they are away or staying local.
- The District Strategic Planning sessions have taken place February 22nd, March 9th and 13th, with one more session scheduled for April 5th. The plan is taking shape, and the group has done an amazing job of generating goal areas and creating DRAFT outcomes from the data provided. He and his team have some work to do in regard to wordsmithing, selecting, moving, denuding, and in some cases, adding, as well as including literacy and numeracy as per the provincial Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) mandate, along with some other accountability metrics. In the next session staff will share their progress on editing the outcomes, engage in some more dialogue around the goal areas, and work towards agreeing on how they should be stated to capture the ideas in the most elegant and effective manner. He has reached out to a graphic designer, who will be producing a visually appealing template for us, so the Board's Vision, Mission, and Values, Principles of Learning, and the new goal and outcome content can be inserted when ready to do so. Superintendent Jory also suggested that it might be a good time to raise the issue of a new district logo, if the Board had an appetite to do so, so that could influence the final product prior to summer publication.
- Principals and staff have been working away on their own goals and outcomes, and are placing them in the new district template in preparation for sharing. Time has been set aside at the next two Principals/Vice Principals sessions for table work and conversation to get them all ready. The model being considered will have presentations done in pods so there is sharing between schools, with the Board and Senior Leadership Team joining in; something like a fishbowl activity. Principals/Vice Principals would share out on just one or two goals each over 7 minutes, with another 7 minutes dedicated to questions and conversation. Each trustee would then see 6 presentations this year (and each ongoing year) before receiving all of the plans for approval in time for the May public Board meeting. He then asked the Board to consider the following three questions:
 - Will the pod model he described work for the Board?
 - If so, does the Board want to add a date for the presentations in early May, or does the Board want to use the Education Committee time as the placeholder?
 - And, does the Board want to run this session in person or through Zoom?

Trustees indicated that they were in support of the pod model and would prefer them to be in person with the majority preferring that the presentations take place outside of the Education Committee of the Whole Meeting, the agenda for which is already fulsome.

A suggestion was also made to invite any interested education community members to attend in some way. Superintendent Jory will confer with the administrators and, if they are in agreement, will arrange some type of participation by the public, even as an audience set up.

b. Education Update

Gillian Wilson, Associate Superintendent, reported on the following:

- Cross boundary requests for 2023/2024 close on March 15th. She and school administrators have already reviewed those with siblings already in the requested school and families are being notified of approval.
- The lottery for Kindergarten French Immersion was held and those families will be notified. There is currently a short waitlist of 7 students and if anyone who currently has a spot withdraws, the spot will be offered to the next person pulled in the lottery.
- A high number of families applied to the STREAM program so the principal has taken a look at their existing staffing and identified that they could run 2 cohorts next year with the current staffing. Families are being contacted as a commitment would be needed to organize the second STREAM cohort.
- Associate Superintendent Wilson and Principal of Learning Support Gunn have almost finished all the School Reviews.
- Part of what staff heard in the strategic planning session was that youth would like extra-curricular programs back and schools have been taking the time and making the extra effort to accommodate some of those requests, which is greatly appreciated.

13. FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

The next meeting of the Finance & Operations Committee of the Whole will be held on Monday, April 17th at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom.

14. POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

The next meeting of the Policy Committee of the Whole will be held on Monday, April 17th at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

15. EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

The next meeting of the Education Committee of the Whole will be held on Tuesday, April 18th at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom.

16. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS

a. BCSTA Provincial Council Report

Trustee Flynn referred to the synopsis provided in the agenda package regarding the Provincial Council Meeting held on February 24/24, 2023. She highlighted one approved motion that requested to the Ministry of Education and Child Care to continue the Student and Family Affordability Fund as an annual targeted fund, that it be provided at the start of the school year, and that it have less restrictions

on permitted use in order that it could provide funding subsidy for transportation as well as allow for the costs associated with administering the fund. The second motion she mentioned was exempt staff compensation which is an ongoing process as to how exempt staff is monitored and how salary grids are created.

17. TRUSTEE ITEMS

a. **V.I. School Trustees Association (VISTA) Spring Meeting**

Trustee Young provided an overview of the presentations from the VISTA spring meeting held on March 3 and 4, 2023 as follows:

- Hereditary Chief Rob Everson spoke to his hopes for reconciliation.
- Trustee Craig and Superintendent Davie of School District 70 (Pacific Rim) talked about how they run their district which caused her to do some reflection on the differences between how SD69 works, which seems more collegial and in a co-governance way.
- SD71 (Comox Valley) K/1 Indigenous Students presented The Little Bears.
- Long serving and well-respected Board Chairs spoke to the role of Board Chairs, which was very informative.
- Tracey Loffler, BCSTA Vice-President provided an update on the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning.
- Carmen Batista, BCSTA Director of Human Resources and Labour Relations, provided a Motion Building Advocacy Workshop.
- Branch Roundtable Discussions were held with trustees sharing the greatest challenges facing their districts for the term/year. They also shared whether they had any other topics of concern or priorities other than some already identified by many districts -Equity in Action, Climate Crisis, Student Mental Health & Well-being.
- A business meeting followed with some verbal reports from BCSTA and BCPSEA
- The next branch meeting will be held in Nanaimo in the Fall.

b. Trustee Young reported that the Oceanside Health & Wellness Network had been in flux as the funding was in jeopardy; however, they have received a contract for another year and they have also made a decision to merge with the Nanaimo network. This will be a combination Network and Circle of Partners Meeting so they will determine how that will be organized. IN the interim, the Network is creating a strategic plan that is half completed on which they will make progress in the next 6 months.

c. Trustee Kurland requested that Mr. Abel and some of the students who are participating in a student trip to Europe trip make a presentation at a future board meeting upon their return in April.

d. Trustee Austin reported that the Kwalikum Secondary School Student Government's was hosting a Mid-Island Youth Climate Action Symposium on April 19th for students in the mid island region. The Fridays for Future youth have also taken the initiative and are working with MP Gord Johns to organize a Climate Forum for the public on Thursday, April 13th at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre.

18. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

19. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE AND MEDIA

None

20. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

No questions we posed to trustees or senior staff.

21. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Kellogg moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Original signed copy on file

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY TREASURER