



School District No. 69 (Qualicum)

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2015

7:00 PM

THE FORUM

PARKSVILLE CIVIC & TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

ATTENDEES

Trustees

Eve Flynn	Chairperson
Elaine Young	Vice Chairperson
Julie Austin	Trustee
Jacob Gair	Trustee
Barry Kurland	Trustee

Administration

Rollie Koop	Superintendent of Schools
Ron Amos	Secretary Treasurer
Gillian Wilson	Assistant Superintendent
Ryan Hung	Assistant Secretary Treasurer
Dino Stiglich	General Manager of Operations
Karin Hergt	Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

Education Partners

Mount Arrowsmith Teachers' Association (MATA)
Canadian Union of Public Employees (Local 3570)
Qualicum District Principals/Vice Principals Association (QDPVPA)
District Parents Advisory Council (DPAC)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Chair Flynn acknowledged that the Board was meeting on traditional territory of the Coast Salish people and thanked the Qualicum and Nanoose First Nations for sharing their shared territories with the District.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

15-64R

Moved Trustee Young *Seconded* Trustee Gair

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) adopt the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on August 25, 2015.
- b. **THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) adopt the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on August 25, 2015.
- c. **THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) ratify the minutes of the In Camera Board Meeting held on August 25, 2015.
- d. **THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) ratify Voucher No. 15-08 in the amount of \$1,535,972.35 for the month of August 2015.
- e. **THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) give approval in principle for a Kwalikum Secondary student field trip to Costa Rica in March 2017
- f. Ministry News Releases
 - Scholarships revamp recognizes diversity of student success
 - New guide a plan for safer schools
 - K-12 International Homestay Guidelines officially launched
 - Education by the numbers
 - Curriculum revisions prep students to succeed in changing world
 - Government helps future grads plan for in-demand careers
 - Government supports families as kids go back to school
 - Statement on International Literacy Day
 - Students head back to school today
 - New education guide will help teachers connect students to Aboriginal perspectives
 - New lesson plans shed light on BC's dark past
 - Province gives \$400,000 so all kids get the chance to play
- g. Reports from Board Representatives to Outside Organizations
 - District French Advisory Committee - Trustee Gair

15-65R

Moved Trustee Gair *Seconded* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve the consent agenda items of the Regular Board Meeting of September 22, 2015, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS (10 MINUTES)**a. 2014-15 Audited Financial Statements**

Mr. McGorman, Auditor, McGorman MacLean, provided a summary of the 2014-15 Audited Financial Statements. The statements will be submitted to the Ministry and available on the District's web-site.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**a. Request from Regional District of Nanaimo Letter re: Partnership Opportunities – Outdoor Multi-Sports Complex in District 69**

Chair Flynn reported that, further to discussions at the August Board Meeting, a letter has been received from Mr. Dean Banman, Manager of Recreation Services, clarifying the Recreation Commission's expectations of the District during its exploration of possible partnership opportunities to fund and operate an outdoor multi-sport complex within the School District 69 catchment area. The Board will volunteer a trustee and staff person to attend meetings scheduled by the Regional District of Nanaimo.

7. **TRUSTEE HIGHLIGHTS**

Trustee Austin expressed her admiration and appreciation for the parents and children for their work on the installation of the new playground area at Oceanside Elementary School as well as the local businesses who donated time and materials to the project.

She also announced that an Old Time Gospel Sing-along Fundraiser is being held at Errington Hall on Saturday, September 26 from 6:00 to 8:30. Proceeds will benefit the Arrowsmith Community Experience (ACE) Club, an after-school program which will be offered at Errington Elementary School.

Trustee Young reported that she had attended a meeting of the Building Learning Together Society on September 10th. Attendees began working on a strategic plan for the society and is seeking new board members from the community who have an interest in early learning.

The Comox Valley Early Years Centre would be hosting a Mini Expo on Thursday, November 19th. Topics include: Understanding of early development data; building community systems; monitoring development of children; and enhancing social and emotional development.

Trustee Flynn announced that on September 30th the District would be signing its third First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education Enhancement Agreement. The event will take place in the Forum of the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre at 9:30 a.m.

September 30th is also *Orange Shirt Day – Every Child Matters* in recognition of former residential school students, their losses, and the impacts residential school made on a child's self-esteem and I honour of those who did not return home.

She extended her congratulations to 7 district students from grades K-5 who placed 2nd in a Hul'qumi'num language competition held in Ladysmith.

The first Coffee with Trustees will be held on Tuesday, September 29th at Arrowview Elementary School at 2:45.

Trustee Kurland expressed his appreciation for a smoother school start up, glitches with MyEdBC notwithstanding, as compared to last year with students eager to return to school and teachers to return to the classroom.

Trustee Gair attended the first meeting of the District French Advisory Committee, which was formed in December of last year. His report on discussions that took place at the meeting were included in the agenda package.

8. **MOUNT ARROWSMITH TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (MATA)**

Norberta Heinrichs, President, reported that, while teachers were excited to return to classrooms and hopeful for a smooth transition into the school year, it was marred by the frustration being experienced due to a number of issues associated with the District's new network system and the implementation of MyEdBC program. She then read a list of the concerns and challenges shared with her by teaching staff who have been unable to promote or sustain one of the District's strategic priorities, which is to use technology to deepen learning.

Assistant Superintendent Wilson responded to the issues outlined by Ms. Heinrichs, noting that those related to MyEdBC were beyond the control of the district and 'tickets' are being submitted to the Ministry from all districts across the province. School District 69's elementary schools teachers do not use the student information system and are proceeding as they have in the past, so it is the high schools which are impacted the most.

She then provided an overview of the work that began in the summer and continues to be undertaken by the Technology Department staff to upgrade the server(s) to prepare for the Next Generation Network being implemented in January, noting that many of the issues with converting to that program have been, or will very shortly be, resolved. It is anticipated that all of the systems will be functioning smoothly by the end of the month and staff can begin to experience the long term benefits of the new network and software systems. Concurrently the Wi-Fi is being updated at all sites so that it is compatible with the new systems.

9. CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (LOCAL 3570)

Lisa Paine, President, announced that the joint application from the District and CUPE Local 3570 for Learning Improvement Funds (LIF) has been completed and submitted. The funds will provide supports for Education Assistants in terms of consultation time and to support additional hours for twelve (12) Education Assistant positions and the addition of a Child & Youth Care Worker position at Errington Elementary School.

10. DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)

The first DPAC meeting for the 2015-16 school year will be held on September 23 at 7:00 p.m. at the Qualicum Commons.

11. PUBLIC QUESTION (WRITTEN) AND COMMENT PERIOD (10 MINUTES)

None

12. ACTION ITEMS

a. 2014-15 Audited Financial Statements

15-66R

Moved Trustee Austin *Seconded* Trustee Gair

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve the 2014-15 Audited Financial Statements as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Aboriginal Education Funding

15-67R

Moved Trustee Young *Seconded* Trustee Gair

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) request approval from the Ministry of Education to underspend the targeted Aboriginal Education funding for the 2014/15 school year in an amount of \$28,849 and,

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) confirm that the surplus has been allocated and will be spent on Aboriginal Education programs in the 2015/16 fiscal year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. INFORMATION ITEMS**a. Educational Programs Update**

Assistant Superintendent Wilson reported on the following District activities/initiatives:

- The carry forward amount of the Aboriginal Education funds will be used for staffing to teach the Hul'qumi'num language
- Despite the technological challenges, she has observed that it has been a positive start to the school year for both students and teachers who are eager to focus on teaching and learning.
- Teachers have been having conversations regarding BC's redesigned and new curriculum for Kindergarten to Grade 9, which will support diversity and embed Aboriginal knowledge and worldviews in curriculum in authentic and meaningful way. Some teachers are working on the drafts for the 10-12 curriculum to provide feedback on the proposed directions.
- She then provided an overview of the Ministry of Education's new curriculum site <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/tools> and opened a PowerPoint presentation from the site, which provided an overview of the curriculum redesign showing what is new and what has remained the same. She also noted how the redesign directions related to the District's own strategic planning.
- Teaching & Learning Support Staff are hosting 'Mondays at the DRC (District Resource Centre)' from 3:45 to 4:45 to provide sessions for teachers a variety of topics to assist teachers in the classroom.

b. Education Planning Update

Superintendent Koop provided an update on the types of social media initiatives he has implemented further to the Board's direction to senior staff to develop a communications plan to highlight the District initiatives and successes. The first of three 4-page feature sheets was included in the September 22nd edition of the Parkville/Qualicum Beach News, and will provide information on initiatives related to the district's strategic planning process and highlight district programs.

He then displayed a blog site which can be accessed from a link on the District's web-page titled *SD69 Update* (<http://www.sd69update.ca>), which focusses on human interest stories. His goal is to post one or two blogs each week and he encouraged parents and members of the community to view the site. He also hopes, over time, to develop and use the blog in concert with a District Facebook and Twitter account to provide options for people to access district information.

Superintendent Koop also displayed the website containing the results from the ThoughtExchange process (<http://sd69.thoughtexchange.info>), which will go public on Thursday, September 24, 2015. The original survey questions are posted on the site with links to view the data by school or by District so people can see how a particular idea was rated. They can also see what percentage of groups (parents, staff, and community members) responded and the variances between how staff and the parent community perceived different topics.

Trustees and senior staff will continue to work through information and a future survey directed to students is under discussion.

Superintendent Koop then spoke to one more piece of education planning, which was the issue of school capacity and current enrolment. He displayed a listing of schools containing the current capacity ratings, the functional capacity, the enrolment and the utilization rate. The Ministry of Education expects school districts to be running at 95% capacity. The District is running at 83% capacity so is closer to being on target and having reasonable utilization rates across the District.

c. Transportation Registration Update

Mr. Dino Stiglich, General Manager of Operations, reported that 1212 students, eligible and courtesy, have been issued bus passes and 100 are on a waiting list. Ridership is down by almost 400 students from last year; however, an influx of additional students is anticipated in January. Some changes and additions have been made to routes and the Transportation Department has been receiving requests for additional stops which will be considered on a case by case basis. The goal for next year is to have all bus pass registration applications submitted and paid for by the end of June so the Transportation Department can finalize the routes over the summer rather than during the first month of school.

14. CORRESPONDENCE ATTACHED

- a. **Minister of Education's letters to parents/teachers**
- b. **BCSTA Membership Renewal**

15. POLICY

None

16. TRUSTEE ITEMS

None

17. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

18. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Trustees and senior administrators received comments and/or answered questions on the following topics:

- Student safety at Oceanside Elementary School crosswalk – staff continue to communicate with parents about safe student drop off and pick up procedures and are discussing the installation of crossing lights with the Ministry of Transportation and Koers Engineering. The parking lot being created across the street will be fenced with an opening closest to the crosswalk to reduce pedestrian traffic on the shoulder. The Principal has also reached out to the RCMP and they are providing enforcement at sites around the District as manpower allows. The idea of crossing guards was also raised; however, that would require flagging training for individuals interested in being crossing guards in order to meet insurance requirements.

19. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Austin moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Original signed copy on file

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY TREASURER