

School District No. 69 (Qualicum)



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2016

7:00 PM

THE FORUM

PARKSVILLE CIVIC & TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

ATTENDEES

Trustees

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

Administration

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

Education Partners

Mount Arrowsmith Teachers' Association (MATA)
Qualicum District Principals/Vice Principals' Association (QDPVPA)
District Parents Advisory Council (DPAC)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

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

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

16-95R

Moved Trustee Gair *Seconded* Trustee Young

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes: August 30 2016
- Ratification of In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: August 30, 2016
- Ratification of In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: August 30, 2016

- d. Ministry of Education News Releases
 - Province invests half a million for literacy in BC
 - Province clarifies utilization targets for school construction
 - Connecting students with skills training opportunities
 - Class of 2029 – Students begin their journey of innovative learning
 - Helping students plan for a successful future
 - Province provides support for youth sport
 - ‘Connect, communicate, care’ on World Suicide Prevention Day
 - School anti-bullying policies enhanced to support and respect diversity
 - Ten things to know about BC’s new curriculum
 - Ten top tips for a cool back to school
 - Lots to look forward to as students head back to class
 - Government invests in green upgrades for BC schools
 - Extra \$20 million to fund school improvements
- e. Reports from Board Representatives to Outside Organizations
 - District 69 Recreation Commission – Trustee Austin
 - Building Learning Together Coalition/Heart-Mind Interest Group – Trustee Young
- f. Status of Action Items - September 2016

16-96R

Moved Trustee Kurland *Seconded* Trustee Gair

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve the consent agenda items of the Regular Board Meeting of September 27, 2016, as amended.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**a. 2015/16 Audited Financial Statements**

Ms. Kelly Olsen, representing Auditor McGorman MacLean, presented the 2015/16 Audited Financial Statements and acknowledged the full cooperation of the Board and Board Office staff during the audit. The financial statements presented fairly the financial position of the District.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

7. TRUSTEE HIGHLIGHTS**Trustee Austin**

- Attended the Welcome Back Potluck hosted by the Arrowview Elementary School Parent Advisory Council. She is the new Trustee Liaison to that school and she looks forward to her new role while also continuing as the trustee liaison to Errington and Springwood Elementary Schools.

Trustee Young

- Travelled to Lasqueti Island on September 19th to visit False Bay School while also learning more about the surrounding community. She is the new Trustee Liaison to that school and she looks forward to learning more about that school’s community as well as those of PASS/Woodwinds and Qualicum Beach Elementary.

- Will be contacting the administrators of the two high schools to discuss the parameters of a Heart/Mind Challenge to familiarize students with heart/mind concepts and how they can be applied in a school setting.
- Announced that Rotary's Coats for Kids began this week. Most of the schools in the District will have boxes on site to receive donations of coats.

Trustee Gair

- Attended the first *Coffee with Trustees* at Arrowview Elementary School earlier in the day. He enjoys the having informal discussions with teachers, parents and administrators. He regrets that he will be unavailable to attend *Coffee with Trustees* scheduled in January/February 2017 as his school schedule will conflict with those dates/times.

Trustee Kurland

- Is looking forward to being the new trustee liaison to Kwalikum Secondary School and reconnecting with the students, parents and staff at that site as well as at Bowser Elementary School and the International Student Program

Trustee Flynn

- Reminded attendees that Friday, September 30th is *Orange Shirt Day – Every Child Matters* to honour the survivors of residential schools, and those who did not. She will be wearing her orange shirt at the Vancouver Island School Trustees Fall Conference being held in Sooke September 30/October 1, 2016.

8. MOUNT ARROWSMITH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (MATA)

Norberta Heinrichs, President, commented on the following:

- School start up with new classes, new initiatives and redesigned curriculum for teachers who have also reconnected and developed new relationships and discovered collaborative opportunities.
- MATA will begin the process of reviewing classes that are over class size maximums or that are challenged with too many needs. It was hoped that staffing would relieve the pressures of some of the class number/needs.
- Teachers will begin to access the offerings provided by the District in the areas of Mentorship and Curriculum Implementation Resources.
- Teachers' experiences were as varied as each school community's during the recent District-Wide Planning day, which focused on curriculum implementation, and provided choice, collaboration and creativity. Some common themes were exploring technology to enhance learning and assessment, developing whole school approaches and identifying ways to meet the needs of the District's most vulnerable students with strategies in building connections. It was noted that each school utilized expertise from within the District for the sessions.
- Collaboration with the District Parent Advisory Council Chairs to create more shared learning opportunities which support children and their families.
- MATA is watchful that new initiatives, plans and strategies are incorporated reasonably and with integration in mind.
- Teachers are still determining their needs in order to identify supports for their learners.
- MATA is in the process of surveying teachers and how they use that data will be determined by the planning team. Other information and resources will be gathered from the recent Planning Day to determine the agenda for the November 10th Curriculum Implementation Day.

9. CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (LOCAL 3570)

No Report

10. DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)

Andrea Button, President, stated that the first DPAC meeting of the school year will be held on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at the Qualicum Commons.

11. PUBLIC QUESTION (WRITTEN) AND COMMENT PERIOD

None

12. ACTION ITEMS**a. Final approval for a Kwalikum Secondary student field trip to Japan**

Chair Flynn referred to a recent decision by the Nanaimo School Board to place a two-year moratorium on all overseas student field trips following the attack in Nice, France in July 2016. She noted that Board policy 5020: *Co-Curricular and Extra Curricular Activities* outlines the process for School District 69's student field trips. It is one of the next series of policies to be reviewed by the Board Policy Committee as well as by the Policy Advisory Committee, which includes representation from teachers, parents, support staff and school administrators.

Trustees expressed their support of providing field trips, which are also highly valued by students. The Board heard from staff who organize overseas trips and the benefits to students, particularly those who may not have other opportunities to travel outside the province or country. Senior staff also provided an overview of the field trip approval process at the administrator level prior to it being presented to the Board, first for approval in principle and then for final approval.

16-97R

Moved Trustee Kurland *Seconded* Trustee Gair

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) give final approval for a Kwalikum Secondary School student field trip to Japan in March 2017.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Final approval for a Kwalikum Secondary student field trip to Costa Rica**16-98R**

Moved Trustee Gair *Seconded* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) give final approval for a Kwalikum Secondary School student field trip to Costa Rica in March 2017.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. 2016-17 Enhancing Student Learning Plan – District

Superintendent Koop stated that senior staff were obligated this year to develop a local process for articulating to the community what the Board's plans are as a District in terms of enhancing student learning, as well as at the school level. He then reviewed the District Plan which will also be tracked to ensure it corresponds to the Board's four strategic priorities and the supports in place at schools.

Superintendent Koop noted that one piece a difference this year is that staff will be focusing time at the District level to develop plans to ensure both parents and students are being communicated with in an effective and timely way about assessment evaluation and reporting. Efforts are still required to focus on literacy

and numeracy foundational skills, whether Foundation Skills Assessment or classroom-based assessment.

The District's Enhancing Student Learning Plan is the first run at a tool to communicate to the community and one another about where we intend to put our efforts, the expectation to see strong linkage to school plans, how resources are aligned, and to provide data sources that will show the impacts of the initiatives the District is undertaking.

Further to a query as to whether or not the District was participating in the pilot to explore new foundation skills assessment tools, Assistant Superintendent Wilson advised that a former teacher has been hired as a lead consultant for the new assessment tool. He has approached the District to inquire if one of the schools would be a pilot site and other schools have also expressed an interest in participating in the pilot this year. At this point, at least one school will be participating and it is hoped that there will be more.

Staff will also keep the Board updated on the progress of the focus on the elementary careers curriculum.

16-99R

Moved Trustee Young *Seconded* Trustee Gair

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve the *2016-17 Enhancing Student Learning Plan - District* as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. 2015-16 Audited Financial Statements

16-100R

Moved Trustee Kurland *Seconded* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve the 2015-16 Audited Financial Statements as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. Late French Immersion Survey

Assistant Superintendent Wilson requested the Board's approval to have Francine Frisson, French Immersion Coordinator, to undertake a feasibility study to determine whether the community would like a Late French Immersion program and, if so, what implications the program would have for this particular community. If the proposal is supported by the community, staff would seek to have the program included in the 2017-18 budget.

16-101R

Moved Trustee Gair *Seconded* Trustee Austin

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) direct staff to undertake a community process to determine whether offering of a Late French Immersion program would be viable for the District.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. INFORMATION ITEMS**a. Educational Programs Update****i. Notification of Name Change of *First Nations Education Program to Indigenous Education Services Program***

Rosie McLeod-Shannon, District Principal of Indigenous Education Services, provided the Board with the background to a suggestion for a name change to the First Nations Education Program to ensure an all-inclusive reference. She notified the Board that the program name has been changed to Indigenous Education Services Program.

ii. Assistant Superintendent Wilson reported on the following district events/initiatives:

- Senior staff continue to monitor and support teachers as they face a new year of new classrooms, new students, and redesigned curriculum.
- The Learning Services Team met two weeks ago and two teachers lead the team through 'Pathways', a tool used to look at mapping out the journey for some of the District's students as they transition into after-school programs.
- Monday's at the DRC have restarted with a number of professional development opportunities being provided by the Teaching and Learning Teams.
- Identifying two Math Mentors per site in addition to the Reading Mentors already in place at the elementary sites.
- One meeting has been held to discuss assessment reporting and evaluation. A pamphlet is being drafted to inform parents what that means and how teachers will be communicating their child's learning. The pamphlet is expected to be finalized and distributed by mid-October.
- Acknowledgement of the work of the Early Years partners who are working on a strategic plan that involves all community partners.
- One of the conversations with the Oceanside Collaborative Response Committee (OCRC) is head lice and information is being shared with staff, students and parents on ways to prevent and eradicate head lice. Trustee Austin suggested that the topic be incorporated into biology and science curriculum as well as the health curriculum.
- Another topic at the OCRC is educating students on the dangers of Fentanyl use. A meeting to discuss harm reduction is scheduled for Thursday, September 29th at Family Place and the Island Health Harm Reduction Coordinator will be in attendance.
- Snapshot of enrolment to date, noting which schools had higher or lower enrolment than projected. The enrolment count will be finalized on September 30th. At that time, it is possible that the District may be out of funding protection, which could result in additional student funding.

b. Education Planning Update**i. Spring 2016 ThoughtExchange Community Engagement Results**

Superintendent Koop highlighted some of the results of the Spring ThoughtExchange process. Trustees have been reviewing the data over the summer months, as have school administrators who will be sharing it with their staff to synchronize with their instructional planning. A link to the

data will be provided to all participants via email and will also be posted on the District web-site.

The Superintendent will be drafting a 'You Said/We Did' wrap for an upcoming edition of the PQB News, which will compare the feedback provided to the action being taken on areas requiring improvement.

14. **CORRESPONDENCE ATTACHED**

None

15. **POLICY**

None

16. **TRUSTEE ITEMS**

a. **Foundation Skills Assessment**

Trustee Austin stated that the Province itself has stated that the current Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) tool is outdated and does not reflect the changing education paradigm and the BC Education Plan. A new assessment tool is being piloted in some districts this year and she recommended that the Board ask the Ministry to exempt districts from administering the current FSA until a new assessment tool is identified which is useful and relevant.

Trustees commented on the recommendation, noting that, while the FSA has long been identified as not providing a comprehensive assessment of student learning, there was still a requirement under the School Act for the FSA to be administered.

It was noted that one of the District's schools had been invited to participate in the pilot of the new assessment tool and others have expressed an interest in being part of it as well. Which school(s) would participate was yet to be confirmed. It was also noted that the direction from the Ministry has been that the current FSA be administered to Grade 4 and 7 students. It provides one more point of data for a classroom teacher and the Principal.

Trustees continued to discuss whether the Minister could exempt districts from administering the test, while acknowledging support for government collaborative approaches.

16-101R

Moved Trustee Austin *Seconded* Trustee Gair

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) support government collaborative approaches, including pilot programs, to find ways to approach provincial assessment as it relates to the newly designed curriculum. However, the Board does not support the added expense and time associated with the administration of an FSA test which the government acknowledges as outdated and incongruent with the re-designed curriculum. The Board requests that the Minister of Education exempt all districts from administering the January/February 2017 Foundations Skills Assessment.

CARRIED

b. Notice of Motion

Trustee Austin stated her intention to propose a motion at the October Board meeting to waive courtesy rider fees for School District 69 bus service users from the Errington Elementary School catchment area that choose to attend either Qualicum Beach Elementary or Arrowview Elementary as cross-boundary students.

c. Trustee Liaison Schools/Board Committee Representation

Chair Flynn noted the changes to the Trustee Liaison schools and Board Committee Representation as provided in the agenda package.

d. Select Standing Committee - Provincial Budget 2017 Consultations

Trustee Austin stated that Boards have not received any communication from government regarding the recommendations of the Select Standing Committee. She suggested that the Board send a letter to the Government to inquire as to what happens to the recommendations when they are not acted upon. The Board agreed to write a letter to the Select Standing Committee asking for clarity on the follow-up process and details about any action taken by the Ministry further to the recommendations.

17. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

18. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

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

- Whether teachers in schools participating in the pilot would be expected to supervise both the pilot assessment and the Foundation Skills Assessment in the same year. *Senior staff are still working to identify those details.*
- Use of the Foundation Skills Assessment by the Fraser Institute. *How the Fraser Institute uses assessment data is out of the hands of school boards.*
- The disadvantage to French Immersion students in being given the assessment tests in English instead of French. *Staff are aware of the issue and are working to identify a solution.*
- Whether there has been a change in practice or assessment to verify, assess or reassess students for their designation for 1701 as special needs. *There has been no change; the District follows ministry guidelines and standards. The District's practice is to provide supports based on all students' needs and not designation.*

19. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Gair moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Original signed copy on file

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY TREASURER