

School District No. 69 (Qualicum)



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017

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

Ron Amos	Secretary Treasurer
Gillian Wilson	Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Ryan Hung	Assistant Secretary Treasurer
Chris Dempster	General Manager of Operations
Ross Pepper	Principal, International Student Program Qualicum District Principals/Vice Principals' Association (QDPVPA)
Karin Hergt	Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

Education Partners

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

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 Qualicum and Nanoose First Nations for sharing their shared territories with the District.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- i. Enrolment Report
- ii. Report on Organization of Classes – March 22, 2017
- iii. 2017-18 Budget Update: Grant Announcement

17-21R

Moved Trustee Austin Seconded Trustee Young

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes: February 28, 2017
- b. Ratification of In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: February 17, 2017
- c. Ministry News Releases
 - Minister's statement on Vancouver School Board investigation
 - Tentative agreement reached with BCTF
 - Annual fundraising campaign helps graduates celebrate safely
 - Minister of Education's statement on agreement with BCTF
 - Province invests \$2 million for rural teacher recruitment
 - Bot Battles, Tech Scavenger Hunt and Cool Careers Await Youth at #BCTECH Summit
 - #BCTECH Summit delivers unparalleled fusion of tech collaboration
 - Province commits funding for trades equipment in Qualicum, Alberni school districts
 - BC Training and Education Savings Grant celebrates \$75m milestone
 - Apply now for BC Arts Council grants and scholarship
- d. Reports from Board Representatives to Committees/Organizations
 - Oceanside Building Learning Together Coalition – Trustee Young
 - District French Advisory Committee – Trustee Gair
- e. Status of Action Items - March 2017
- f. Finalized 2017-18 School Calendar – District

17-22R

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 March 28, 2017, as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**a. District Teachers' Mentorship Program**

Teachers from Springwood Elementary School, as well as a District Support Teacher, presented the Board with examples of their involvement in the Mentorship program, the benefits of working with a teacher mentor - in their professional growth and in the creation of rich educational experiences for students. The program is valuable in meeting the needs of teachers as they develop throughout their careers and enrich their practice. The Board was asked to continue to support the program.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

7. TRUSTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Trustee Flynn

- Attended the Sales Day of the Business Program at Arrowview Elementary. The student offerings were creative and varied.
- Attended Mr. Pawliuk's Science class at Ballenas Secondary for Machine Creations Day and observed a wide range of projects being created and presented by students.

Trustee Young

- Attended a Qualicum Beach Elementary School Kindergarten to Grade 5 and Drama Elective students' performance of *A Qualicum Rainforest*, which included singing and dancing. The performance was skillfully presented.

- **Trustee Kurland**

- Acknowledged the dedication of teachers, who have persevered over the past 15+ years to provide equitable access to learning and the pursuit of excellence for students under conditions they knew were unconstitutional after language was stripped from the provincial contract. In spite of those challenges, every month the Board sees more examples of excellence in education and enthusiasm for teaching.

Trustee Gair

- Appreciated his first opportunity to act as Board Chair for the first time at an informal meeting.
- Attended the Oceanside Elementary School Hot Lunch Program provided by the school's Parent Advisory Council and had the opportunity to speak with the parent community.

8. MOUNT ARROWSMITH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (MATA)

Norberta Heinrichs, President, commented on the following:

- Allocation of the priority measures funding for 2016/17.
- The illegal and unconstitutional stripping of language and the resulting implementation agreement following the Supreme Court Ruling.
- Local Collective Agreement language and whether the 2017/18 funding will fully implement that language considering that the school-based team will need access to that fund to carry out their due diligence in exercising their scope under that Collective Agreement
- Concerns regarding the Ministry's 2017/18 grant announcement and the possibility that there may be fewer teachers rather than more if the District would have to work within the budget provided.
- Additional funding for youth trades programs and questioned whether the budget will hold a technology education staffing ratio to support those programs.
- Challenge for teachers working with the new curriculum and having to create new resources or track down former resources.
- Requested that, before September, any reporting practice is formalized; assessment and reporting should not come as an afterthought to the curriculum.

She then presented a number of questions for the Board and Senior Staff to consider in relation to the funding for 2017/18.

9. CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (LOCAL 3570)

None

10. DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)

Kim Hancock, Member at Large, commented on the following:

- Student fees for extra-curricular activities. She inquired whether there was a guide outlining the minimum or maximum amount required.
- The continuing challenge for PACs to communicate with the parent body and encourage parents to be more engaged in their child's school and learning.
- Reiterated the DPAC request for the Board to consider a sexual health teacher position.
- The practice of gaming funds being allocated to PACs in small amounts rather than large amounts, which is challenging when granting funding requests.
- Reference to a comment made by an international student that they felt 'invisible'. That has raised some concerns regarding class size and composition as it relates to the number of international students compared to local students. *Assistant Superintendent Wilson confirmed that the District has seen growth of the international program with 18 countries represented by 170 international students at the secondary schools, which equates to approximately 10% of the student population at each secondary school. The District is proud of the diversity created by the international student program and the work of program staff to ensure all students feel included.*
- Suggested that the District only accept quality students and not just those from families that can afford it. She suggested a scholarship for students not financially in a position to consider an international student program.
- Information about how the new curriculum is changing for elementary schools; however, there seems to be a lack of communication as to how this will work in the secondary grades. An update to parents on the status of the new curriculum for grades 10-12 would be appreciated. *Chair Flynn noted that the implementation of the revised curriculum for grades 10-12 has been deferred for another year.*
- The Next DPAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 29th.

11. PUBLIC QUESTION (WRITTEN) AND COMMENT PERIOD**12. ACTION ITEMS**

None

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

Assistant Superintendent Wilson reported on the following district initiatives and events:

- Awarding of a Trades Grant in the amount of \$118,232 over 3 years for the purchase of equipment.
- Clarity on the allocation of \$50 per student learning grant from the Ministry. The money is being considered to offset transportation costs for field trips, e-prep programs, secondary student textbooks, classroom resources, technology support, and school supplies.
- Only 7 expressions of interest were received for the Late French Immersion program; therefore, it will not be part of the budget proposals for 2017/18. However, the District may reconsider revisiting the proposal in the future.
- Personal Health and Education is a topic on the forefront lately. Staff are in dialogue with administration on the change of Health and Career Education to Health and Physical Education, which has caused some

uncertainty as to who will be delivering the Health curriculum. The Home Room Teacher has been identified as being the best person to be teaching the Health curriculum and staff are working in collaboration with counsellors on a variety of different programs which could be offered to ensure that those teachers are comfortable with delivery of the content.

b. Education Planning Update

Superintendent Koop reported that he and the Assistant Superintendent have begun their spring conversations with Principals, which focus on what school staff are doing in relation to: the four key strategic priorities, communicating student learning, and implementation of the new curriculum. This includes an outline of the actions taken this year, what the successes have been, where the challenges have been and what learning has been in that process as a way of holding themselves and one another accountable for that work.

This year, he and the Assistant Superintendent will also engage in separate conversations with Principals and Vice Principals to discuss their personal professional development interests and their short and long term goals, including how the leadership team can support them with that work.

c. Enrolment Report

Superintendent Koop presented the enrolment as it stood on February 10, 2017, noting there has been a lot of growth in the context of the distributed learning program and enrolment is stable in terms of the regular school environments from K-12.

d. Report on Organization of Classes – March 22, 2017

Superintendent Koop presented the report on the organization of classes which indicated that 3 classrooms at Ballenas Secondary School are above the guidelines established. He has confirmed that the classes are appropriate for student learning; however, those classroom teachers are eligible for compensation in terms of choosing to have additional professional development, pay, or classroom supplies.

e. 2017/18 Budget Allocation

Secretary Treasurer Amos reviewed information received from the Ministry outlining the estimated operating grants to districts and additional funding meant to support the restoration of the pre-2002 provincial collective agreement language.

He noted that the Ministry has stated that no district would receive less than that previously provided by Learning Improvement and Priority Measures Funds; however, it appears as though the District may still have a budget shortfall. This is due to the fact that over the past 15 years the District maintained classroom supports and identified reductions in other areas. At this point, those deficits in resources and additional staff, i.e. custodian, education assistants, are not recognized in the additional funding for 2017/18. Therefore, the Ministry has asked that all Districts articulate a staffing plan which will identify the services the district plans to provide and at what staffing levels. It is anticipated that those reports will address those districts that did not receive enough funding.

Of concern to the District is that it had already chosen to maintain classroom supports and non-enrolling teacher levels with reduction of staff and resources in other areas. It has been suggested that the implementation funding cannot be allocated to replace those reduced positions and resources.

Given the Ministry timelines for District's to submit their staffing plans and the June 2nd deadline for the Ministry to respond, it was noted that the District may not know its full budget allocation until after the Board normally passes its budget at the end of April. Staff requested that the Board allow staff to plan for the minimal amount of staffing with a contingency for a final staffing plan once the full allocation is known.

17-23

Moved: Trustee Austin *Seconded:* Trustee Gair
THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) authorize the Senior Staff to commence with the 2017/18 staffing process subject to any further revisions required upon approval of the 2017/18 Preliminary Operating Budget.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. CORRESPONDENCE ATTACHED

None

15. POLICY**a. Board Policy 5020: Field Experiences**
*(Previously titled Co-Curricular and Extra Curricular Activities)***17-24R**

Moved Trustee Flynn *Seconded* Trustee Kurland
THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve third and final reading of Board Policy 5020: *Field Experiences* and its attendant Administrative Procedure at its Regular Board Meeting of March 28, 2017.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Administrative Procedure – Travel Expenses
*(Previously Board Policy 6005)***17-25R**

Moved Trustee Flynn *Seconded* Trustee Gair
THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading of the Administrative Procedure – *Travel Expenses* at its Regular Board Meeting of March 28, 2017.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Administrative Procedure – Credit Cards
*(Previously Board Policy 6006)***17-26R**

Moved Trustee Flynn *Seconded* Trustee Young
THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading of the Administrative Procedure – *Credit Cards* at its Regular Board Meeting of March 28, 2017.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. **Administrative Procedure – Interview and Relocation Reimbursement for Exempt Staff
(Previously Board Policy 6166)**

17-27R

Moved Trustee Flynn Seconded Trustee Gair

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading of the Administrative Procedure – *Interview and Relocation Reimbursement for Exempt Staff* at its Regular Board Meeting of March 28, 2017.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. TRUSTEE ITEMS

a. **\$10aDay Child Care Plan**

Trustee Young spoke to the rationale as provided in the agenda package, noting that the motion had come forward from the Oceanside Building Learning Together Coalition as well as the Retire Teachers' Association.

17-28R

Moved Trustee Young Seconded Trustee Gair

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) endorse the \$10aDay Child Care Plan by adding its name to the petition at www.10aday.ca; and,

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) write a letter in support of the \$10aDay Child Care Plan to the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Finance (copied to usual) requesting that the Province fully support and fund the \$10aDay Child Care Plan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. **Public Education is the Key**

Chair Flynn reminded the Board of the BCSTA campaign to promote public education as a priority in the upcoming federal election. She asked trustees to spread the word that public education is the key to the future. She also recommended viewing the videos on the BCSTA website from the Sector Leaders Speaker Series.

Trustee Young also encouraged everyone speak with every group of which they are members talk about the importance of public education – and to get out to vote!

17. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

18. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

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

- Staffing levels of non-enrolling teachers given the current budget allocation for 2017/18
- Additional new funding for teacher compensation and overhead and operating expenses.

19. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Gair moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY TREASURER