



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018

7:00 PM

THE FORUM

PARKSVILLE CIVIC & TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

ATTENDEES

Trustees

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

Administration

Rollie Koop	Superintendent of Schools
Ron Amos	Secretary Treasurer
Gillian Wilson	Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Ryan Hung	Assistant Secretary Treasurer
Chris Dempster	General Manager of Operations
Brian Worthen	Vice-Principal, Bowser Elementary School Qualicum District Principals/Vice Principals' Association
Karin Hergt	Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

Education Partners

Mount Arrowsmith Teachers' Association (MATA)

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

18-87R

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

- a. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes as amended: May 22, 2018
- b. Ratification of In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: May 15, 2018
- c. Ratification of Special In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: May 22, 2018
- d. News Releases
 - Nominate a deserving BC education professional today
 - Students to benefit from investments in educational leadership
 - New tools help high school students jump-start Trades careers
 - Tentative provincial framework agreement reached with K-12 support staff
 - Parents encouraged to sign up for education grant money
- e. Reports from Board Representatives to Outside Organizations
 - RDN District 69 Recreation Commission – Trustee Young
 - Oceanside Building Learning Together Coalition – Trustee Austin
 - Curriculum Implementation Advisory Committee – Trustee Gair
- f. Status of Action Items – June 2018

18-88R*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 June 26, 2018, as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**a. Cannabis in a New World Order**

Dr. Paul Hasselback spoke to the implications of the legalization of cannabis and the potential impact on schools.

b. International Student Program Update

Ross Pepper and Ronda Bell, District Principals of the International Student Program, provided the Board with the goals established for the program this year and the initiatives being implemented in order to meet those goals. Two international students, one from Germany and one from Italy, then shared their experiences since coming to the district and a parent shared some of her experiences being a homestay parent over the past 14 years.

c. Student Led Code of Conduct – Errington Elementary School

Roo Whetstone, Learning Services Teacher and a group of Grade 7 students from Errington Elementary School shared a video which highlighted their participation in a student led process to create the school's student centered code of conduct.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

7. TRUSTEE HIGHLIGHTS**Trustee Austin**

- Appreciated the opportunity to attend schools and program sites to review the Enhancing Student Learning Plans which each school approached differently. The presentations were informative, engaging and fun and she thanked all the sites for sharing their plans with trustees.

Trustee Young

- Attended the PASS Graduation Ceremony on Thursday, June 21st where 31 students graduated. The students' accolades to staff were amazing and highlighted just how special and successful the alternate program is.

Trustee Gair

- Attended the retirement celebration on June 14th and enjoyed giving and hearing speeches about each retiree by someone who knew them well.
- Commended Senior Staff on their presentation to concerned parents regarding the additional classroom being built at Oceanside Elementary School.

Trustee Kurland

- Attended a variety of year-end events throughout the District including the Indigenous Education Year End Celebration, the retirement celebration, the Kwalikum Honours Society dinner and the Bowser Elementary Volunteer Tea, which was a highlight.

Trustee Flynn

- Attended the Collaborative Education Alternate Program (CEAP) Grade 8/9 TIDES Celebration of Learning event where students' research projects showcased how they had applied their experiential learning in a variety of ways.

8. MOUNT ARROWSMITH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (MATA)

Debbie Comer, President, thanked all the MATA members who have volunteered their time as coaches, committee members, on field trips, etc., throughout the year. She also thanked the Vice- and Past-President of MATA who provided guidance to her during her first year as President of MATA.

Ms. Comer noted that MATA continues to work with senior staff to ensure that the restored collective agreement language is implemented and is confident that the processes put in place this year will ensure a smoother transition next year. One area of concern is the confusion as to whether or not remedy for classes over the class size limit can be carried forward and it is hoped that the government will clarify that process in the near future.

She then wished everyone a wonderful summer full of rest, rejuvenation and laughter.

9. CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (LOCAL 3570)

None

10. DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)

None

11. PUBLIC QUESTION (WRITTEN) AND COMMENT PERIOD

- What was the process by which you came to the conclusion that SOGI 123 would be used as a resource in the school district?*

As of December 31, 2016, all B.C. school districts and independent schools are required to include specific references to sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) in their anti-bullying policies. This requirement followed the July 2016 addition of gender identity and expression as a prohibited ground of discrimination under the B.C. Human Rights Code.

ii. *What would it take for you to reconsider this decision?*

The Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) supports its teachers in their efforts to:

- Use gender-free phrasing
- Use language that is inclusive of all families
- Use respectful language for talking about sexual orientation and gender identity
- Create safe and welcoming environments for all students, staff, parents, and community members where questions can be asked openly and people are accepted
- Make it easier for students to learn and talk about SOGI issues in age-appropriate ways
- Speak-up when less-than-inclusive comments are being made

Provincially-set Physical and Health Education K – 10 curriculum includes a focus on valuing diversity and respecting differences, along with the topics of human rights and responses to discrimination. Teachers and schools have been given the opportunity to explore the B.C. Human Rights Code within those themes including, but not necessarily limited to, sexual orientation and gender identity. Topics related to gender and self-identity are included in the curriculum to broaden student knowledge and to help students understand and respect diversity.

SOGI 1 2 3 is a resource that has been made available to schools and teachers with grade-level appropriate lesson plans, online learning modules, and customizable templates and tools that align with redesigned provincial curriculum. The SOGI initiative is designed to support understanding and inclusion.

12. ACTION ITEMS

a. Enhancing Student Learning Plans

18-89R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Gair

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve the 2018-19 *Enhancing Student Learning - School Plans* as reviewed by members of the Board at each school between May 29 and June 7, 2018.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Annual 5-Year Capital Plan

18-90R

Moved: Trustee Gair *Seconded:* Trustee Kurland

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve the Annual Five Year Capital Plan as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Education Programs Update

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

- Acknowledgement of Trustees visits to review the Enhancing Student Learning Plans at each site. It meant a lot to the schools.
- Acknowledgement to the teachers and the work they have done throughout the year to support each other and student learning.

- Acknowledgement to support staff and school administrators/site managers for their roles in making schools a great place to be.
- Ballenas Secondary held its Celebration of Learning to celebrate students' achievements.
- Acknowledgement to the MATA President for meeting the challenges of looking after the interests of teachers with grace and integrity.
- The Assessment Evaluation and Reporting Committee has decided to move all elementary schools to using portfolios as a form of communicating student learning.
- The Assessment Evaluation and Reporting Committee was also successful in a bid for the District to give voice for a pilot by the Ministry of Education on a new Draft Reporting Policy
- The District has also been selected to be part of a Changing Results for Young Children initiative in collaboration with the Comox and Powell River School Districts and facilitated by Maureen Dockendorf. This is the second year of a three-part provincial initiative.
- Further to Dr. Hasselback's presentation and the potential implications of the legalization of cannabis, the District has a solid foundation in its administrative process under Policy 7002: Substance Use through the work of the District Drug and Alcohol Review Committee. She recently received positive feedback from parents regarding the process and appreciation to the District for listening to and supporting their child. It was further noted that students also provide feedback on the process as part of their reflection package and the student has the last word in the Hearing. The District is very inclusive in terms of student voice.
- A concerning factor is the number of students who are now vaping and the harm it may be doing to their lungs. Staff will also need to be aware that with some of the vapes, people are not able to identify the scent of an illegal substance.
- Ballenas and Kwalikum Commencement Ceremonies will take place on Thursday, June 28th and staff are looking forward to sharing in celebrating those students' successes.
- The first day of the 2018-19 school year is Tuesday, September 4th and information will be advertised in the paper directing people to the District website.

b. Education Planning Update

Superintendent Koop acknowledged the work of the amazing staff at the school and district levels and he has never felt prouder than he has tonight as people shared their various observations of their experiences in the District. He noted that the other side to that is evident in that there are some very complex situations involving students and families in the community and the front line people are the classroom teachers, social worker, child and youth care workers and school secretaries, and when many families are at the cusp of losing the stability of the school routine for two months, anxiety comes out. He gave credit to those front line people who are working with those student and parents.

Superintendent Koop then commented on the following

- In reference to the presentation by Dr. Hasselback, the District has already done work on the legal front to understand the obligations as one of the largest employers in the area to ensure that students and employees understand the District's expectations in regard to use of cannabis. The District also already has a good, guiding and supportive policy in that regard.

- Acknowledged the work of the MATA representatives for their persistence and for keeping discussions on track to get to solutions regarding the restored language regarding class sizes.
- Thanked the parents and staff who participated in the recent ThoughtExchange survey. The Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent will be working with the resulting data over the summer to inform the work of the 2018-2023 District Strategic Plan. A draft will be presented to the current Board and the final document approved by the incoming Board.
- Observed that the District Strategic Plan has been guiding the work school staff have been doing on the Enhancing Student Learning Plans.
- Acknowledgement of the work of the Assistant Superintendent who carries a complex portfolio including leading the Teaching & Learning agenda in terms of curriculum implementation and aligning assessment to report student learning to parents.

14. CORRESPONDENCE ATTACHED

- a. **Letters to/from MLA Andrew Weaver re: Reducing Voting Age**

15. BYLAW/POLICY/ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

- a. **Board Policy 4006: Accumulated Operating Surplus**

18-91R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading of Board Policy 4006: *Accumulated Operating Surplus* and its attendant Administrative Procedure at its Regular Board Meeting of June 26, 2018.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- b. **Board Policy 7144: Student Records**

18-92R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Gair

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading of Board Policy 7144: *Student Records* and its attendant Administrative Procedure at its Regular Board Meeting of June 26, 2018.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. TRUSTEE ITEMS

- a. **DRAFT 2018/19 Board Meetings Schedule**

Chair Flynn referred to the DRAFT meeting schedule for the 2018/19 school year noting that dates for the next four Capital Planning Committee Meetings will be added to the schedule.

- b. **Letter from Board to Minister of Advanced Education**

Trustee Young requested the Board's support in writing a letter to the Minister of Advanced Education as districts throughout the province are experiencing challenges in hiring enough support staff. An increase of short-term spaces and courses being made available within communities could facilitate the training of more people and get them into the workforce more quickly.

Trustee Austin suggested that the letter also request that the government promote support staff positions as a viable career path for students, just as they have for the Trades programs.

18-93R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Gair

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) formally advocate through a letter written to the Ministry of Advanced Education (copied to the Ministries of Finance and Education, our area MLA's, Unions, and local newspapers) calling on the Ministry of Advanced Education to increase the number of training seats available for short-term training; and,

THAT training institutions be encouraged to establish training in collaboration with local school districts so that students may have the option of staying and transitioning to work in their local communities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Board Support for Student Engagement in Peaceful Protests

Trustee Gair stated that the upcoming motion was being presented following repercussions to students that arose from student protests in the U.S. after the Parkland shooting. His motion was to ensure that, in this District, whatever issue it may be that students feel so strongly about that they want to support or protest against, that the Board seeks to allow that engagement to happen and seek to find mechanisms to allow that engagement without administering repercussions.

Trustee Kurland noted that students already have that right which is enshrined under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and that the Board does not need to weigh in on the issue. He also cautioned the Board to consider whether it could support students protesting an issue the Board does not agree with i.e. SOGI?

Trustee Young noted that in 1970 there was a prime minister who instituted the War Measures Act and Canada was under martial law for a time, which affected her personally. She would like the Board to take a stand to support democracy and peaceful protest.

Trustee Austin stated that she would be supporting the motion as the essence of the motion is to let students know they don't have to be fearful when they are practicing what they have a right to practice, particularly in this time when people's rights and freedoms are being eroded around the world.

Trustee Gair added that he believes this motion is even more important if students were to protest something the Board disagrees with, regardless of the political views of the Board. It is not the job of the school board or staff to determine what students can or cannot protest. If the motion is supported, students would see that a Board has stood up and said, "Yes, students should be able to protest issues that are important regardless of how the board of the day feels."

18-94R

Moved: Trustee Gair *Seconded:* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) support the efforts of students to engage in peaceful protest on issues of importance to them as part of their learning experience.

CARRIED

Trustee Kurland voted against the motion

17. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

18. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

None

19. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Gair moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Original signed copy on file

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY TREASURER