



**4. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes: June 27, 2023
- b. Ratification of In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: June 27, 2023
- c. Receipt of Ministry News Releases
  - Grants will help international; francophone educators join child care sector

**23-65R**

*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 August 29, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**5. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

None

**6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None

**7. MOUNT ARROWSMITH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (MATA)**

Matt Woods, MATA President, commented on the following:

- Labour Day, September 5<sup>th</sup>, is a special day for the labour movement to reflect on the sacrifices many workers in history have made to gain workers improvements on the job site. An event will be held at Transfer Beach in Ladysmith to celebrate the day in labour history with many activities provided for families to enjoy.
- MATA is again looking forward to working with the board and senior admin and doing what is best for the working conditions of children and teachers as what is good for teacher is good for students when it comes to the classroom environment.

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

No Report

**9. DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)**

Karri Kitazaki, DPAC President, advised that the DPAC meetings will again be held on the third Wednesday of each month with the first meeting of the new school year scheduled for Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 via video-conferencing.

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

None

**11. ACTION ITEMS****a. Board/Authority Authorized Course**

Director of Instructor Terpstra referred to his briefing note as provided in the agenda package requesting that the board approve the Cowichan created and approved BAA Course in order to deliver the course locally.

He then clarified for trustees that the course is an 'academy' only in name as it is presented by the RCMP as a joint venture with participating school districts and that is the reference made by the RCMP, and it does not fall under the District's policy on programs of choice and specialty academies. A 12-month teacher would be the contact and do the assessment with students, who may be interested in jobs in policing, attending the summer course with parent/guardian approval.

It was noted that the course outline as to what the students will be taught by the RCMP did not include topics on mental health and the social work aspect of policing.

**23-66R**

*Moved:* Trustee Flynn                      *Seconded:* Trustee Kellogg

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve the Board/Authority Authorized Course: RCMP Youth Academy Studies 12.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**b. Revised Minor Capital Plan Submission for 2023/24**

Secretary Treasurer Amos explained that staff have requested to revise the allocation of the \$510,000 value of the original Winchelsea roofing project to, instead, become 2 projects, Winchelsea for \$30,000 and Bowser for \$480,000 as outlined on the letter provided in the agenda package.

**23-67R**

*Moved:* Trustee Flynn                      *Seconded:* Trustee Kurland

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) accept the recommended revision to the 2023-2024 Minor Capital Plans as submitted to the Ministry.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**23-68R**

*Moved:* Trustee Flynn                      *Seconded:* Trustee Young

**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. 2023/2024-CPSD69-02 at its Regular Board Meeting of August 29, 2023.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**23-69R**

*Moved:* Trustee Flynn                      *Seconded:* Trustee Kellogg

**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. 2023/2024-CPSD69-02 at its Regular Board Meeting of August 29, 2023.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**23-70R**

*Moved:* Trustee Flynn                      *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

**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. 2023/2024-CPSD69-02 at its Regular Board Meeting of August 29, 2023.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**23-71R**

*Moved:* Trustee Flynn                      *Seconded:* Trustee Young

**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. 2023/2024-CPSD69-02 at its Regular Board Meeting of August 29, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**12. INFORMATION ITEMS****a. Superintendent's Report****i. Provincial Update**

Superintendent Jory began by acknowledging the friends and families coping with the difficulties caused by this year's wildfire season. He then provided the following highlights from the Ministry of Education and Child Care:

- The mandate continues without much change giving districts the opportunity to go deeper into the work that is expected of them with Equity and Well-Being leading the list.
- The Family and Affordability Fund that was received last year at this time has been reformed and rebranded as Feeding Futures and the District's spending will be focussed on providing food for students rather than dividing the funds between food, field trips and supplies. The District can, however, use a portion of the funds for staffing and equipment such as refrigerators, which will immensely help the District to use its resources effectively and efficiently to provide food to students.
- Providing child care on schools grounds is another key piece and the Ministry has set a goal of reaching 59% coverage across the province, up from its current level of about 9%. This need has been recognized by our Board of Education for many years and many of the district's elementary schools have child care on school grounds, while the remainder have them available nearby. The District has plans to expand on-site child care opportunities across the district so that families will have the access that they need. It was also encouraging to hear the Ministry's commitment to addressing the challenges of licensing, which can tie up our decision-makers with extra task completion.
- Truth and Reconciliation remains a focus as well, and the District welcomes its new District Principal of Indigenous Education, Katie Marren, who will support and extend the work that the District has been doing to build and positive and welcoming culture leading to meaningful graduation. The District will be hosting more Equity Scan sessions this year into growing the profile of Indigenous student leadership as it continues to improve outcomes for Indigenous learners.
- At the August start up meeting with the Ministry of Education and Child Care, senior administrators heard that building and upgrading of school sites is planned around the province with improvements to technological infrastructure and how they are supporting rural colleagues with their recruitment challenges. These items may not impact our district in the same manner and will continue to try to support Nisga'a and others with their

challenges although we have not yet placed any Qualicum teachers in a rural district.

- Other updates were shared in regard to student wellness and the learning agenda.

## ii. District Updates Regarding Start Up

Superintendent Jory then updated the Board on upcoming initiatives within the District as follows:

- TEAMS adoption and reduced use of the district website and portal
- Continued roll-out and use of EdPlan Insight.
- Continuation of work to reduce replacement costs and power consumption as these two items have 'mushroomed' over recent years and placed some significant financial pressure upon the district.
- Operationalizing and rolling out the new Strategic Plan. This will result in a new brochure and rolling out new SP with new brochure, more communications, work with staff to grow understanding and develop common vernacular around the plan and what it means to our system. This will also mean more conversations with students as staff continues to expand its understanding of their needs and learn how to make graduation more meaningful to more of them.
- More plans from the Plan will be developed starting with technology and assessment and do further work with our principals and vice principals on school plans and our take on the attributes of leadership.
- While he has not yet had the opportunity to be out to schools, the operations slide show and work completion information received will ensure that all schools will be ready to receive staff and students on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

## b. Education Update

Rudy Terpstra, Director of Instruction, reported on the following:

- The Career Education Department was fully active in the summer, to coordinate learning and working experiences for students.
- Teachers have been attending learning sessions hosted by the Teaching & Learning Team on the topics of Spaces, assessment, play and phonological awareness as well as special sessions on learning progressions.
- Teachers have been in schools preparing their classrooms for the new school year.
- With the assistance of Sherrie Brown, District Administrative Assistant, a brochure titled: *Qualicum School District Assessment and Communicating Student Learning*, was created that brings in both the Ministry Reporting Order and the District's practices. He then provided a quick visual overview of the brochure.

Gillian Wilson, Associate Superintendent, reported on the following:

- The District is in a good space to be aligned with the Ministry priorities.
- Mental Health and Wellness is a key priority for staff as well as the recruitment and retention of employees.
- The CDC reported that drug poisoning is now the number one killer of 15-17 year olds so staff will be working to ensure drug education for students

to understand the dangers of drug use as well as educating them on healthier coping strategies. The district has good relationships with community agencies and Island Health to support that work. Student voice groups will also be involved through the Youth Development Instrument (YDI) discussions. The District has also worked with UBC on a health app for youth where they can connect with and obtain supports.

- Senior Staff are also considering what Artificial Intelligence (AI) means for the District's students and are working to ensure that they are supporting teachers on how we are asking students to work with it.
- The licenses to expand the after school care program at Errington Elementary and to add a program at Bowser Elementary have been approved.
- Registration is a priority at this time of year and elementary principals met with the Associate Superintendent earlier in the day to review enrolment and cross boundary requests.
- School administrators are working hard on staffing, timetabling, and scheduling to ensure that when staff arrive to set up classrooms
- Kindergarten students will be on a gradual entry schedule and will attend full time by September 13<sup>th</sup>. This will support them in being able to attend their first year of school in smaller groups and familiarize themselves with the school and staff.
- All elementary schools are doing some kind of connecting start with many staff change overs so students may not be going to a familiar home room or classroom on the first or second day and allows them to know one another as a school community rather than just a classroom community. There are also some activities planned which will focus on core competencies for teachers to familiarize themselves with their new students.
- The District Resource Centre was moved from the portables into the Winchelsea Learning Centre (formerly Winchelsea Place).
- Compliments to all the staff involved in the DRC move as well as all district sites over the summer.

Further to questions from the Board, Associate Superintendent Wilson provided further information as follows:

- Last year there were some students who had sought medical attention; however, she is unaware if that included the use of a Naloxone kit on a school site. The kits are regularly updated and training is provided to necessary staff on their use.

Trustee Young advised that an overdose awareness event will be held from noon to 4:00 on Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. The Acting Medical Health Officer for the region will be speaking and there will be demonstrations of Naloxone and how to use the kits as well as information on other resources.

- Enrolments at each school are well within projections with Kindergarten being slightly less, and Oceanside Elementary may need another English classroom.

**c. 2023 Summer Projects Update**

Phil Munro, Director of Operations, provided an update on a number of projects completed over the summer as well as some that will continue into the school year around instructional time. He then shared before and after pictures of many of the projects, which included roof drain asbestos abatement, roof guardrail installation,

gym roof and floor replacement, high level cleaning and painting, classroom renovation, flooring replacements and playground soft fall installation to replace pea gravel, furniture moves, and the Works Crew curb appeal improvements to name a few. He also noted that CCTV has been installed at Nanoose Bay Elementary following vandalism at that site and PACs will be approached at other school to see approval for CCTV on the exterior of all elementary schools.

Mr. Munro then also updated the Board on the new on-line bussing system which resulted in a higher number of registrations being completed prior to August 1<sup>st</sup> than in the previous year. This allowed the Transportation Department to organize routes for the new school year. The department will also be using a new routing software and offering an app which will allow parents to track when a child is transferred on the bus. The District has also undertaken an aggressive recruitment campaign and Operations and Maintenance and Transportation is in a good position for staffing in the various employee groups.

He thanked his staff for all their hard work over the summer.

**13. FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

The next meeting will be held via video-conference on Monday, September 18, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

**14. POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

The next meeting will be held via video-conference on Monday, September 18, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

**15. EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

The next meeting will be held via video-conference on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.

**16. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS**

None

**17. TRUSTEE ITEMS**

None

**18. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**19. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE AND MEDIA**

None

**20. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions or comments received.

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Kellogg moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 p.m. after which the special board meeting for the annual election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson was held.

*Original Signed Copy on File*

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CHAIRPERSON

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SECRETARY TREASURER