



A community engaged in the pursuit of lifelong learning and educational excellence

46 BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS

The following is a Synopsis of a recent school district board meeting. Formal minutes are published and are available on the school district website: www.sd46.bc.ca/Board

Board Meetings

School Board Meetings are scheduled on the second Tuesday of each school month. The meetings start at 7:00 PM at the School Board Office, located at 494 South Fletcher Road in Gibsons unless noted below.

If you wish to make a presentation at a meeting, contact Colleen McPhedran at 604-886-8811.

February 9, 2010 Board Meeting

Sunshine Coast Museum and Archives...

Program Volunteer Gillian Kydd highlighted activities at the Museum School in Gibsons. She spoke about the involvement of students this year from Roberts Creek, Davis Bay and Langdale Elementary Schools and encouraged all schools to use this local resource. "The Museum School and literacy is a good match," commented Ms. Kydd.

A Davis Bay Elementary School parent commended Ms. Kydd on the program. Last school year, grade 3/4 students from Davis Bay attended a week-long museum school (pictured below).

"It's tailored to the teacher's needs," Ms. Kydd said. "The teacher does all the instruction, so it appeals to a certain number who have the time and interest to create lessons." Kydd said community resource people act as guest speakers and help with the archival material in the museum is available to educators.



2009 - 2010

Scheduled Board Meetings (Tuesdays at 7:00 PM)

- March 16, 2010.....School Board Office
- April 13, 2010.....School Board Office
- May 11, 2010.....School Board Office
- June 8, 2010.....School Board Office

Committee meetings which are open to the public will be advertised on the school district website under "Board Meetings"

School Trustees

- Silas White, Chair 604-886-8668
- Dave Mewhort, Vice-Chair 604-885-4546
- Ken Sinnott 604-230-1377
- Lori Fielding 604-883-3669
- Fran Heppell 604-886-0070
- Greg Russell 604-886-8388
- Jason Scott 604-865-1494

School Board Office

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visit our website at www.sd46.bc.ca

Highway 46...

Highway 46 is a student-focused talked session that is hosted several times in the school year by the school district. The next Highway 46 session will be on March 4, 2010 and will focus on *student performance on provincial exams*. The Superintendent of Achievement, Rod Allen, will be visiting our school district that day and will take part in this meeting. Secondary students from secondary and alternative schools will be in attendance.

Full Day Kindergarten...

As Government announced in the 2009 Speech from the Throne, BC is making full day kindergarten available to all five-year olds in the province.

Schools have offered half day kindergarten for many years. Some schools have also offered full day programs for specific groups of children (Aboriginal, English language learners, and certain types of students with special needs). It has been up to boards of education to decide whether to include full day kindergarten in their education programs.

Now, the Ministry of Education is phasing in universal access over two years. Full day kindergarten will be available for up to half of BC's eligible students in September 2010. By September 2011, full day kindergarten will be available across the province.

In our school district, discussions have occurred with kindergarten and primary teachers, elementary principals and interested individuals about a full day kindergarten program in the 2010-2011 school year. The superintendent will report on these discussions at the Regular Meeting of the Board on March 16, 2010.

Budget...

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer **John Pritchard** reviewed the Amended Annual Budget and answered questions from the audience.

Diane Ready, Secretary-Treasurer, explained that the \$600,000 contingency fund being used for long term sick leave and the Project Identified Report for

Gibsons Elementary School. This leaves the district with \$200,000 less than anticipated at the time of the preliminary budget and a portion of this will have to be covered by imposing a levy of \$50 per student on each of the schools.

The Amended Annual Budget in the amount of \$37,210,503 for the fiscal year 2009/2010 was passed by the Board of Education.

Presentation to the Board...

Deborah Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, presented trustees with a framed series of pictures in acknowledgment of the Board's long-standing support and recognition for the Aboriginal Program. Renowned National Geographic photographer, Lester Picker took the photographs from the summer 2009 paddling trip. The picture is displayed in the Board Room.

Board Chair Appointed Director for BCPSEA...

Silas White, Chair of the Sunshine Coast Board of Education received the honour of being elected by the assembly to be a director for BCPSEA's Board. This is a huge honour and Mr. White was commended on this recognition.

Regulations...

The school district website now contains draft regulations that are circulated for review. Secretary-Treasurer **Diane Ready** encouraged comments or recommendations on these regulations to be sent to her (email: dready@sd46.bc.ca).

Currently, the following regulations are in circulation: **Honoraria, Donations, Salaries and benefits for Non-Union Staff Not Covered by Individual Contract**.

An Ad Hoc Trustee Honoraria Committee was struck to exam current honorariums in our school district. This committee will bring its recommendations to the Board.