

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
SUNSHINE COAST BOARD OF EDUCATION (SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 46)  
Held on Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at 7:00 P.M.,  
At the School Board Office, Gibsons, B.C.**

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PRESENT: TRUSTEES: S. White, Chair; D. Mewhort, Vice-Chair; F. Heppell;  
L. Fielding; J. Scott; K. Sinnott

STAFF: D. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools  
T. Hierck, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
D. Ready, Secretary-Treasurer  
C. McPhedran, Confidential Secretary

REGRETS: Trustee G. Russell

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**#77 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Chair White acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the traditional territories of the Squamish Nation. He welcomed the audience.

**#78 Presentation (10 minutes in total)**

“Destination ImagiNation” – C. McCubbin, principal – Cedar Grove Elementary School

C. McCubbin gave an informative presentation on an after-school program that was started at Cedar Grove Elementary School this year, which teaches students to problem solve.

**#79 Public Question Period (10 minutes in total)**

J. Garrels commented on the budget and asked about rumoured cuts to librarian positions. She stated that the Sunshine Coast Teachers’ Association (SCTA) would like to see the cuts spread across the board.

**#80 Adoption of the Agenda**

MOTION: Fielding/Sinnott

“That the agenda be adopted as circulated.”

Carried.

**#81 Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings**

MOTION: Sinnott/Scott

“That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 9, 2010, Record of the Closed Meeting of February 9, 2010 and the minutes of the Special Regular Meeting of February 16, 2010 be adopted as circulated.”

Carried.

#82 Reports

(a) Executive Report:

- (1) Cheques issued for the month of February 28, 2010.
- (2) Expenditures by Object as at February 28, 2010.

Secretary-Treasurer Ready reported that the short-term sick account continues to be over budget. Long-term sick account has come into line.

(3) Bill 33

Superintendent Palmer reported on changes at Sechelt Elementary School and Cedar Grove Elementary School.

(4) Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent's Report

As submitted.

(5) Full Day Kindergarten Update

Superintendent Palmer updated the board. She reported that kindergarten registration began on March 15 and will continue until March 26. A questionnaire regarding full day kindergarten vs. half-day kindergarten is being provided. This will give an indication as to a logical place to offer a full day program. A full day program will continue at Kinnikinnick Elementary School.

(6) Budget Update

Secretary-Treasurer Ready informed the board that the budget allocation was received late the previous afternoon. She reported that funding is being done differently than past years and went on to explain items such as Student Funding, Labour Settlement Funding and the Annual Facilities Grant (AFG).

(7) Enhancement Process Progress Report February 1, 2010

As submitted.

(8) Mentorship Minutes – February 15, 2010

As submitted.

(9) Bob Benmore, District Numeracy Support Teacher

(b) Chair's Report

A written report and correspondence was submitted.

(c) Board/Committee Report:

i. Sunshine Coast Transportation Committee

As submitted.

ii. BCSTA Provincial Council Report

Trustee Fielding reported that the BCSTA Provincial Council was held in Victoria on February 19-21, 2010 and reviewed some of the motions that were attached to her report.

iii. DPAC Meeting, February 25, 2010 – Minutes

Trustee Fielding reviewed the minutes of the February 25, 2010 District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) meeting and announced that the next meeting will be on March 25, 2010 at Chatelech Secondary School. She announced to the audience that at this meeting the budget will be discussed and feedback regarding the budget process can be given.

iv. Joint Use Special Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2009

Chair White gave an update.

v. Education Committee

Trustee Scott announced that Trustee Heppell will join the Education Committee and reported that the Education Committee will resume meetings on the fourth Thursday of every month at 3:30 p.m. at the School Board Office. This change in time is to facilitate staff attendance. The agenda has not been set. He also reported that he has spoken to representatives from other municipal governments about forming a Youth Advisory Council from the Sunshine Coast. This council would advise the politicians on various issues and went on to say that Councillor Alice Lutes is one of the representatives from the District of Sechelt.

vi. Policy Committee

Trustee Fielding reported that the Policy Committee had their first meeting prior to the closed board meeting. The minutes of this meeting will be in the April agenda. The Policy Committee will meet the second Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held at the board office on April 13, 2010.

MOTION: Fielding/Sinnott

“That the reports be received.”

Carried.

#83 Correspondence

(a) Danyta Welch, Policy and Program Officer – Community Kitchens Program for Youth

As submitted.

- (b) Danyta Welch, Policy and Program Officer – Cedar Grove Accessible Play Park  
As submitted.
- (c) Danyta Welch, Policy and Program Officer – Halfmoon Bay Fitness Project – letter  
As submitted.
- (d) Norman J. Mould – President, Coalition for Music Education in B.C. – letter  
As submitted.
- (e) Colin Hansen – Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier – letter  
As submitted.
- (f) Bill Gilhooly, CA – Assistant Auditor General – letter  
As submitted.
- (g) Minister Margaret MacDiarmid – letter  
Chair White commented that he attended a Cultural Complex Committee meeting at the District of Sechelt with other interested groups in which a Neighbourhood of Learning at the Sechelt site was discussed as well as the Early Learning Development Table.
- (h) Jenny Garrels, President, Sunshine Coast Teachers’ Association – letter  
As submitted.
- (i) Donna Shugar, Chair – Sunshine Coast Regional District – Community Garden Program  
As submitted.
- (j) Donna Shugar, Chair – Sunshine Coast Regional District – Joint Use of School Facilities  
As submitted.
- (k) Petition – Concerned Parents  
As submitted.
- (l) Erin Brooks Wilson – Halfmoon Bay PAC Chairperson – letter  
As submitted.
- (m) James Gorman, Deputy Minister – Land Disposal – letter  
As submitted.

MOTION: Fielding/Heppell

“That the correspondence be received.”

Carried.

#84 New Business

- (a) Administrative Regulations – presented for circulation.  
Regulation 1590 – Head Lice  
Regulation 1850 – Student Records  
Regulation – draft – Information Technology: Terms of Use of Information Technology

Superintendent Palmer explained that Regulation 1590 - Head Lice and Regulation – 1850 Student Records are going back into circulation for review and the draft regulation – Information Technology: Terms of Use of Information Technology is a new regulation. The regulations will be put on the district website for eight weeks and she encouraged public input. She also noted that the preamble at the beginning of Regulation 1590 – Head Lice should be in Board Policy and asked that the Policy Committee look at this.

MOTION: Mewhort/Sinnott

“That the preamble in Regulation 1590 – Head Lice be examined by the Policy Committee and a draft policy be brought forward to the board.”

Discussion took place.

Carried.

MOTION: Scott/Heppell

“To receive Public Meeting notes.”

Carried.

#85 Questions and Inquiries From the Public Relating to the Board Meeting

J. Wagler, *Coast Reporter* asked questions regarding the budget.

Secretary-Treasurer Ready responded by speaking about the conference call from the Ministry to all Secretary-Treasurers that had just taken place in the afternoon and explained that there were a number of questions asked by this collective group and they were now waiting for clarification.

J. Wagler asked if Secretary-Treasurer Ready had a sense of when the dust would settle and she would have a clearer picture of what the numbers really mean.

Secretary-Treasurer Ready responded saying that there is a short time-line to prepare the information and talked about early April budget meetings.

J. Garrels commented on the Annual Facilities Grant (AFG) and asked when the second installment would be given. She asked if the AFG was actually being cut by half.

Secretary-Treasurer Ready responded that the second installment would come in March 2011 and she will confirm the date. She stated that more questions have to be asked in order to get a clear picture.

Chair White commented on the AFG as it has been presented.

Sharon MacKenzie, DPAC secretary, asked if there were dates in place for the budget meetings.

Chair White responded that the time of these meeting would be announced further in the Agenda.

Chair White was asked if the wording in the Head Lice Regulation was to be revisited and he responded saying that this would be up to the Policy Committee and went on to speak about policy.

An audience member spoke about a letter from the Sunshine Coast Teachers' Association, which speaks about an increase in lice infestation and then said she was concerned that only the wording was to be revisited.

Chair White explained that the regulation will be circulated and that the public is welcomed to respond to the regulation.

Several questions were asked about earthquake preparedness and seismic upgrades. It was asked if the public could be informed as to where the money allocated for this was spent.

Superintendent Palmer explained that in the past, \$50,000 had been allocated per year for this purpose. When the AFG was cut last year, several major projects were underway and had to be completed. The funds had to be found out of the operating accounts and as a result, the funds targeted for earthquake supplies, were authorized for this use by the Board.

Chair White commented that the Provincial Government doesn't fund school districts for emergency preparedness. He hopes that there are other ways that funding can be obtained.

Discussion followed.

In response from a question from the audience, Secretary-Treasurer Ready reported that the Board approved the Gibson Elementary Project Identification Report and explained the process.

R. Emerson commented that the budget didn't appear to be as "gloom and doom" as expected. She asked if each school is still required to pay back \$50 per student as previously reported.

Chair White confirmed that this is still required, as it will be used to balance this year's budget.

R. Emerson commented about secondary libraries and hoped that the board would continue to support them.

Chair White responded by saying that this would all be in the budget discussion.

#86 Next Meeting

The next Regular Board Meeting will be on April 13, 2010 at the School Board Office.

A Budget Consultation Meeting will be held at Chatelech Secondary School on April 6, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

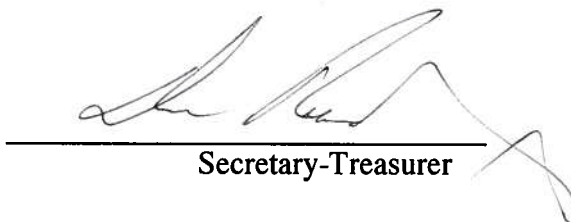
It was explained that this would be the only Public Consultation Meeting and the board is inviting submission. Superintendent Palmer clarified that there would be meeting with the Unions prior to any layoffs.

#87 Adjournment

MOTION: Heppell/Mewhort

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

  
Chair

  
Secretary-Treasurer