

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

September 22, 2009 – Davis Bay Elementary School

COMMENTS: In closing, any questions or comments....

Community Member	Funding – optimal size
CUPE	Lots of information
SCTA	Finances / balance
Student	Can we make a middle school?
CUPE	Would they ever allow us – time and effort
Parent	Odd boundaries
Student	Not quite sure
Admin	Info – General comments
SCTA	Good big picture District of Sechelt plans for construction
Admin	Work with student – transportation / Hopping on buses
CUPE	Big picture
Trustee	Good Start
Admin	Many layered exercise – students did well
SCTA	Lots of information – big picture
Student	Moving schools – will be resistance grade 3-5 Parents want movement
Admin	Services in a school – reducing structural challenge Critical mass – i.e. Band in schools – Teaching principals
Parent	Bite sized chunks of info. Is middle school an option?
Student	Chatelech a worry
Parent	Information gathered. Reasons they left – why – info helpful Effect on cross boundary
CUPE	Well laid out information
Admin	Balance finance vs. education Sechelt Nation people

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

October 8, 2009 – Kinnikinnick Elementary School

COMMENTS: WHAT ARE YOUR WORRIES?

Community	What will happen in transition?
Student	Four square needed activities.
SCTA	Early learners and family support.
SCTA	Change in community – there is going to be change other than comfortable – familiarity. Accept uncertainty. Going to affect older staff.
Admin	Doing nothing is not an option.
Admin	How are we going to do this layoff transfer – have someone familiar know you at the school – vulnerable students – it’s not as clean as the numbers. Creative ways of organizing.
Admin	Some research says 350 – this is 270. Two bailouts this year it’ll be three next year. React to crisis let it fall apart – a change must come. Sechelt community gathering – it is exciting. Incredible minds.
SCTA	To deal with grieving. Transition for children. No one will be here. (leaving behind)
CUPE	Be willing to step outside the box.
Parent	Unknown – Change is bad. Something has to be done. Kids are up to date and happy to make it work.
Community	Major concerns about vulnerable children. Many fall through the cracks. 60 – 120 vulnerable students. Strong sense of community. Now are phased in based on projections after year at start of recession. – If we close a school only in 4 years. Getting rid of people. Something has to be done.
Sr. Staff	We have some time, but less time. Make it work – we’re asking people to step up and it’s wearing. You may be phased out – how do we deal with the loss? SES looks different from last year. Let’s be in control. Grieve the loss – honour the tradition.
CUPE	Projections. Do with less.
SCTA	Transition piece. Time before and during to communicate about transition – don’t just drop us in.
Parent	I see the roles of the principal not working on their schools – their working in their schools. Parents, teachers, mentors kids adapt to

	change. Go through the loss.
Admin	Principals as the leaders of the schools – we are excited about the change
Admin	Excellent ideas. At SES – rebuild, ESS – Campaign to build Sec. School in Sec – built Jr. High turned into Sr. Sec. School. Something we lobbied against. Turned out great. My friendships tripled. Possible opportunities.
SCTA	All of a sudden on shift to Mt. Newton one year met another group then @ Royal Oak Jr. Sec. bused 40 minutes a day. No support – sad for us. Lots of support here. Games: little guys looked after – better change here.
Parent	Grade 7 year most kids adapt they'll still be vulnerable – adults need to get along like kids not like adults. We drive from West Sechelt. Concern for little kids. Getting them what they need is a challenge. Come up with your own vulnerable “issues” – how will we address them – it’s the people that make the buildings. Careful before moving them. What makes your school special - family – games night “Tom the Turkey” little things that make your school special. This is a good thing. 4 – 5 admin – now 1.
Community	Educate the whole community. Parents the biggest problem.
Admin	Paddle carefully through inevitable change. Each school is unique, something special isn’t there. Strive hard to make it successful. Orient towards improvement and then its not going to be there.
CUPE	Community of little school peer groups – may become more isolated – will the interaction be there?
SETA	Change is inevitable. It’s lonely. Positive things: More support and more kids. Terrifying being down. The cohort benefits. CUPE potentially impacted.

**TWENTY-FIVE ATTRIBUTES FOR AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
As Identified by the Committee**

1. Library accessible all the time
2. Peer group choices
3. More than one class at a grade level
4. Variety of Extra curricular options
5. Music/Drama taught by specialist
6. Teacher change K – 7 (not repeats)
7. Student change K – 7 (large peer group)
8. Volunteer pool to support school activities
9. P.E. Specialist for students
10. Full time Counsellor at the school
11. Special Ed – resources / programs to support all aspects of Special Ed including gifted.
12. French as a Second Language specialist
13. Technology access -website-electronic
14. Resources for supervision – human material
15. Learning resources: atlas, textbooks, etc.
16. Workable Operating Budget
17. Business Knowledge (i.e. hot lunch) – effective, efficient, nutritious
18. Social responsibility – taught modeled expected
19. Principal – if over 250 VP
20. Intramurals at lunch/ before school
21. Challenge/gifted program
22. Diversity in staff: colour / culture
23. Learning Assistance available as support
24. Usable fields/playground equipment - accessible
25. Support for all children

Engaging the Community

DAVIS BAY: Attributes Report

1	Librarian – open before school: all classes have a library period – otherwise always open for book exchange (though not staffed). This will change to library being staffed (by Bob) in the afternoon, shortly.
2	Classes generally balanced, but peer choices are limited; fewer than 20
3	Choice only at grade 2 level
4	Extracurricular – will probably have teams though practices cannot occur at lunch as Bob has supervision. We have only 1 SETA. Bob will do one VB team.
5	Have band and music – supported by district
6	Teacher change – changes in primary teacher assignment this year afforded students change, though student can get same teacher for 2 years running.
7	Students move through grades together: just one option for most.
8	Volunteer pool: pretty well always the same people (but this is the same all over)
9	PE specialist: No
10	District Counsellor
11	.5 Sp. Ed.
12	FSL – one teacher takes this on at intermediate level (classes traded) but she's not trained in FSL.
13	Technology access is good, with teachers set up with drop boxes, Wiki and blogs Good computer lab – piloting connectivity project -data projector 1 SmartBoard
14	Resources for supervision: only 1 SETA. Bob out on supervision before school, at recess and lunch.
15	Learning Resources: school seems to have suffered a little in previous years, though library has a good collection. Budget this year for LR is limited.
16	Operating budget: ok, but due to my taking on large teaching role.
17	Have had hot lunch, but this is parent run, and not going yet.
18	Social responsibility: Monitors and Helpers program is running again, managed by Bob.
19	.2 Admin (will go to .5) .8 Teaching (will go to .5)
20	Intramurals: not formal but games during rainy days, run by Bob.
21	Challenge programs: may get set up after Bob gets into library more.
22	Diversity – 2 males!
23	LA this will be happening after IEP/Sp. Ed. files done.
24	Fields, playground: adequate, plus we have a track.
25	Proximity to Teddy Bear Daycare.

Engaging the Community

KINNIKINNICK: Attributes Report

1	Books/no librarian/ 5 hours/wk. clerical
2	Limited
3	All except K
4	Bike & running (both by Lisa A.) girls volleyball (volunteer), basketball (with Sechelt Elem. & volunteer) & track and field (all staff – DPA
5	Drama – prep; Band- district (.2)
6	Possibility of 3 yrs. with same teacher.
7	Very little change/ option
8	Very small (7)
9	none
10	District .5/wk.
11	1.0 little direct service to kids
12	none
13	No teacher; lab; wireless and 2 Smart Boards
14	5 (2 SIB staff)
15	Yes – for the # we currently have. No new money.
16	Less than advised by the Asst. Sec. Treasurer
17	Perhaps – limited volunteers (5)
18	.2 taught in class and by prep teacher
19	.5
20	Only an ongoing soccer/Cal. KB game to which everyone is invited.
21	0 challenge and badly needed
22	Some with SIB lang. & culture staff and .5 learning support
23	.8 – we have focused our support resources here.
24	Unplayable field / 2 adventure playgrounds/no budget to purchase new play equipment
25	No – we have many children in care and inadequate services to support them. Concern re staff burnout.

Engaging the Community

SECHLT: Attributes Report

1	(1 day a month)
2	
3	
4	
5	K - 7
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	District
11	Principal
12	
13	Lab + 9 portable – project m.
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	2 nd step – SCAS mentoring
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	Yes
25	Sheena 1x a week 11-2:30 TV
	.5 Admin
	.3 Sp. Ed.

Engaging the Community

WEST SECHLT: Attributes Report

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	(7 only district) not K-7
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	(District)
11	
12	?
13	Lab = .5 portable lab
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	(some)
21	(some)
22	(some)
23	
24	
25	

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

October 15, 2009 – West Sechelt Elementary School

COMMENTS: Summary Comments for each configuration.

Sechelt Group K-3	Both ways – same site at Sechelt 4 – 7 at different site Negatives in funding was reduced by the assumption is ½ of the scenario – we presented-----split the resources.
West Sechelt Group 4-7 Added comments	K-3 and on. Same site. No different than now. Concern about needs Separate communities may be times when they come together. Is that a new set of problems? Buddies Activities together Combining in a purposeful way School pride – what about two groups of staffs
KES Group 4-7	Similar challenges Concerned about budget. No different than what we are now – no gain. Smaller classes at inter level.
WS Group K-6	K-6 Assumption is 3 schools. Transporting students. This is what you'll have if you make the change. Bringing everyone together – good byes. Planning and PR What about impact to WS – Building capacity. Close computer lab Funding issue Bigger school – more choice Might remove the cross boundary issue Perception of uncertainty causes Positive presentation opportunities
DB Group	K-7 Bringing in 3 schools Lots of interaction anyways Foster new friendships Staffing might change a bit Have a VP to bring everyone together Increase initially – reduce over time Vulnerable – increase staffing initially

	<p>Phase in – bring 2 first and the 3rd school last Bring in traditions New name of a school – new identity Have a neighbourhood Central location SD 93 to KES SD#46 Lease – familiar building Central – close to Sechelt nation Older people gone tot the School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) Monetary Upgrading @ SES Repeat it from KES Location – incredible. Bike trails, golf, tennis, arena Not now in a neighbourood Appealing in Sechlet Aboriginal population Physical plant – bus duty Supervision area – who comes on the field Neighbourhood’s of Learning K is part of families 8 x’s a day</p>
Second Option	7-9 / 7 – 12
WS Group	<p>7 with 12’s Grade 12 assigned to grade 8 Similar plan to greet them School within a school or lose elective options</p>
DB Group	<p>Grade 7 with Grade 12’s They do step up. Been there – K’s with 12 CSS not designed for 7 – 12 Work on the tone Timetabling becomes an issue – well versed in middle school philosophy 2 bell systems 650 – foods room is packed, another 100 – specialty rooms are limited – labs 25 Gr. 7’s would help with the tone Transition for one year 3-4 months in advance</p>
Student	Good idea – friends – prepare for high school
Student	<p>Taking away from CSS (if 7-9 was separate from 10-12) What about other schools, HMB and RC? (if 7-12)</p>

October 15, 2009 – West Sechelt Elementary School

COMMENTS: Closing comments and recommendations.

PAC	K – 7 smartest route. Stays with what kids are most familiar with.
Staff	I'll do the best I can do.
CUPE	Get on with it.
Student	No comment.
Admin	We've been able to step out and talk about what's best for kids Live well for and with others. Every faith that everyone will wrap our hearts and minds around the plan.
Staff	Do what's best and we will work with it.
Staff	What's best for kids K - 7 recognize kids will change – our job is to educate them.
PAC	K-7 extra curricular only way to go – do something now. Can't have 1 school subsidizing the others.
Staff	Don't believe in good old days. I buy green bananas. We're up to the challenge. Make it smooth.
Student	No comment.
Admin	K-3 4-7 soft spot for this kind of grouping. K-7 is the way to go. No school in the heart of the community if not in Sechelt.
Community	K-7 option in Sechelt. Educating the public. See this as the best idea. Public info meetings. Consultation before decision is made. Have us available so people can ask us questions. Creative advertising. Make it plain. What could we have.
Student	K-7 is the way to do it. Educate the public not win them over.
PAC	K-7 way to go. Hardest thing is to sell it. Dream world new K-7 facility
Community	PR properly. K-7 in light of what we've seen. Overwhelming support for K-7. Recommendations that make Sechelt viable, KES viable, DB doesn't make sense. Get on with it. Deal with it and move.
Trustee	Thanks everyone for coming out – appreciate clear on comments. Make a decision what as in “move ahead”. It's a lot easier to me now.
	Make a Recommendation
Admin	Not an easy task – impressed with people around the table. Opportunity for the board to make decision other than status quo. More services to students has to be what it's about.
Support	Worked in a Middle School. Wanted Davis Bay – want what's best for kids. Trust and faith – Not expertise in this area. Cautious about expertise.

Staff	Grey zone – keep teachers employed and in a school that is diverse. I'll support what keeps teachers employed.
Admin	Change is hard. We'd benefit from elementary teacher experience. Comfort in K-7 because it's the norm. 7-9 at KES K-7 okay, we'd benefit from 7-12 – this is how they don't fall through the cracks.
SCTA	It's been great listening to the kids. Spoke at Executive about this conversation – no recommendation.
CUPE	Whatever decision will affect the support staff – recognize something has to change – every confidence that all will work together. Maximize hours.
Admin	Passion – No status quo – not good for kids. K-3, 4-7 – change and excitement. Board makes the choice.
Student	No comment.
	Round table feed back ended. Some additional comments:
Community Member	Proper Public Relations. PR presented to the public efficiently. Get all information out. Put information on the internet. Decide amongst yourself. (Board) Timeline – Manage information and make people comfortable. Moving forward, no more waiting. Same message from everyone Let the public know that there was representation at all levels. Use the questions and what we looked at – use the format we used on the website. End the middle school concept with regards to a building change. Time the letter to the editor. (Christine offered to write it.) Thanks to Dave
SCTA	Make it happen sooner than later. KES staff has been moved already.