

A Finance Committee of the Whole meeting was held in the Board Office, 570 Johnstone Road, Nelson, B.C. on Tuesday, May 26, 2009 at 9:00 A.M.

**PRESENT:** Trustees: A. Field, A. Hambler, M. Joy, D. Lang, B. Lindsay, B. Maslechko, V. Mayers-McKenzie, L. Trenaman, B. Wright

**VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**  
**IN CRESTON:** Nil

**ALSO PRESENT:** P. Dooley, Superintendent of Schools  
T. Smith, Director of Instruction – Student Learning  
B. Eaton, Director of Instruction – Student Services  
B. DeBiasio, Director of Human Resources  
L. Brown, Director of Operations  
B. MacLean, Manager of Operations  
M. Schulte, Secretary-Treasurer  
H. Smith, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer  
M. Bennett, President, CUPE Local 748  
S. Watson, Secretary, CUPE Local 748  
T. Newell, Co-President, KLTF  
R. Blair, Co-President, KLTF  
L. Fehr, President, KLPVPA  
R. Giles, KLPVPA Rep  
S. Wilson, Chair, DPAC  
S. Maguire, District Literacy Co-ordinator (In Part)  
L. Prosser, Journeyman Computer Tech (In Part)  
W. West, District Librarian  
E. Henderson, Executive Assistant

**MEDIA:** C. Payne, Nelson Daily News (In Part)

**PUBLIC:** 56 members of the public

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Maslechko called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. The process for today's meeting was outlined as follows:

- the Finance Committee of the Whole will be meeting from 9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. to hear from partner groups and the public;
- the Closed meeting will take place at 10:00 A.M. to discuss any issues prior to the Special Regular Board meeting;
- the Special Regular Board meeting will be held at 10:30 A.M. with the goal of providing Senior Leadership with direction to prepare a balanced budget and a contingency for 2009/2010.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie  
AND RESOLVED  
that the Agenda, as presented, be adopted by the Board.

3. **Opportunity for comments by the public regarding items on the Agenda**

Comments were made regarding:

- French Immersion
  - unappropriated funds;
  - transfer of funds - salaries;
  - revenue – not listed;
  - aboriginal ed – categorized out;
  - contingency fund; and,
  - core funding.
- actual savings from school closures;
- replacement of Director of Instruction – Student Learning position;
- what is most important to the education of our students – cuts should be as far away from the classroom as possible;
- closure of Creston Resource Centre;
- questioning the savings of \$93,000 with the moving of W.E. Graham students to Mt. Sentinel;
- many passionate and emotional pleas were made not to move the Valhalla Wilderness Program from W.E. Graham to Mt. Sentinel;
- W.E. Graham is the heart of the community;
- holding Board meetings in the Slocan Valley;
- larger community implications if W.E. Graham is reconfigured;
- enrolment numbers for the Valhalla Wilderness program;
- Ministry underfunding of public education;
- elimination of the District Literacy Co-ordinator position would be a serious loss to the teachers in the district;
- secondary school based tech support should be put back into the budget;
- Bill 33 issues and contingency;
- alternatives to closing the Creston Resource Centre;
- system sustainability;
- deflating the Bubble at Prince Charles Secondary;
- Hot Lunch Program was cut but catered lunches provided at the Board Office for meetings;
- consolidated Principal and Vice-Principal positions and now is the time to start consolidating Senior Administration positions;
- contingency of \$420,000 is too large when there are unmanageable classrooms;
- W.E. Graham reconfiguration – no parent/public consultation; and,
- if you take the school out of the community, the community dies.

4. **Adjournment**

Trustee Lindsay thanked the W.E. Graham Community School parents and students for their input. She hoped that the Board would take into consideration the value and importance of the school to the community.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

**ITEMS REMAINING ON THE AGENDA**

- Acceptance of Previous Finance Committee of the Whole Minutes - Motion
- Correspondence

- a) Letter from Judy Gadicke – Proposed Closure CRC - East App. A
- b) Letter from Mary Scott - Proposed Closure CRC - East App. B
- c) Letter from Bev Pommier - Proposed Closure CRC - East App. C
- d) Letter from Heather Laird/Linda Allred - Proposed Closure CRC – East App. D
- Agenda Items
  - 2009/2010 Preliminary Budget - Discussion
- Question Period (An opportunity to ask for clarification about issues discussed at the Meeting.)

cc: Board of Education  
Senior Leadership Team  
Presidents: KLTF, KLPVPA, CUPE Local 748, DPAC