

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) was held in the Creston Education Centre, 617 – 11th Avenue South, Creston, B.C. on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 5:00 P.M.

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

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
M. Schulte, Secretary-Treasurer
E. Henderson, Executive Assistant

STAFF/PUBLIC: 5 members of the public (*4 left following the presentation & comments by the public*)
C. Bullis, Ab Ed Youth Worker, Prince Charles Secondary School (*left following the presentation*)
N. Cobra, Principal, Yahk Elementary School
N. DeVuono, Principal, Canyon/Lister Elementary School
J. Fullarton, Ab Ed Youth Worker, Adam Robertson Elementary School (*left following the presentation*)
G. Gadacz, Vice-Principal, Creston Homelinks (In Part)
C. Luke, Chief, Lower Kootenay Indian Band (*left following the presentation*)
R. Blair, Co-President, KLTF
S. Wilson, Chair, DPAC
G. Mackinnon, Vice-Chair, DPAC

MEDIA: L. Eckersley

VIDEO CONFERENCE

NELSON: T. Newell, Co-President, KLTF
K. Couch, Secretary, KLTF
G. Hicks, Mountain FM

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Maslechko called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Superintendent Dooley advised of the passing of Hugh Herbison who taught English at L.V. Rogers (old High School) in the 50's and was the Principal at Jewett when it was three schools (one in Meadow Creek, one in Argenta and one in Cooper Creek).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

09-04 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Hambler
AND RESOLVED
that the Agenda, as amended, be adopted by the Board.

The following additions were made:

- Add Item 12.A.(e) – Bus Accident;

- Add Item 13.(d) – Kootenay Boundary Branch Meeting
- Add 13.(e) – BCSTA Notice of Motion – Trustee Mayers-McKenzie

RECEIVING PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Aboriginal Education – Nancy Cobra, Aboriginal Education District Co-ordinator (5:05 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.)

Nancy Cobra, Aboriginal Education District Co-ordinator, gave a presentation on the Aboriginal Education program in the district. She advised that the percentage of Aboriginal students has grown from 297 Aboriginal students in 2001/02 which represented 4.5 % of the district enrolment to 543 students or 10% of the district enrolment in 2008/09.

The Enhancement Agreement was signed in June 2008 and outlines the main goals and strengths for Aboriginal learners in the district. The Agreement has goals related to the heart, head and health and is resulting in a focus on academic achievement and lifestyle choices while enhancing a sense of belonging and improving self-esteem. The district's program has a higher success rate than the provincial rate. An Aboriginal Committee on Education (ACE) encourages consultation between the Board and the Aboriginal community.

Chief Chris Luke advised that there needs to be continuity in all schools and would be willing to go to schools to teach children the Aboriginal traditions and meaning of their language.

Josie Fullarton, Aboriginal Education Youth Worker, Adam Robertson Elementary School, challenged the Board to find out what Aboriginal Education is about.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Comments were made regarding the recent bus accident on the road between Yahk and Creston.

The Board agreed to discuss the bus accident agenda item at this point rather than later in the agenda.

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Action Items

Bus Accident

Director of Operations Brown provided an update on the bus accident involving a bus travelling from Yahk to Creston. Issues and concerns that arose from the accident were:

- better student management at the site;
- better traffic management at the site;
- regular road maintenance;
- children not being assessed by the medical profession prior to leaving the site; and,
- notification of parents.

Senior Leadership, Trustees, Transportation Co-ordinators and parents will be meeting to investigate what happened and develop policy and guidelines.

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS BOARD MINUTES

09-05 Moved by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie, seconded by Trustee Wright
AND RESOLVED
that the minutes of the Closed and Regular meetings held on December 9, 2008 be adopted, as circulated.

RECEIPT OF RECORD OF PREVIOUS CLOSED MEETINGS

The Board received the record of a Closed Meeting held December 9, 2008.

REVIEW OF ACTION FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Board reviewed action taken from previous meetings that was included with the agenda package.

CORRESPONDENCE

Board Mail Package Cover Sheets

09-06 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Hambler
AND RESOLVED
that the Board receive the Board mail package cover sheets dated November 27 – December 3, 2008, December 4 – December 10, 2008 and December 11, 2008 – January 7, 2009; and, the Board email package cover sheets dated November 27 – December 3, 2008, December 4 – December 10, 2008 and December 11, 2008 – January 7, 2009.

EDUCATION ISSUES

ACTION ITEMS

Crawford Bay – Transition to New School (Non-Instructional Day Request)

09-07 Moved by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie, seconded by Trustee Trenaman
AND RESOLVED
that the day before Spring Break (Friday, March 6th) and the day after Spring Break (Monday, March 23rd) be used as non-instructional days for Crawford Bay Elementary-Secundary School in order to facilitate their move into the new school.

Superintendent's Report on Achievement

Superintendent Dooley provided an overview of the Report on Achievement. Highlights included:

- the stretch goal of 100% completion rate for both aboriginal and non-aboriginal students;
- the core goal of enhancing student life chances;
- Aboriginal performances are good in relation to the rest of the province;
- completion rate data is above the provincial average however an analysis has shown it is conservative and flawed indicating a need for a different way of reporting;
- improving areas of student achievement as evidenced in Early Learning, , EDI data, Grade I at risk for literacy, Action Research projects;
- challenging areas are the Aboriginal performance and completion rates, and at risk learners not or minimally meeting expectations; and,
- ways of improving student achievement included setting clear expectations, providing quality professional development, holding the Superintendent and others accountable for student learning.

09-08

Moved by Trustee Hambler, seconded by Trustee Lindsay

AND RESOLVED

that the Board approve the Superintendent's Report on Achievement dated December, 2008.

Proposed Dates for Community Coffee Houses

Director of Instruction – Student Learning Smith advised that the theme of the Community Coffee Houses will be the school district connecting with its community and it takes a village to raise one child.

Community Coffee Houses will be held on March 2 – Slocan Valley, March 25 – Nelson, March 26 – Creston, March 30 – Salmo and April 7 – Crawford Bay. A date will be determined for the Community Coffee House in Kaslo with all coffee house locations to be announced.

EDUCATION ISSUES
INFORMATION ITEMS

Bill 33 Report

There were no consultations to report at this time.

Education Committee Report

The date of the next Education Committee meeting is February 12, 2009 from 1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. at the Board Office. An agenda item will include the format of the Community Coffee Houses.

EDI Results

Nancy DeVuono, Principal, Canyon/Lister Elementary School, provided an overview of the Early Development Instrument data. She advised that all kindergarten teachers complete a questionnaire for every child in their class. Five domains are covered which measure the child's development and determine the number of vulnerable students. The Emotional Maturity scale showed larger vulnerability district wide. Our district continues to be one of the least vulnerable districts but the data varies by community.

At this point in the meeting, the agenda was prioritized due to time restraints.

Salmo Elementary Staffing

This item was received as information.

Healthy Assessment of School Aged Children 2009

This item was received as information.

Healthy Lifestyle Committee Highlights

This item was received as information.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

Senior Leadership Team reports will be given at the next Board meeting.

REPORT FROM POLICY COMMITTEE

Action Items

- 09-09 Policy #440 – Distributed Learning (DESK)
Moved by Trustee Hambler, seconded by Trustee Wright
AND RESOLVED
that the Board adopt Policy #440 – Distributed Learning (DESK).

REPORT FROM POLICY COMMITTEE

INFORMATION ITEMS

Nil

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Action Items

Strengthening the Connection – School Community Connections

Under the *Strengthening the Connection* School Community Connections funding program, three new grants in the amount of \$8,000 are available to the school district.

Superintendent Dooley advised that daycare centres in schools and subsidized costs of swimming lessons have been suggested by the Principals. Trustees were asked to identify potential projects. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2009.

Climate Action Charter

The Board agreed with the draft Climate Action Charter developed by the government. By signing the document, grants will be available to offset carbon tax costs for school districts who have committed to become carbon neutral by 2012.

Trustee Indemnity – Policy #112

This item was deferred to the February 3rd Board meeting.

Capital Project Bylaw #12089 – Energy Retrofit

A Bylaw of the Board of Education of School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) to adopt Capital Project Bylaw 126089 in the amount of \$39,012.00 – Energy Retrofit – Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement.

- 09-10 Moved by Trustee Hambler, seconded by Trustee Wright
AND RESOLVED
that the Board adopt Capital Project Bylaw 126089 in the amount of \$39,012.00 – Energy Retrofit – Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement, as read a first time.
- 09-11 Moved by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie, seconded by Trustee Lang
AND RESOLVED
that the Board adopt Capital Project Bylaw 126089 in the amount of \$39,012.00 – Energy Retrofit – Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement, as read a second time.
- 09-12 Moved by Trustee Hambler, seconded by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie
AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY
that the Board move to third and final reading.

09-13 Moved by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie, seconded by Trustee Wright
AND RESOLVED
that the Board adopt Capital Project Bylaw 126089 in the amount of \$39,012.00 – Energy Retrofit – Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement, as read a third and final time and that the Chair of the Board and the Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to affix the seal of the Board and their signatures to the said Bylaw.

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Information Items

Finance Committee of the Whole – Update

An update will be provided at the next Board meeting.

Audit Committee – Discussion

This item was removed from the agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS

Committee Appointment – Late Motion

Clarification was provided regarding a non-voting Committee member.

09-14 Moved by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie, seconded by Trustee Lang
AND RESOLVED
that the Board write a letter to the Creston Valley Community Services Committee of the Regional District of Central Kootenay, c/o John Kettle, Director of Area B and Chair of the Committee, requesting that a Trustee from School District No. 8 be a non-voting member on their committee to improve areas of communication and to discuss areas of mutual interest in regards to recreation and related topics.

OPPOSED: Trustee Wright

Motion to Extend the Meeting

09-15 Moved by Trustee Trenaman, seconded by Trustee Hambler
AND RESOLVED
that at 6:55 P.M. the meeting be extended to deal with the previously identified agenda items as well as Question Period.

ABSTAINED: Trustee Mayers-McKenzie

Board Committee Appointments

09-16 Moved by Trustee Trenaman, seconded by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie
AND RESOLVED
that the Board adopt the Board Committee Appointments for 2009.

The Committees will select a Chair where the position of Chair is not identified.

BCSTA Provincial Council and AGM Deadlines

Trustee Mayers-McKenzie served notice of motion to go to the BCSTA AGM that the BCSTA contact rural Regional Districts to obtain their concerns, if any, and jointly approach the Ministry of Transportation to express our concerns over the general conditions of the highways.

Trustee Attendance

09-17 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Trenaman
AND RESOLVED
that new Trustees be allowed to attend the BCPSEA New Trustee Academy and the
BCPSEA AGM in Vancouver – January 22 – 24, 2009.

09-18 Moved by Trustee Hambler, seconded by Trustee Lang
AND RESOLVED
that Trustees Joy and Maslechko be allowed to attend the BCPSEA Productive
Workplace Conversations in Cranbrook – February 19/20, 2009.

Board permission was not required for Trustees to attend the BCSTA Trustee Academy
in Vancouver – February 25 – 27, 2009 but Trustees were asked to consider the financial
aspect of nine Trustees attending the Academy.

Kootenay Boundary Branch Meeting

Trustees were asked to advise Trustee Joy if they were interested in the Elluminate
software training opportunity that will be happening January 19, 2009 at 1:00 P.M. and
7:00 P.M.

The Kootenay Boundary Branch meeting will be held in Nelson, February 6/7, 2009.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee reports will be given at the next Board meeting.

QUESTION PERIOD

Questions and comments were made regarding the following issues:

- commended Superintendent Dooley for the Superintendent's Achievement Report;
- FSA concerns;
- three new Trustees were welcomed to their first meeting in Creston; and,
- emotional maturity gender data.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

**The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3rd, 2009 at
the Board Office, 570 Johnstone Road, Nelson, B.C. at 5:00 P.M. (PST).**

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

cc: Board of Education/Sr. Management
Schools/District Staff
Presidents: KLTF, KLPVPA, CUPE Local 748, DPAC
BCSTA
City of Nelson
Village of Salmo
Town of Creston
Village of Kaslo
Regional District of Central Kootenay
Media: Creston Valley Advance, KBS, Pennywise, Nelson Daily News, Express, Valley Voice,
East Shore Main Street