

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, October 7, 2008 at 5:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Trustees: B. Ewashen, A. Field, A. Hambler, M. Joy, P. Tees, B. Wright

REGRETS: Trustees: P. Cattermole, L. Trenaman

ALSO PRESENT: P. Dooley, Superintendent of Schools
B. Eaton, Director of Instruction – Student Services
T. Smith, Director of Instruction – Student Learning
B. DeBiasio, Director of Human Resources
L. Brown, Director of Operations
M. Schulte, Secretary-Treasurer
E. Henderson, Executive Assistant

STAFF/PUBLIC: 3 members of the public
N. DeVuono, Principal, Canyon/Lister Elementary School
R. Giles, Principal, Adam Robertson Elementary School (left following the presentation)
R. Blair, Co-President, KLTF (6:15 P.M. – 7:20 P.M.)

MEDIA: J. Wilson, Creston Valley Advance / Town of Creston Councillor

VIDEO CONFERENCE

NELSON: 1 member of the public
Trustee B. Maslechko
L. Prosser, Journeyman Computer Tech
S. Wilson, President, DPAC

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wright called the meeting to order at 5:04 P.M.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

08-204 Moved by Trustee Ewashen, seconded by Trustee Joy
AND RESOLVED
that the Agenda, as presented, be adopted by the Board.

RECEIVING PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Evolution of Special Education – Director of Instruction – Student Services Eaton (5:07 P.M. – 5:15 P.M.)

Director of Instruction – Student Services Eaton gave a power point presentation on the goals of regular education and the goals of special education from the 60's through to the 90's. It was noted that each year more labels were added to students with the impacting expansion of special education and the shrinking of regular education. Recommendations were included which would support greater inclusion and service to special education students in the regular classroom.

A Special Education Internal Advisory Committee will be struck to help with a district review designed to provide some direction to the district. Future discussions are being held regarding the implementation of a new integration support teacher which will be used to support classroom teachers with inclusion.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Comments were made regarding:

- financial support for special education; and,
- IEP's and specialist services.

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS BOARD MINUTES

08-205

Moved by Trustee Field, seconded by Trustee Joy
AND RESOLVED

that the minutes of the Closed meeting held on September 16, 2008 be adopted, as amended, and the minutes of the Regular meeting held on September 16, 2008 be adopted, as circulated.

RECEIPT OF RECORD OF PREVIOUS CLOSED MEETINGS

The Board received the record of a Closed Meeting held September 16, 2008.

The following change will made to Item 9. (a) – Principal/Vice-Principals' Grid – discussion took place will be deleted and replaced with grid proposal approved effective July, 2009.

REVIEW OF ACTION FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

Motion #08-154 - (Student/Parent Appeal Bylaw #1) – the typo errors will be corrected and the Policy will be brought back to the Board for adoption.

CORRESPONDENCE

Board Mail Package Cover Sheets

08-206

Moved by Trustee Tees, seconded by Trustee Field
AND RESOLVED

that the Board receive the Board mail package cover sheet dated September 11 – October 1, 2008; and, the Board email package cover sheet dated September 11 – October 1, 2008.

EDUCATION ISSUES

ACTION ITEMS

Board Discussion re: All Day Kindergarten

Discussion regarding pre-kindergarten for three and four year olds and all day kindergarten took place.

Comments included:

- questions around focusing more on high quality child care located in schools as opposed to this initiative;

- not overly supportive – more reticent
- questions around busing and funding;
- would all children be ready for a full day, including some of the more vulnerable learners;
- initiative could widen the achievement gaps;
- special needs students;
- space;
- mandatory versus optional;
- making sure curriculum is appropriate.

A summary of issues will be submitted to the BCSTA through the Provincial Council.

08-207 BAA Course - Prince Charles AVID 10, 11, 12
 Moved by Trustee Hambler, seconded by Trustee Ewashen
 AND RESOLVED
 that the Board approve the Board Authorized Authority Course AVID 10, 11, and 12 at Prince Charles Secondary School.

Adult Education

Discussion took place regarding the screening process and criminal record checks for adult learners.

08-208 Moved by Trustee Tees, seconded by Trustee Ewashen
 AND RESOLVED
 that the Board intends to provide tuition-free education to graduated adults in Continuing Education and/or K-12 schools, where practicable.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees: Joy, Maslechko, Tees, Wright
 OPPOSED: Trustee Field
 ABSTAINED: Trustee Hambler

08-209 Moved by Trustee Hambler, seconded by Trustee Maslechko
 AND RESOLVED
 that Motion #08-208 be referred to the Policy Committee to set policy around adult learning.

Bill 33 Report

Superintendent Dooley reported the following information regarding Bill 33:

- there are five classes in the district with over thirty students;
- 86 consultations took place with the majority dealing with the number of IEP's in the class;
- staff additions were made at Canyon/Lister, Trafalgar, Redfish, L.V. Rogers and South Nelson which eliminated issues that could not be resolved;
- there are 82 classes with more than 3 IEP's – 54 signed agreement, 17 did not agree and other the form was not signed.

Thanks were extended to Director of Human Resources DeBiasio and the Principals for their work in preparing the Bill 33 information.

08-210

Moved by Trustee Hambler, seconded by Trustee Joy
AND RESOLVED

that the Board accept the class size and composition report as being in compliance with the School Act and as appropriate for student learning for the 2008 – 2009 school year.

EDUCATION ISSUES
INFORMATION ITEMS

Enrolment Update

The enrolment as of October 6th is 4,924.00 which is up from the Ministry projection of 4,817.5 but is a decrease of 68.275 from last year.

Discussion took place regarding funding protection and Homelinks and DESK enrolments.

The district is now awaiting the Ministry's November 30th funding announcement

Education Committee Report

Trustee Tees, Education Committee Chair, reported on the Education Committee meeting. Highlights included:

- committee members, District Learning Support Team, and Director of Instruction – Student Learning Smith reviewed the committee's mandate;
- discussed the Celebration of Learning event – October 21st;
- discussed strengths, building on strengths, and areas for attention; and,
- the date of next meeting is October 29th at 4:00 P.M. where the committee will be looking at the working plan.

September 22nd Professional Development Day - Update

The day was hosted by L.V. Rogers, Prince Charles and Salmo Secondary Schools and focused on the theme of the power of collaboration. A positive note was that attendance was the highest in years.

New School Community Connections Program - Update

Superintendent Dooley advised of an opportunity through the Union of British Columbia Municipalities and Board of Education to apply for three grants of \$8,000 each provided there is a joint application.

The Board met with the Town of Creston earlier today and will be submitting an application. Meetings will be taking place with the City of Nelson and Village of Slocan to discuss two more projects.

Adult Education – Update

This item was covered in the Action Items.

Celebration of Schools and Learning – October 21st

The Celebration of Learning will be taking place at the Prestige Inn on October 21, 2008 from 4:30 P.M. to 7:45 P.M. Schools will be presenting their School Plans to Strengthen Learning.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

Director of Instruction – Student Learning Smith

- focusing on building leadership capacity and providing opportunities for teachers to further develop their capacities;
- attended the BCSSA (British Columbia School Superintendents' Association) new member orientation in Victoria;
- reported on Mentoring Matters with Laura Lipton;
- announced upcoming staff development opportunities:
 - Damian Cooper Assessment Conference – Let's Keep Talking About; Assessment – October 9/10 Fairmont Hot Springs;
 - Assessment for Learning webcast;
 - Adrienne Gear – October 10;
 - Supporting Struggling Learning – Leyton Schnellert – October 16;
 - French Immersion for French meeting; and,
- Reporting Committee will be meeting October 29 at the Board Office.

Director of Human Resources DeBiasio

- working on staffing and Bill 33 class size and composition issues;
- met with Co-Presidents of the Kootenay Lake Teachers' Federation;
- Labour Management meeting scheduled for October 10th; and,
- Wellness Committee will be meeting soon.

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte

- attended BCASBO (British Columbia Association of School Business Officials) executive meeting and discussed Ministry contemplated changes to the capital plan. A preliminary study will need to be submitted in support of any capital requests.

Director of Operations Brown

- reported that work at Crawford Bay is proceeding and Christmas is the deadline;
- the parking lot at Crawford Bay will be paved the third week in October;
- the project at L.V. Rogers Secondary School is complete and the buses will be relocated to the middle parking lot next week; and,
- meetings with the Ministry of Transportation have developed a better understanding of the district's needs regarding winter road services.

Director of Instruction – Student Services Eaton

- advised of additional support of Paraeducator hours to new students;
- will be posting for a .2 District Integration Teacher;
- working on the formation of an internal Special Education Advisory Committee for district review;
- moving ahead with District Review on October 22nd; and,
- hosting two breakfast meetings regarding current status and future direction of special education.

Superintendent Dooley

- advised that World Teacher Day was October 5th;
- reported that the school district newsletter UPD8 is in place and ideas are always welcome;
- toured the Creston Maintenance Shop earlier today; and,
- will remain as the facilitator for the Network of Performance Based Schools.

REPORT FROM POLICY COMMITTEE

Action Items

08-211 Policy #441 – Correspondence/Online Courses
Moved by Trustee Hambler, seconded by Trustee Tees

AND RESOLVED

that the Board delete Policy #441 – Correspondence/Online Courses from the Policy Manual as it is no longer applicable.

Policy #117 – Board Committees

Trustee Hambler served Notice of Motion to adopt Policy #117 – Board Committees.

It was noted that there were not just Board committees but district committees as well and the title should be changed.

Policy #502 – Personnel Employment Practices

The housekeeping change was in relation to vandalism where the provincial contract states \$600 and not \$300.

08-212 Moved by Trustee Hambler, seconded by Trustee Joy
AND RESOLVED

that the Board adopt Policy #502 – Personnel Employment Practices, as amended.

08-213 Policy #430 – Extra and Co-Curricular Activities – Interim Re: Booster Seats
Moved by Trustee Hambler, seconded by Trustee Maslechko

AND RESOLVED

that the Board amend Policy #430 – Extra and Co-Curricular Activities to include the government regulations regarding booster seats for extra and co-curricular activities.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Report from Policy Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the Policy Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 29th at 12:00 noon at the Board Office.

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Action Items

Nil

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Information Items

Recruitment and Retention Allowance

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte advised that the district is anticipating an announcement soon from the Ministry regarding the recruitment and retention allowance. The October 31st pay statement should reflect the allowance.

Budget and Financial Statement Variations 2007 – 2008

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte provided additional information regarding the variances in teacher salaries to budget. Highlights included:

- less teachers were billed out to schools than anticipated;
- 1 FTE over budget in sick leave – teacher secondment;
- unexplained difference of 4.416 FTE which would take considerable time to determine; and,
- going forward reconciliation controls are now being maintained between Human Resources and Payroll to ensure accuracy.

Concern was expressed regarding the unexplained difference of 4.416 FTE.

MISCELLANEOUS

Kootenay Boundary Branch Fall Meeting – Update

Vice-Chair Joy, President, Kootenay Boundary Branch, provided highlights of the fall meeting:

- discussed all-day kindergarten;
- shared programs with Selkirk College;
- break out groups – College of the Rockies;
- our region will be piloting the Illuminate program around motion building; and,
- elected as President for another year.

Logo

08-214 Moved by Trustee Joy, seconded by Trustee Wright
AND RESOLVED

that the Board rescind Motion #07-171 that the Superintendent commence a process to develop a new logo for School District No. 8.

It has now been a full year since the motion was passed and Trustees recognized that this motion is not a Board priority at this time.

Motion to Extend the Meeting

08-215 Moved by Trustee Joy, seconded by Trustee Tees
AND RESOLVED

that at 7:02 P.M. the meeting be extended by five (5) minutes.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Tees

- attended a joint meeting of the Slocan Valley PAC's where concern was expressed around bussing - long waiting times, early arrival times and supervision;
- advised that an article encouraging Trustees to run for election will be coming out in the papers and Friday is the deadline for nominations;
- announced that this will be her last meeting in Creston as a Trustee; and,
- expressed regrets on behalf of Trustee Cattermole that she could attend her last meeting in Creston this evening as a Trustee.

Trustee Hambler

- visited schools and they are in good shape for the new school year;
- encouraged people to drive by Adam Robertson Elementary School and look at the new front yard; and,
- advised that Erickson is increasing their community gardens to two this year.

Trustee Maslechko

- commended Director of Operations Brown and the Maintenance Department on the bus turn around at L.V. Rogers Secondary School; and,
- asked who was attending the Rural Schools Conference.

QUESTION PERIOD

Questions and comments were made regarding the following issues:

- evolution of special education presentation;
- all day and pre-kindergarten;
- gifted and advanced students;
- kindergarten busing;
- concept of better programs for all day kindergarten and pre-kindergarten children;
- appreciation to Trustee Tees and Trustee Cattermole for their fine job of leadership over the years;
- Bill 33 data;
- recruitment and retention allowance; and,
- Celebration of Student Learning.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 28, 2008 at the Board Office, 570 Johnstone Road, Nelson, B.C. at 5:00 P.M.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

cc: Board of Education/Sr. Management
Schools/District Staff (via email)
Presidents: KLTF (via email), KLPVPA (via email), CUPE Local 748 (via email)
DPAC Nelson – (K. Couch - via email)
CUPE 748 (Secretary – G. Shmon via email)
School PAC Chairs
BCSTA (via email)
City of Nelson (via email)
Village of Salmo (via email)
Town of Creston (via email)
Village of Kaslo (via email)
Regional District of Central Kootenay (via email)
Media: Creston Valley Advance, KBS, Pennywise, Nelson Daily News, Express, Valley Voice,
East Shore Main Street (via email)