

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 13, 2009 at 5:00 P.M.

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

VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE

IN NELSON: Trustee A. Field
T. Newell, Co-President, KLTF

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

STAFF/PUBLIC: 7 members of the public
R. Giles, Principal, Adam Robertson Elementary School (*left following the presentation*)
R. Blair, Co-President, KLTF
C. Sanders, Regional Vice-President, CUPE Local 748
S. Wilson, President, DPAC
J. Henri, DPAC Rep
R. Marsden, DPAC Rep Erickson Elementary

MEDIA: L. Eckersley

CALL TO ORDER

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

09-190 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Lang
AND RESOLVED
that the Agenda, as amended, be adopted by the Board.

The following addition was made:

- Add Item 10.B.(b) – Auditorium – Trustee Joy

RECEIVING PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

New Special Education Program at Adam Robertson Elementary School (5:05 P.M. – 5:20 P.M.)

Rod Giles, Principal, Adam Robertson Elementary School, presented an overview of a change in practice in the special education program at their school. The new model was created in consolidation with Peggy Davidson, retired District Principal of Special Education from School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain), and challenged staff by suggesting that the primary relationship should be between the teacher and the student

with paraeducators providing support to the teacher. There has been a focus on flexibility. The overall results of the new practice to-date have meant less stress and savings in the support staff budget.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Comments were made regarding the following:

- Bill 33 – number of teachers did not believe the composition or size of class was acceptable;
- reconsider changes to the West Creston bus schedule;
- Erickson out-of-catchment students; and,
- removal of the bus dispatcher in Creston and safety issues.

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS BOARD MINUTES

- 09-191 Moved by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie, seconded by Trustee Wright
AND RESOLVED
that the minutes of the Closed and Regular meetings held on September 22, 2009 be adopted, as circulated. There was one housekeeping change in Motion #09-170 – it was moved by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie and not Trustee Wright.
- 09-192 Moved by Trustee Lang, seconded by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie
AND RESOLVED
that the minutes of the Special Regular and Special Closed meetings held on September 24, 2009 be adopted, as circulated.

RECEIPT OF RECORD OF PREVIOUS CLOSED MEETINGS

The Board received the record of a Closed Meeting held September 22, 2009.

REVIEW OF ACTION FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Board Email Package Cover Sheet

- 09-193 Moved by Trustee Hambler-Pruden, seconded by Trustee Wright
AND RESOLVED
that the Board receive the Board email package cover sheets dated September 3 – 23, 2009 and September 24 – October 7, 2009.

ACTION ITEMS

EDUCATION

Wildflower Calendar

At the September 22, 2009 meeting Motion #09-171 – that the Board adopt the Wildflower calendar was deferred.

- 09-194 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Hambler-Pruden
AND RESOLVED
that the Board bring Motion #09-171 back to the table.

Discussion took place regarding:

- Friday programming and the amount of time off;
- accountability; and,
- the program was proposed by the parents.

09-171 Moved by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie, seconded by Trustee Trenaman
AND RESOLVED
that the Board adopt the Wildflower calendar for 2009/2010.

OPPOSED: Trustee Field

HUMAN RESOURCES

Bill 33

Director of Human Resources DeBiasio advised that there are four classes with over 30 students. It was noted that there were 50 consultations as compared to 86 last year.

09-195 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Joy
AND RESOLVED
that the Board adopt the Bill 33 class size and composition report.

BCPSEA Collective Bargaining Workshop – Kelowna

With bargaining beginning in March, it was felt that it would be beneficial for Trustees to attend the Collective Bargaining workshop. It was noted that Trustees must have attended the Productive Workplace Conversations workshop before they can attend this workshop.

09-196 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Lindsay
AND RESOLVED
that the Board approve the Bargaining Team of Trustees Joy, Lang, Maslechko and Mayers-McKenzie to receive all of the professional development they need to bargain effectively.

POLICY

Policy #205 – Financial Hardship (Fees & Deposits)

Trustee Hambler-Pruden served notice of motion that the Board adopt Policy #205 – Financial Hardship (Fees & Deposits).

Policy #209 – Health Promoting Schools

Trustee Hambler-Pruden served notice of motion that the Board adopt Policy #209 – Health Promoting Schools.

If there are any changes to the two policies, please let the Policy Committee know prior to the November 3rd Board meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Policy Committee will be on Monday, October 26th at 12:00 noon at the Board Office.

FINANCE/OPERATIONS

Rental of Facilities

The original notice of motion served by Trustee Trenaman was modified as follows:

- 09-197 Moved by Trustee Trenaman, seconded by Trustee Lang that for stand alone buildings and for rooms in building the Board implement a process to recover the full operating cost of the facilities effective July 1st, 2010; and, that tenants in our facilities are treated on a consistent basis.

Discussion took place regarding:

- recovering costs;
- second part of the notice of motion being redundant and therefore the modified motion was proposed;
- addressing all groups that are using school district facilities;
- monthly rentals and not the evening hours or weekend rentals; and,
- need for consistency through the district.

A friendly amendment was made to the original motion as received in the package to show one date of July 1st, 2010 rather than both dates of January 1, 2010 or July 1st, 2010.

The original motion with the friendly amendment is as follows:

- 09-197 Moved by Trustee Trenaman, seconded by Trustee Lang that for stand alone buildings the Board implement a process to recover the full operating cost of the facility effective July 1st, 2010; and, that for rooms in buildings custodial service levels be adjusted so that the operating costs do not exceed the amount of rent received; and, that tenants in our facilities are treated on a consistent basis.

An amendment was made to the motion.

- 09-198 Moved by Trustee Hambler-Pruden, seconded by Trustee Lindsay
AND DEFEATED
that for stand alone buildings the Board implement a process to recover the full operating cost of the facility effective July 1st, 2010; and,
that for rooms in buildings custodial service levels be adjusted so that the operating costs do not exceed the amount of rent received; and,
that tenants in our facilities are treated on a consistent basis; and,
that the Board will deal with each organization on a cost by cost basis and may reduce or forgive fees on proof of hardship.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees: Hambler-Pruden
OPPOSED: Trustees: Field, Joy, Lang, Lindsay, Maslechko,
Mayers-McKenzie, Trenaman, Wright

Discussion took place regarding:

- revenue brought in by daycares;
- inconsistency of payment; and,

- subsidizing daycare costs beyond the Board's mandate of K-12 education and takes money from the operating budget.

The main motion was then voted on.

09-197 Moved by Trustee Trenaman, seconded by Trustee Lang
AND RESOLVED
that for stand alone buildings the Board implement a process to recover the full operating cost of the facility effective July 1st, 2010; and,
that for rooms in buildings custodial service levels be adjusted so that the operating costs do not exceed the amount of rent received; and,
that tenants in our facilities are treated on a consistent basis.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees: Hambler-Pruden, Joy, Lang, Maslechko,
Mayers-McKenzie, Trenaman, Wright

OPPOSED: Trustee: Field

ABSTAINED: Trustee: Lindsay

09-199 Student Transportation Review – Recommendation #8
Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie
AND RESOLVED
that the School District plan to consolidate the responsibilities of the Transportation Co-ordinators at such time as one of the Co-ordinator positions becomes vacant.

OPPOSED: Trustee: Hambler-Pruden

09-200 Student Transportation Review – Recommendation #7
Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Joy
AND RESOLVED
that the School District explore opportunities to provide secondary student transportation services in the Nelson area through a partnership with the Nelson Transit System and provide services to students with special needs in the Creston area through a partnership with BC Transit.

09-201 Student Transportation Review – Recommendation #6
Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie
AND RESOLVED
that the School District complete a supplementary review of bus routes in February 2010 and that the District consider an upgrade of the existing transportation software to provide additional tools for managing and auditing the transportation system.

09-202 Student Transportation Review – Recommendation #5
Moved by Trustee Maslechko, seconded by Trustee Lindsay
AND RESOLVED
that the School District explore opportunities to optimize bell times with a view to reducing before school and after school waiting time for bus students, decreasing trip duration, and optimizing service delivery within the service area.

09-203 Student Transportation Review – Recommendation #4
Moved by trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Trenaman
AND RESOLVED

that the District continue the practice of providing transportation assistance for students in remote areas and in situations where transportation assistance is a viable option due to road conditions.

New bus routes should only be considered where a sufficient number of students reside beyond walk limits and road conditions are sufficient for safe operation of a school bus.

It is recommended that the District consider discontinuing school bus service and instead provide transportation assistance in remote areas where there are less than five students.

Extension of an existing bus should only be considered if five or more students reside beyond walk limits to the nearest bus stop. Road conditions and the impact on the existing run schedule are to be considered before approval is given.

The payment of transportation assistance should also be considered before approving any request for route extension.

There was a change in the wording of Recommendation #4 with transportation assistance in remote areas being provided where there are less than five students rather than eight students in keeping with our school district's practice.

09-204 Student Transportation Review – Recommendation #1
Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by trustee Lang
AND RESOLVED

that the School District modify and adhere to the following walk limits (with some discretion for special circumstances): 2.5 km for elementary and 3.0 km for secondary.

Examples of special circumstances will need to be developed and noted in policy/regulations (i.e. illness with a medical certificate, special needs student, etc.). Final approval of exemptions or modifications of walk limits should rest with the Director of Operations.

The School District may need to consider some means of ensuring that ineligible students are not boarding school buses. This could involve the issuance of bus passes to eligible students.

OPPOSED: Trustee: Hambler-Pruden

Discussion took place regarding:

- what constitutes special circumstances;
- policy development prior to approving recommendation;
- safety issues;
- effective date for recommendations; and,
- interim policy.

Student Transportation Review – Recommendation #2

09-205 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie that the School District establish and adhere to walk-to-stop limits of 2.5 km. and plan routes based on pick up points located approximately 2.5 km apart (with some discretion for special circumstances).

Examples of special circumstances need to be developed and noted in policy/regulations (i.e. illness with a medical certificate, special needs student, road conditions, special traffic situations, etc.).

A friendly amendment was made as follows:

09-205 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie that the School District establish and adhere to walk-to-stop limits of 2.5 km. and plan routes based on safe pick up points, developed in co-operation with other local government, located approximately 2.5 km apart (with some discretion for special circumstances).

Examples of special circumstances need to be developed and noted in policy/regulations (i.e. illness with a medical certificate, special needs student, road conditions, special traffic situations, etc.)

Discussion took place regarding:

- special circumstances; and,
- passing a motion without policy in place.

The motion as amended was voted on.

09-205 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie
AND RESOLVED AS AMENDED
that the School District establish and adhere to walk-to-stop limits of 2.5 km. and plan routes based on safe pick up points, developed in co-operation with other local government, located approximately 2.5 km apart (with some discretion for special circumstances).

Examples of special circumstances need to be developed and noted in policy/regulations (i.e. illness with a medical certificate, special needs student, road conditions, special traffic situations, etc.).

OPPOSED: Trustee: Hambler-Pruden

Student Transportation Review – Recommendation #3

09-206 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Joy that the School District discontinue out-of-catchment area bus service with some discretion for special circumstances.

Examples of special circumstances need to be developed and noted in policy/regulations (e.g. to attend a District program).

Discussion took place regarding:

- closing of schools and providing bussing;
- grandfathering students;
- public consultation; and,
- room in school and room on the bus.

An amendment was made to the motion as follows; however, the motion did not go forward.

09-207 Moved by Trustee Hambler-Pruden
that the School District discontinue out-of-catchment area bus service with some discretion for special circumstances except for those circumstances where the School District has closed the community school.

Discussion took place regarding:

- long bus rides for students in catchment area to accommodate out-of-catchment students; and,
- Policy #461.

09-208 Moved by Trustee Mayers-McKenzie, seconded by Trustee Hambler-Pruden
AND DEFEATED
that the Board consider a motion to defer Motion #09-206 until the next Board meeting.

IN FAVOUR: Trustees: Hambler-Pruden, Mayers-McKenzie, Trenaman
OPPOSED: Trustees: Field, Joy, Lang, Lindsay, Maslechko, Wright

Discussion took place regarding:

- the busing spreadsheet;
- public consultation; and,
- out-of-catchment boundaries.

09-206 Moved by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Joy
AND RESOLVED
that the School District discontinue out-of-catchment area bus service with some discretion for special circumstances.

Examples of special circumstances need to be developed and noted in policy/regulations (e.g. to attend a District program).

ABSTAINED: Trustee: Mayers-McKenzie

09-209 Motion to Extend Meeting
Mod by Trustee Wright, seconded by trustee Trenaman
AND RESOLVED
that at 7:00 P.M. the meeting be extended for ten (10) minutes.

OPPOSED: Trustee: Mayers-McKenzie

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

EDUCATION

District Pro-D Day Update

Director of Instruction – Student Learning Leathwood reported that the October 5th Professional Development Day was a huge success and a great opportunity was provided with the afternoon collaboration. There was a challenge around meaningful involvement for all groups and this will be further discussed with the district Professional and Staff Development Committee. Thanks were extended to the staff for their work in implementing the day.

A webinar, “Understanding by Design” will be taking place tomorrow in Creston and the Board Office. A report will be provided at the next Board meeting.

Jewett – Grade 4’s – Meeting Follow-Up

Superintendent Dooley advised that all of the schools in the district will have a slight reduction in supplies and a small amount of left over staffing will be used to pay for an extra teacher at J.V. Humphries Elementary-Secondary School in order that the Grade 4’s will be able to remain at Jewett Elementary School.

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Request to Spend Ministry Restricted Capital – Update

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte advised that permission has been received from the Ministry of Education to access the \$559,000 surplus available in our Ministry Restricted Capital fund.

Superintendent Dooley reported that a press release, submission to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and letter to reinstate the Annual Facilities Grant have been completed in joint partnership with the stakeholder groups.

Thanks were extended to those involved in formulating the three documents.

Auditorium

A discussion regarding auditorium sustainability needs to take place between the Auditorium Society, the Auditorium Co-ordinator, the Town of Creston, the Regional District of Central Kootenay and the School District.

Secretary-Treasurer Schulte will provide information regarding auditorium usage and the direction the district has taken internally to address the situation. This information will be brought forward to a future Board meeting.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Nil

POLICY

Nil

MISCELLANEOUS

Nil

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Mayers-McKenzie

- will be making two Crawford Bay presentations to the BCSTA Trustee Academy in December.

Stage 3 Grievance

Director of Human Resources DeBiasio requested two Trustees for a Stage 3 grievance that will be taking place on October 19, 2009 at 1:00 P.M. at the Board Office. Trustees Lang and Mayers-McKenzie volunteered with Trustees Lindsay and Trenaman as alternates.

QUESTION PERIOD

Questions and comments were made regarding the following issues:

- Student Transportation Review process;
- Wynndel bussing;
- bus dispatcher position;
- safety of children on Highway 3;
- special needs bussing;
- waiving of fees for the auditorium;
- Student Transportation Review – special circumstances;
- Bill 33;
- history of use of facilities on the Creston side – not just about dollars and efficiencies;
- government underfunding;
- Susan Wilson advised that she would be stepping down as DPAC Chair and expressed her pleasure in working as a partner in the district;
- concerns regarding Student Transportation Review Recommendation #7;
- special needs bussing in Creston; and,
- public transit bussing.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 3, 2009 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
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