THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 68  
MINUTES OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD October 7, 2015

PRESENT:  
Trustees  
S. Higginson, Chair  
N. Bob, Vice-Chair  
J. Brennan  
T. Brzovic  
S. Kimler  
S. Rae  
B. Robinson  
N. Routley  
J. Solomon  

Staff  
J. Blain, Superintendent/CEO  
G. Roberts, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO  
D. Burgos, Director of Communications  
S. Saywell, Assistant Superintendent  
R. Gray, Assistant Superintendent  
B. Esliger, Assistant Superintendent  
L. Tait, Director of Instruction  
K. Toye, Executive Assistant  
J. Carroll, Vice Principal, LS

ABSENT  
S. Iverson, NDTA Rep  
R. Zver, CUPE Rep  
D. McGonigle, NSAA Rep  
C. McKay, DPAC Rep  
W. Dirksen, DASG Rep

IN ATTENDANCE  
S. Iverson, NDTA Rep  
R. Zver, CUPE Rep  
D. McGonigle, NSAA Rep  
C. McKay, DPAC Rep  
W. Dirksen, DASG Rep

CALL TO ORDER  
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and recognized that tonight’s meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw people.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA  
Correspondence - Trustee Routley  
Pro D and Curriculum - Superintendent Blain

DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA  
There were no Deletions to the Agenda this evening.

CHANGE IN ORDER  
There was no Change in Order this evening.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Folio
E15/10/07-01
That the Agenda be approved. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Folio
E15/10/07-02
That the minutes of the Education Committee meeting held September 9, 2015 be approved. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

LEARNING SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Ms. Laura Tait
Director of Instruction
RE: Focus Schools
Director of Instruction, Ms. Tait, along with Assistant Superintendent Bob Esliger and school Principals Diane McGonigle (Bayview Elementary), Darlene Crane (Brechin Elementary) and Larry Dean (Georgia Avenue Community School) provided a high-level summary of the 2014-15 Focus Schools Initiative in the district. The summary is attached to the Agenda for more information.

Pro D and Curriculum - Superintendent Blain
Superintendent Blain commented on the new ministry curriculum in service hours for teachers implementation of the new BC curriculum. 10 hours will be allocated out of this year's instructional time. The committee is to report back as to when and how.

Ms. Jane Carroll
Vice-Principal, Learning Services
RE: Special Olympics, Strong Starts & Nanaimo Early Years Network
Ms. Carroll, District Vice-Principal of Learning Services, provided an early learning initiative overview in the district. Presentation attached to Agenda.

StrongStart is a free program for parents or caregivers with newborns to children of five years of age. The StrongStart program is located in eight district elementary schools: Bayview, Fairview, Georgia Ave, Ladysmith Primary, McGirr, Quarterway, Rutherford and Woodbank.

The program is staffed with certified early childhood educators and provides a safe learning environment focused on early learning development - language, physical, cognitive,
social and emotional growth.

Other district early learning initiatives include: Ready Set Learn, Healthy Start to Learning, Parents Night Out, Roots of Empathy, Community Connections, and the Island Early Years Network.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Cedar Survey - Mr. Blain
Superintendent has nothing to report at this time. Learning Services are still working on numbers.

NEW BUSINESS

Correspondence - Trustee Routley
Trustee Routley wanted to inquire about some correspondence regarding a group of district Kindergarten teachers wishing to present. He was informed their correspondence and request had fallen through the cracks of the system. Superintendent Blain and Executive Assistant Toye informed him that this group had in fact been responded to. Superintendent Blain had reached out to their Union President and informed Mr. Ball that should his members wish to present to the Board, they were able to do so, through the NDTA.

ADJOURNMENT

Folio E15/10/07-03

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.