THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 68
MINUTES OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD May 6, 2015

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

Staff
J. Blain, Superintendent/CEO
G. Roberts, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
D. Burgos, Director of Communications
R. Gray, Assistant Superintendent
B. Esliger, Assistant Superintendent
L. Tait, Director of Instruction
D. Sywak, Executive Assistant

Meeting No. 7

ABSENT
N. Routley
J. Brennan

IN ATTENDANCE
S. Iverson/M. Ball, NDTA Rep
R. Zver, CUPE Rep
C. Lintott, NSAA Rep
C. McKay, DPAC Rep
W. Dirksen, DASG Rep

CALL TO ORDER
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm and recognized that tonight’s meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw people.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA
There were no Additions to the Agenda this evening.

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

CHANGE IN ORDER
Item 11.1 - District Assessment Committee Update - moved to Item 8.0.1 - Learning Services Department

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Folio E15/05/06-01 That the Agenda be approved.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

That the minutes of the Education Committee meeting held April 1, 2015 be approved.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PRESENTATIONS

Pleasant Valley Grade 7’s
Kathy Bergman, Principal,
Pleasant Valley Elementary,
Grade 7’s Tayla Skolski and
Owen McAlpine & Teacher, Ms.
Gannon
RE: Grey Cup

Pleasant Valley Elementary students, Tayla and Owen shared their recent experience attending the Grey Cup and BC Lions Skills for Life Summit in Vancouver.

They attended the 102nd Grey Cup game and along with other students from across the province, they participated in the interactive demonstrations of professions like; welding, carpentry, heavy equipment operating, truck driving and accounting. They also attended workshops that included a few BC Lions players and ministry representatives.

Jeff Hasenauer, Principal,
Rutherford Elementary
DJ Thompson, Self-Regulation Coordinator
RE: International Baccalaureate (IB)

Mr. Thompson and Mr. Hasenauer provided the Education Committee with information on the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program (PYP).

This is following Board motion R13/06/26-33, to initiate a Primary IB program at Randerson Ridge Elementary, it was shared that the IB steering committee is ready to move ahead with the next steps in their action plan, which include:

1. IB PYP pre-implementation plan. This phase would consist of a district-wide consultative process, a facility selection process, and a five-year proposed budget plan.

2. Development of the IB PYP implementation action plan. This phase will include the completion of all details leading up to the start-up of an IB PYP.

It was presented that the immediate benefit of implementing the PYP will be enrolment. Statistics have shown that independent school
enrolment has increased steadily approximately 5% per year while public school enrolment is declining in most of the province. Along with providing another program option for parents, the IB program is a highly recognized name worldwide by both parents and universities.

The Committee requests that the IB steering committee continue with their current action plan.

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Robinson
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Brzovic

Folio
E15/05/06-03

That the Education Committee receive the presentation and report and move this item to New Business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

LEARNING SERVICES
DEPARTMENT

District Assessment Committee Update - Mr. Justin Green / Ms. Robyn Gray

Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Gray and Teacher, Mr. Green presented to the Education Committee and update on assessment in the district.

A district assessment tool was developed and launched this past fall. The district assessment review committee is currently re-examining the tool and seeking feedback.

The district assessment review committee has requested from the Education Committee the approval to pursue an organic, bottom-up, collaborative approach to continue with further revisions on the district's assessment tool.

They will return with an update at a future Education Committee meeting.

Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) - Ms. Robyn Gray

Assistant Superintendent, Robyn Gray, on behalf of the Department of Learning Services, recommended to the Education Committee that the district does not participate in the MDI at this time. After receiving the report and presentation on MDI by Vice-Principal Learning Services, Jane Carroll, the Education Committee agreed with the recommendation.
IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Brzovic
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Bob

Folio
E15/05/06-04

That the Education Committee receive the report.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE
REFERRED FROM THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

There was no Correspondence Referred From the Regular Board

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Multicultural and Race Relations (MRR) and Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Committee Update - Trustee Brzovic and Robinson

Assistant Superintendent Bob Esliger gave a handout and overview to the Education Committee and provided them with three recommendations:

1. Develop a new policy of Inclusion – the new policy will be a concise statement, an expression of expectation of all our school communities in bringing about safe, inclusive and socially just schools and it will be the document that holds the district accountable.

2. Develop administrative procedures and envision the committees role – the MCRR recommended to develop individual administrative procedures to reflect the current situations facing the district. A significant update is required regarding racism and the provision of culturally safe environments.

3. Implement key priorities – MCRR and SOGI agreed to three priorities:

   i) Ensure the Safe Harbour program is adopted at every school.

   ii) Staff onboarding of current policy (statement of expectation orientation package).

   iii) Implement “Our Schools Our Community – Taking a Stand for Inclusion” and match it to BC curriculum.
NEW BUSINESS

International Baccalaureate (IB)

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Higginson
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Brzovic

Folio
E15/05/06-05

The Education Committee recommends to the Board of Education of School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) that a district advisory committee be formed with parents in the community to talk about; cost mitigation, location, staffing issues (IB steering committee).

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Robinson
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Higginson

Motion to Amend

Folio
E15/05/06-06

The Education Committee recommends to the Board of Education of School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) that a district advisory committee be formed with parents in the community to report back by May 1, 2016 to talk about; cost mitigation, location, staffing issues (IB steering committee).

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Rae
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Kimler

Motion to Defer

Folio
E15/05/06-07

The Education Committee recommends to the Board of Education of School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) that this motion be deferred until October 2015

Opposed by Trustee Higginson
CARRIED

QUESTION PERIOD

There were two questions from the audience this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Kimler
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Rae

Folio
E15/05-06-08

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.