THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 68
MINUTES OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE
HELD JANUARY 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, A/Superintendent/CEO
G. Roberts, A/Secretary-Treasurer
D. Burgos, Director of Communications
K. Toye, Executive Assistant

ABSENT
S. Iverson, NDTA Rep
R. Zver, CUPE Rep
C. Girard, NSAA Rep
C. McKay, DPAC Rep

IN ATTENDANCE
Meeting No. E03

CALL TO ORDER
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01 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
8.1 - Learning Services Portfolios has been deleted this evening.

CHANGE IN ORDER
There was no change in order this evening.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Brennan
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Rae

Folio
E15/01/07-01

That the Agenda be approved
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Kimler
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Routley

Folio
E15/01/07-02

That the minutes of the Education Committee meeting held November 5, 2014 be adopted.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PRESENTATIONS

Derek Degear
RE: District Policy for Continuous Improvement of Instruction and Assessment

Mike Ball and Justin Green presented in place of Derek DeGear who was unavailable.

- Handout is attached to the agenda with the presentation.
- They spoke about Assessment in SD 68 and how they feel that the tests being mandated do not line up with what is being outlined in the assessment.
- They have requested to suspend the policy immediately and allow a consultation process to take place.

Request from NDTA to suspend policy moved to 11.2 - New Business

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Kimler
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Routley

Folio
E15/01/07-03

That the Education Committee recommend to the Board of Education of School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) move the request to 11.2 - New Business.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

LEARNING SERVICES DEPARTMENT

District Wide Assessment

Mr. Esliger and Ms. Crane present to the Education Committee with a power point on District Wide Assessment.

- Ms. Crane brought binders and shared them with the Committee. These binders were working copies of the tools and resources schools use for their assessments.
- The power point is attached to the Agenda.
CORRESPONDENCE
REFERRED FROM THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) correspondence referred from December 17, 2014 Regular Board Meeting

Mr. Ball, President, NDTA Nanaimo District Teachers’ Association (NDTA)
RE: Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA)

Ms. Iverson, NDTA spoke to the FSA letter (attached to agenda).

- NDTA feels that whatever choice the parent of a student identifies should be considered and extenuating circumstance as parents know their children best.
- NDTA recommends the Board of Education of School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) send a letter home with students.

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

The Education Committee recommends to the Board of Education that the Board Chair write a letter to parents that presents unbiased pro/con information on the FSA (Foundation Skills Assessment) exam, including checkboxes for opting out of the exam (as per BC legislation) and direct staff to honour parents requests to opt out of the exam, without further contact.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business on the Agenda this evening.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of goals for the Education Committee and Stakeholders

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

That the Education Committee recommend to the Board of Education of School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) move the request to suspend the policy immediately and allow consultation process to take place.

DEFEATED

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Higginson
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Rae
Folio E15/01/07-06

That the Education Committee recommends to the Board of Education of School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) that the District Assessment Review Committee (DARC) address concerns presented tonight and report back to April Education Committee Meeting at which time if concerns are not addressed we will revisit suspending the policy.

Opposed by Trustees, Solomon, Kimler and Routley
CARRIED

QUESTION PERIOD

There was one question that was answered from the audience this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Brennan
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Kimler

Folio E15/01/07-07

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.