THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 68
MINUTES OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE
HELD DECEMBER 4, 2013

PRESENT:
Trustees
K. Howland, Chair
D. Allen
B. Bard
J. Brennan
D. Neary
B. Robinson
T. Saunders
S. Welch

Staff
D. Hutchinson, Superintendent/CEO
J. Blain, Deputy Superintendent
L. Tait, District Principal
D. Reimer, Director of Communications
C. Kelt, Executive Assistant

Meeting No. EC04

ABSENT
N. Curley

IN ATTENDANCE
S. Iverson, NDTA Rep
R. Zver, CUPE Rep
T. Watson, NSAA Rep
A. Cameron, DPAC 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
Election of Vice-Chair of the Education Committee Meeting was added to the Agenda.

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

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Brennan
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Bard
Folio
EC13/12/04-01
That the Agenda be approved as amended.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Neary
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Brennan

Folio
EC13/12/04-02

That the Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held November 6, 2013 be approved.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Chair Howland called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Education Committee.

Trustee Brennan nominated Trustee Robinson. Chair Howland called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Education Committee a second time, and a third time.

Chair Howland asked Trustee Robinson if he accepted the nomination. Trustee Robinson stated he accepted the nomination.

Chair Howland declared Trustee Robinson Vice-Chair of the Education Committee.

LEARNING SERVICES DEPARTMENT

John Blain, Deputy Superintendent, introduced, Laura Tait, District Principal of Aboriginal Education. Ms. Tait spoke about the presentations that would be happening this evening and said they highlighted many of the initiatives underway in our schools supporting Aboriginal Education.

Ms. Tait noted that the Aboriginal graduation rate has increased by six percent last year – from 49.9% in 2011-12 to 56.2% in 2012-13. While the improvement is to be celebrated, there is still much work to be done.

• Pleasant Valley Elementary Principal Kathy Bergman described the work that has been done at that school over the past four years to integrate Aboriginal learning into the school culture. Elder Jerry Brown was on hand with students displaying their skill with traditional drumming.

• The Bayview Shawl Dancers proudly displayed their ceremonial shawls, which the students created for themselves and demonstrated traditional dances. The group has a 10-year
history at the school.

• Principal David Birnie described the program at Coal Tyee and showed video of Aboriginal Education Assistant Linda Walls and Teacher Aimee Blow working with Kindergarten students on traditional singing.

• Students from John Barsby demonstrated their traditional drumming and singing. The group, led by Aboriginal Education Support Teacher Mandy Jones is much in demand for school and community events.

• Students Kianna Watts and Malcolm Beaton described the way that Aboriginal understanding are woven into Teacher Lynn Brown's Grade 11 English class, and the powerful impact that has had on them personally.

Mr. Blain thanked everyone for participating in tonight's meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE
REFERRED FROM THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

There was no correspondence forwarded to the Education Committee from the November Board Meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business on the Agenda this evening.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business on the Agenda this evening.

QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Brennan
IT WAS SECONDED BY Trustee Bard

Folio
EC13/12/04-03

That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.