THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 68
MINUTES OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE
HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2011

PRESENT:
Trustees - Voting
J. Brennan, Chair
R. Dale
S. Welch

Staff
M. Munro, Superintendent/CEO
F. Frisson, Assistant Superintendent
C. Southwick, Assistant Superintendent
D. Reimer, Director of Communications
C. Kelt, Executive Assistant

NOT VOTING
A. Bonkowski
D. Allen
N. Allen
D. Murchie
D. Neary

IN ATTENDANCE
J. Green, NDTA Rep
R. Zver, CUPE Rep
H. Tarasewich, DPAC Rep
C. Lintott, NSAA Rep

CALL TO ORDER
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm and recognized that tonight’s meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw people.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR
Chair Brennan called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Education Committee.

Trustee Welch nominated Trustee Dale. Chair Brennan asked if Trustee Dale would accept the nomination. Trustee Dale said he would accept the nomination. Chair Brennan declared Trustee Dale as Vice-Chair of the Education Committee.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA
Trustee Dale asked that the topic of "bullying" be added to the Education Agenda monthly. It was added to the Agenda as item 12.3.

Trustee Dale asked to give a VISTA report to the Committee. It was added to the Agenda as item 12.4.
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 Dale Folio
E11/02/09-01

That the Agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Dale Folio
E11/02/09-02

That the Minutes of the Special Education Committee meeting held January 12, 2011 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations this evening.

EDUCATIONAL UPDATE - Report from Ms. Frisson and Ms. Southwick

Ms. S. Young, Principal of Cedar Secondary, Mr. Rounis, Mr. Mark and Ms. Jones told the Committee about the project at Cedar that arose from the idea that instead of trying to get students to turn off their technology devices in the classroom, students should be encouraged to use technology in a productive way.

CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED FROM THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

There was no correspondence referred from the January Board Meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business on the Agenda this evening.

Safe Schools Update

Mr. Cathal Walsh - Principal, Ladysmith Intermediate
Mr. Tom Piros - Safe Schools Coordinator

Mr. Piros, Safe Schools Coordinator and Mr. Walsh, principal of Ladysmith Intermediate gave a presentation on the topic of bullying in the context of safe schools.

Mr. Walsh said that one of biggest challenges for
schools is distinguishing between inappropriate behaviour and bullying. He outlined the characteristics of bullying, and described the ways that schools can work with students and parents to prevent bullying and address bullying when it arises.

Mr. Piros described the way that positive school climates help prevent bullying and provided the trustees with a brochure that will be sent to parents that addresses the topics of bullying prevention and cyber safety.

Student Achievement/Graduation Rates

The following motion was referred to the Education Committee from the January Board Meeting.

That the Board of Education directs the Education Committee to have the issue of student achievement and graduation rates remain on the Agenda of Education Committee and to canvas feedback from education partners, trustees and staff on possible strategies to improve our performance.

Ms. Southwick Assistant Superintendent said that the topic of student achievement and graduation rates has been placed as a standing item on the Education Committee. She told the Committee that the district’s performance on the Science 10 provincial examination has improved, particularly for Aboriginal students. This is particularly significant since Science 10 is required for graduation.

Bullying - Regular Agenda Item

Trustee Dale asked that consideration be given to having the topic of bullying on the Agenda as a monthly update.

VISTA Update

Trustee Dale advised the Committee that SD68 had hosted the February 5th VISTA meeting this past weekend. He said there was a good turnout from Trustees around the Island.

QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Dale that the Agenda be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.