THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 68
MINUTES OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE
HELD OCTOBER 12, 2011

PRESENT:
Trustees - Voting  Staff
J. Brennan, Chair  D. Hutchinson, Superintendent/CEO
R. Dale  F. Frisson, Assistant Superintendent
S. Welch  C. Southwick, Assistant Superintendent

NOT VOTING  S. Bates, District Principal
N. Allen  L. Tait, District Principal
D. Murchie  D. Reimer, Director of Communications
D. Neary  C. Kelt, Executive Assistant

Meeting No. E2

ABSENT  IN ATTENDANCE
H. Tarasewich, DPAC Rep
C. Bohm, NSAA Rep
C. Lintott, NSAA Rep

CALL TO ORDER
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:23 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
There was no change in order to the Agenda this evening.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Welch
Folio  That the Agenda be approved.
E11/10/13-01  CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Dale
Folio  That the minutes of the Education Committee
E11/10/13-02  Meeting held September 14, 2011 be approved.
Meeting held September 14, 2011 be approved.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
PRESENTATIONS

Presentation to Dorothy Watchman - Books for Kids by Helen Fall and Carolyn Isles

Teacher-librarians and teachers were in attendance this evening and extended their thanks to Dorothy Watchman. Dorothy was a parent who started the Books for Kids program. She organized the program 14 years ago when Frank J. Ney Elementary was opened. Her daughter attended the school, and Dorothy was surprised to discover that there was no money in the budget for library books for a new school. As a result, she organized Books for Kids and over the years has raised $115,000 for school libraries throughout the district.

A Day Made Better
Jane Saunders - Davis Road Teacher

Jane Saunders, Davis Road music teacher, was honoured this evening. She was recently one of two B.C. teachers recognized by the “A Day Made Better” program sponsored by Grand and Toy. The program gives “extraordinary teachers the recognition they deserve.” Ms. Saunders was surprised with a presentation at a special school assembly last week. Doug English, Ecole Davis Road principal, said “she’s not just a music teacher...she’s a great community person.”

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

Ms. Shelley Beleznay and Ms. Elizabeth Pennell gave an update about the many collaborative projects currently underway across the district that focus on improving student achievement, starting with the early years program and continuing through secondary school and Grade 12 graduation.

CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED FROM THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Community Members - RE: Education Assistants

This correspondence was referred from the September 28th Board Meeting.

The Board of Education of School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) receives and refers the correspondence from the community members regarding education assistants to the Education Committee.

The Committee held an in-depth discussion about the ways that the district might improve its
The Education Committee recommends to the Board of Education of School District 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) that it write to the Minister of Education and copy the Treasury Board that the Board be provided with learning assistance funding for primary students who statistically have needs which qualify for funded support but who have not matured enough to be clinically diagnosed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business on the Agenda this evening.

NEW BUSINESS

Aboriginal Education Committee - Update

Ms. Stella Bates and Ms. Laura Tait said that Aboriginal communities and the district have had two Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreements, with a third agreement currently being developed. They said that while there have been some gains in Aboriginal student success over the past ten years, there is still a long way to go. They reviewed the work that is being done to develop the new enhancement agreement, and the focus that agreement will have on the need for collaboration by everyone in the system to build success for Aboriginal learners.

FOR INFORMATION

Balanced Calendar

Chair Brennan said the Balanced Calendar issue would come forward at a future Education Committee Meeting for discussion.

QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED BY Trustee Dale

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.