



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 67 (OKANAGAN SKAHA)



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2007, AT 7:30 P.M.
AT THE SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE

L. Little, Chair
G. Manning, Vice Chair
K. Andrews, Trustee
C. Denesiuk, Trustee
W. Huebert, Trustee
D. E. Jamieson, Trustee
L. Van Alphen, Trustee

G. Doi, Superintendent of Schools
F. Regehr, Secretary-Treasurer
B. Celli, Assistant Superintendent
R. Shongrunden, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
D. Burgoyne, Director of Instruction
L. Hauptman, Director of Instruction
G. Schafer, Director of Instruction
J. Hickling, Director of Maintenance
D. Adey, Executive Secretary

C. Bowles, Principal, Uplands Elementary School
M. Smitten, Principal, Wiltse Elementary School

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Little welcomed parents, district staff, and representatives of the media.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Andrews/Van Alphen that the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

3.0 PRESENTATIONS BY SCHOOLS AND/OR STUDENTS

3.1 PALS Program

PALS (Parents as Literacy Supporters) is a program for parents and their kindergarten children designed to build the connection between home and school and to improve the child's performance at school. Teachers Marianne Lund, Shirley Rafter, and Beth Stewart from Wiltse Elementary School and parent volunteer Chere Plante presented an overview of the program at their school. Thirty families are enrolled in the five PALS sessions to be held during this school year, each session having a theme such as ABC's

and Learning, Linking Literacy and Learning, and Early Math. Appreciation was given to the parent advisory council for their financial support for the program.

Following a number of questions, appreciation was extended to the teachers for their presentation.

4.0 RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS AND GUESTS

5.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

MOTION: Andrews/Denesiuk that the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 15, 2007 be approved.

CARRIED

6.0 REPORT FROM CLOSED MEETING

The secretary-treasurer reported on the closed meeting held on January 15, 2007:

1. Received correspondence;
2. Received a report from the discipline committee;
3. Confirmed teaching, excluded, and CUPE staff changes;
4. Received information on the funding recalculation;
5. Received information related to a meeting with the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen;
6. Approved requests for teacher leaves of absence;
7. Received information on student suspensions;
8. Received information related to a personnel matter;
9. Received information related to a meeting of the British Columbia Public Schools Employers Association.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Letter from Toronto District School Board

A letter from the Toronto District School Board providing an update on the campaign to remove the GST payable by school districts.

7.2 Letter from Catholic Civil Rights League

A letter forwarded by the Catholic Civil Rights League requesting the school district's intention regarding requiring students to attend classes or lessons that their parents judge are contrary to the individual needs of their children.

7.3 Summary of Copies of Letters to the Board

Copies of the letters to the Board listed below are available in the trustee reading file:

- Penticton Secondary School Parent Advisory Council to the City of Penticton regarding ongoing social problems in the vicinity of 702 Main Street;
- School District No. 63 (Saanich) report on the implications for field trips resulting for the school fees ruling;
- School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) to the Minister of Education requesting that the Ministry amend the School Act and Regulations to allow boards to continue to offer enhanced programs and to maximize student choice;
- School District No. 59 (Peace River South) to the Minister of Education requesting that the Ministry reconsider its funding allocation method;
- School District No. 38 (Richmond) to the Minister of Education regarding the implication of the school fees order;

- School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia) to the Minister of Education, Member of Parliament for B.C. Southern Interior, and MLA for West Kootenay-Boundary requesting support and intervention to ensure that Canadian students, who are citizens or have permanent resident status, can receive a public education in any province at any time without the payment of out-of-province student fees.

MOTION: Andrews/Manning that the correspondence be received.

CARRIED

8.0 REPORT OF COMMITTEES

8.1 Education Committee

Trustee Van Alphen reported that the education committee visited Queen's Park Elementary School on February 6, 2007, noting that trustees enjoyed a tour of the school led by grade 5 ambassadors, watched literacy and numeracy classes in session, and witnessed examples of social responsibility at the school. They also viewed the new computer lab and were treated to lunch prepared as part of the hot lunch program.

MOTION: Van Alphen/Huebert that the report of the education committee be received.

CARRIED

8.2 Finance and Management Committee

Trustee Manning reported on the finance and management committee meeting held on February 7, 2007:

a. 2006-07 Funding Recalculation

The secretary-treasurer reviewed the Ministry funding recalculation based on our September 30th enrolment. The funding is based on an enrolment decline from preliminary funding of 27.9 students and includes an increase of \$2.5 million to fund labour settlements. The funding also increased aboriginal funding by \$40,850 and special needs funding by \$396,000.

b. 2006-07 Final Budget Proposal

The secretary-treasurer reviewed proposed budget adjustments for the revenue and expenses that reflect the final enrolments, targeted program funding, and required budget adjustments. Following these adjustments, a further \$327,300 was available for budget expenditures. The committee reviewed a list of budget options and following discussion agreed to recommend that the amended annual budget bylaw be prepared for adoption at the February 12, 2007 meeting and that the bylaw include the revenue and expenditure adjustments based on the enrolment and funding changes proposed plus the addition of the following:

District Goals (March 1 to June 30)	\$84,000
Student Learning Resources (textbooks)	80,000
Equipment for Schools	80,000
Technology – special needs laptops and upgrade desktops	<u>83,322</u>
Total	\$327,322

Trustee Manning noted that the staffing increases covered in #1 are intended for the remainder of this fiscal year only and that these increases will be reviewed as part of the budget process for the 2007-08 school year.

Following discussion,

MOTION: Manning/Andrews that should additional 2006-07 savings be identified in the budget accounts, the funds be expended towards additional priorities of:

• Technology – computer capacitor repairs	54,000
• District Maintenance and Operations	50,000
• Annual Capital Allowance	50,000
• Student Learning Resources (textbooks)	\$120,000
• Equipment for Schools	80,000
• Technology (Laptop Project: Year 3)	150,000
• District Maintenance and Operations	50,000
• Annual Capital Allowance	100,000
	CARRIED

c. 2007-08 Budget Development

The secretary-treasurer reviewed the development of the 2006-07 budget which included over 15 meetings between March 1 and May 2, 2006. The committee supported the process used last year and that the process be discussed with the partner groups. The secretary-treasurer agreed to report on the process and meeting dates at the February board meeting.

d. French Immersion

Director of Instruction Garth Schafer reviewed Summerland Middle School French immersion registrations of 41 and KVR Middle School of 85. On the basis of three grade six classes at KVR and one at Summerland Middle School, a lottery will be required for Summerland Middle School. The committee reviewed policy implications for the student enrolment in French immersion.

MOTION: Manning/Jamieson that the Board of School Trustees approves three French Immersion classes at KVR Middle School and one French Immersion class at Summerland Middle School for 2007-08.

CARRIED

e. Class Size Report – Ministry press release

On February 5, the Ministry issued a class size report based on September 30, 2006 statistics in B.C.'s 60 school districts. Superintendent Doi provided a brief overview of the provincial report and SD67 report. Further information will be provided at the board meeting.

MOTION: Manning/Denesiuk that the report of the finance and management committee be received.

CARRIED

In response to a question, Director of Instruction Schafer reviewed the process for the random draw (lottery) basis for the available seats at Summerland Middle School. The president for Okanagan Skaha Parents for French will be in attendance at the lottery draw. Parents will be notified soon after.

8.3 Buildings, Grounds, Safety and Transportation Committee

Trustee Huebert reported on the buildings, grounds, safety and transportation committee meeting held on February 7, 2007:

a. City/School District Fields

Director of Maintenance John Hickling advised the City of Penticton is currently out to tender for the construction of field upgrades at Carmi and Nkwala fields. The City has now identified the timing of field development may prevent timely access to one of the ball fields they require. We are currently reviewing if we are able to assist by providing a field on a temporary basis.

b. Request for Surplus School Books

The school district has received a request to allow that obsolete textbooks be donated for use in Third World countries. The proposal indicates any books

available would be picked up and this will reduce requirements for our school district to recycle. We are reviewing this request to plan for implementation.

c. No Stopping/Parking Zones at Schools

The City of Penticton has requested a letter regarding no parking zones and loading zones at schools be circulated to school parents. The committee supported the circulation of this letter in an effort to improve the safe parking and student loading practices on roads near our schools.

d. Request for School Desks

Director of Maintenance John Hickling discussed a request from Naramata Elementary School for the use of old desks stored in the district. Mr. Hickling advised the maintenance department will work to assist with the school's heritage event.

e. Playground Replacement

Mr. Hickling reviewed progress in developing a plan for the replacement of school adventure playgrounds. A draft concept is to have three levels of support depending on school size. A minimum level includes removing equipment identified for replacement, providing pea gravel in place of the bark mulch, and providing a basic playground and swings. The two higher levels will provide larger playground structures. The school parent advisory council may add to these projects either at the time of initial installation or in the future by funding the additional cost. This multiyear plan is intended for completion in a maximum of five years and will start with a safety review. Where required, removal of unsafe equipment at each playground will be completed shortly.

f. Summerland Community Plan – Lower Town

The District of Summerland has requested school district feedback regarding a draft OCP for Lower Town. Initial review of the document suggests there is little impact on the school district.

MOTION: Huebert/Andrews that the report of the buildings, grounds, safety and transportation committee be received.

CARRIED

9.0 REPORT OF SECRETARY-TREASURER

9.1 Penticton Secondary School Reconstruction

Director of Maintenance Hickling reported the foundation has been completed for the science wing crawl space, the steel construction will begin on March 4, the elevator shaft has been formed to the second floor, and the south stairs concrete has been placed to the second floor. Despite the weather, the construction is progressing well.

9.2 2006-07 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw

Secretary-Treasurer Regehr distributed copies of the 2006-07 amended annual budget which has incorporated the budget changes as discussed at the finance and management committee meeting. Following a review of the wording in the amended annual budget bylaw,

MOTION: Manning/Jamison that following the first reading of School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2006-07 in the amount of \$55,539,080, the Board of School Trustees passes the bylaw.

CARRIED

MOTION: Manning/Jamison that following the second reading of School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year

2006-07 in the amount of \$55,539,080, the Board of School Trustees passes the bylaw.

CARRIED

MOTION: Manning/Jamison that following the third reading of School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2006-07 in the amount of \$55,539,080, the Board of School Trustees passes and adopts the bylaw.

CARRIED

9.3 2007-08 Budget Development

The secretary-treasurer reviewed a process recommended for the 2007-08 budget development similar to the process used last year. The process would include a public budget meeting on April 2; a series of meetings with representatives of partner groups, finance and management committee members, and senior staff; a meeting with DPAC and school planning council members and trustees; and adoption at a special board meeting to be held on May 7. It was noted that some dates still need to be finalized and that the funding announcement is expected by March 15. Following discussion,

MOTION: Van Alphen/Manning that the framework for the adoption of the 2007-08 budget be approved as presented.

CARRIED

10.0 REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

10.1 Student Achievement

a. District Goals

Director of Instruction Hauptman reported on recent meetings held with secondary English teachers to review new assessment programs and instructional reading strategies and advised that SmartReading demonstration teachers will be meeting tomorrow. Director of Instruction Schafer added that numeracy helping teachers are meeting on February 14 as part of the Greater Interior Numeracy Network and will be attending the Interior Math Conference on February 16. One of the numeracy helping teachers is taking the First Step in Math train-the-trainer. Assistant Superintendent Celli noted that some school progress reports are emphasizing social responsibility as part of their school goals and commented on the growing interest in TRIBES at the secondary level. A meeting will be held this week to look at a sharing evening for social responsibility ideas.

10.2 Communication and Access

a. Field Trips

The superintendent of schools reviewed a listing of field trip requests circulated with the agenda package.

MOTION: Huebert/Manning that the following field trip request be approved:

- February 23 to 25, 2007, for 14 grade 10 to 12 students from Princess Margaret Secondary School to travel to Moscow, Idaho, to compete in the annual Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival.

CARRIED

MOTION: Denesiuk/Van Alphen that the following field trip be approved:

- March 1 to 4, 2007, for two debating team students to travel to Toronto to compete in the National Debating Championship at Upper Canada College and that funding be provided as per board policy.

CARRIED

b. Literacy Innovation Grant

The superintendent noted that the Ministry of Education has provided a grant in the amount of \$58,381 to help implement the district's literacy proposal. This proposal was submitted in December 2006.

c. Arts & Science in Harmony 2007

Information regarding the annual science fair, fine arts exhibits, and concert band festival which will be held on March 5 to 7, 2007 at the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre was reviewed. This event is jointly sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Penticton and School District No. 67 and will include bands for approximately thirty middle and secondary schools throughout British Columbia, more than one hundred entries in the science fair component, and an exhibition of art works, plays, and dances by the students.

d. School Calendar (2007-08)

The superintendent reviewed a proposed school calendar for 2007-08 and advised the board is required by May 31, 2007 to approve and circulate the 2007-08 school calendar for the district. Following review,

MOTION: Jamieson/Manning that the proposed school calendar for 2007-08 be distributed for information to parents and employee groups.

CARRIED

10.3 Other Items

a. 2006-07 Class Size and Composition Report

A report on school class size/composition consultation meetings held between January 12 and February 8, 2007 was circulated with the agenda package and noted that two meetings were held concerning Parkway Elementary during this time period. The superintendent also provided copies of reports prepared by the Ministry of Education entitled *Overview of Class Size and Composition in British Columbia Public Schools 2006-07* prepared for both the provincial overview and an overview for SD67. Mr. Doi added that compared to districts of similar enrolment and geography, SD67 has among the lowest class size averages and that the number of classes with more than three students with special needs decreased significantly in SD67 compared to last year. At the K-3 level, there are three classes compared to six classes in 2005-06; at the Grade 4-12 level, there are 251 classes this year compared to 355 classes in 2005-06.

b. Enrolment

The superintendent noted that enrolment as of January 31, 2007 was 7,118 students (6,830.809 FTE) in the district.

11.0 REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES

12.0 NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12.1 Committee and Representative Appointments

Chairman Little noted that Trustee Van Alphen has been appointed as the Board's representative to the Aboriginal Education Planning Council (which was previously noted as the First Nations Advisory Committee) and that Trustee Andrews has been added as an observer to the Council.

13.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**13.1 BCSTA Provincial Council Meeting**

Trustee Manning reported that at the BCSTA Provincial Council Meeting held on February 9 and 10, 2007 in Vancouver it was confirmed that the pension increase for teachers will be fully funded. Other topics covered included early learning activities and framework, a report from Deputy Minister Emery Dodsall, less district reviews will be held each year, and a draft budget was presented.

MOTION: Manning/Jamieson that the report be received.

CARRIED

13.2 BCSTA Okanagan Branch Meeting

The BCSTA Okanagan Branch meeting will be held on February 23 and 24, 2007 in Merritt.

13.3 BCSTA Annual General Meeting

The deadline for submission of motions for BCSTA's annual general meeting to be held April 19 to 22, 2007 in Victoria is as follows:

- Extraordinary motions – February 7, 2007
- Substantive motions – February 16, 2007

13.4 Date of Next Meeting

- February 12, 2007, 7:30 p.m., Regular Meeting, School Board Office

14.0 TRUSTEE COMMENTS**14.1 Recognition of Student Success**

School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) extended congratulations to the students and groups for outstanding examples of success as shown on the recognition sheet included with the agenda package.

14.2 Recognition of Student Artwork

Students from Columbia Elementary School were congratulated for their artwork currently on display at the school board office:

- Brayden Kuroda – Kindergarten
- Marisa LeFranc – Kindergarten
- Chloë Ricketts – Kindergarten
- Emily Stairs – Grade 1
- Emily Thomas – Grade 1
- Shane McDonald – Grade 2
- Andrew Ellis – Grade 4
- Bradley Fleming – Grade 4
- Carli Anderson – Grade 5
- Amanda Andrews – Grade 5

14.3 Trustee Comments

Trustees provided general comments related to district and school activities. Recognition was also given to Kyle Harms, a student at Penticton Secondary School, for receiving the Young Citizen of the Year award at the recent Penticton and Wine Country Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards.

MOTION: Huebert/Van Alphen that a letter of congratulations be forwarded to Kyle Harms for receiving the Young Citizen of the Year award.

CARRIED

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Manning/Andrews that the meeting be adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

CARRIED

16.0 QUESTION PERIOD

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer