



MINUTES
November 16, 2011
Hans Helgesen

Chair: Kathleen Church, SPEAC 2nd Vice President
Minutes: Michelle Winsor, SPEAC Secretary

	Motions	Action
1. Meeting Called to order 7:00pm Let the record show that there is quorum present.		
2. Presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scott Rothermel-Criminal Record Checks-not in attendance • Tanya Demmings-READ Society READ society provides reading, math help, level b assessments and tutoring, assistance is available for low income students through fundraising, programs run Mon-Thurs after school, ways to get involved are volunteering, donating funds, -READ Society is celebrating 35 year anniversary this year – events for this anniversary will be held at Government House by first come first serve basis Question-160 for assessment-is this for both children and adults? Yes- Once assessment done, will information then go onto classes- yes There is no cost to assessment if under tuition assistance Question-who does assessments? Teachers do and it can be transferred back to schools 		
3. Approval of the Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additions: nothing to add <div style="text-align: right;">(Ruth King/David Cameron)</div> 	Carried	
4. Approval of October Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrections: no corrections <div style="text-align: right;">(Poirier/Savory)</div> 	Carried	
5. Business Arising/Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Education Committee-Emergency Prep-Stephanie L.- Education committee met last week-outdoor Kindergarten and Emergency Prep-email communication about release drill -look for details in President Report 		

6. Delegate Reports:

Superintendent – Jim Cambridge

- Dogwood Rate came out last week and district is doing well. District improved by 5%- Dogwood Grade is a system that tracks how many students graduate who began from an Elementary level without dropping out and coming back in -still behind Provincial average, but have moved up from last years report-
- .Two Schools coming-when and how soon do we get them? No answers yet, but meetings are happening -a broad based community meeting will occur with consultant for a non-biased meeting – regular school design – neighbourhood learning centers-another meeting process because new schools get 15% more design space if they include community connections, theatre, early learning hub, etc.
- Savory rebuilding office space-maybe open by Christmas
- Snow Day blog up on trying to get information out to parents before 6:30am news but is difficult -Jim doesn't like school closures as it is hard on community – Jim has access to blog from home, so news will come right away
- Nature Kindergarten-exciting idea, district trying to get pilot project at Sangster where children will spend most of their school day outside – Europe has done it for years with the principle that kids should be outside more-partnership with Camosun and Royal Roads, asking for funds for full time teacher- school will be on Royal Roads property so Sangster was natural choice as it borders that property- Registering for this school as only 22 kids will be able to attend, basing it on French Immersion program as first come first serve basis-there may be more interest and cant' expand with another class, so board will be thinking about how to go about registration, first come fist serve, random lottery (many issues involved with that choice), really no good answer yet

Question-does it have to be those choices for Registration or can we contribute to another solution? - Other solutions welcome.

Question- Has the District looked at other programs in BC for solutions? – yes and the district has experience as many parents every year line up for Kindergarten Registration

<p>Question- if parents sign up and then drop out will class space be filled or will it stay empty- have looked at it, parents will be well informed and hope that they will make the right decision then</p> <p>Question- this Nature program is secondary to the regular kindergarten at Sangster? Yes separate from regular class</p> <p>Question-For students enrolling for this program, school supplies will differ when you must consider weather conditions. Need good boots and jackets etc. that will cost money. will there be help- yes district is going to supply equipment and such for the kids</p> <p>Question- school websites-most of school websites are still the same, parents are relying on the websites for information and it has been explained that there is a queue for schools to get the upgrade, is that so? Yes and educator is in charge, report done saying that a lot of work needs to be done, educators are learning how to operate new sites, it is high priority, still trying to formalize process of who is in charge of websites</p>		
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<p>Trustee-Wendy Hobbs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks to parents as board is changing up, will see what happens in the next week <p>STA – Paul Waterlander</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bargaining or non bargaining-stalled negotiations- changes need to be made to process-54 dates and no movement – When the government says net zero mandate it means no more money to be found unless found in other way -wages are not number one issue with teachers. What is number one on the ticket, is class size and composition -phase one job action continues, does not want phase two • 21st learning plan-government wants to change to technological learning and personalized learning but teachers not sold on it- need to have teacher input at ground level, teachers have seen the plan and like some of it, but are careful, -would be a high impact if a student couldn't afford the technology needed at school, where would funding coming from, teachers are waiting to see how it is all going to happen <p>Question-can you get the teacher magazine online? He thinks so – had a good article in it concerning this topic</p>		
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<p>Question-What would Phase two be? Teachers don't know what Phase two will be like as they have to discuss and agree with</p> <p>Questions are teachers asking not to do field trips?- labour relations board says that if field trips are going to occur, it would have to have a learning target as its outcome- paperwork will go through Administration and collected by them – Question-if fieldtrips are having to have a learning outcome, then gaming money can't be used to fund trip? Paul doesn't know answer but will find answer – Jim –teacher has to initiate trip, but doesn't know if the content of the trip is necessary-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Teacher interviews - Any teacher is available to meet parent-parents need to call teachers to make appointment <p>SPVP-Paul Block</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry website has information and looking for input from parents • Teachers want to talk to parents if there is a problem, then go higher to get help • With Job action, administrators are doing more work so things such as websites are falling behind. Trying to keep business as usual • Questions -comment needed about Report Cards-Jim spoke saying no report cards for Grade 12, those who are looking for marks because of scholarships can access them through the individual teacher or counselor who is involved <p>CUPE: Cameron Gordon-Findlay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One question from Cameron to SPEAC-how is bear proof garbage cans? Trent is looking into it • Why was no name on David Cameron? There is a sign with School name on it -Jim- when school is being painted, the name will be added to school • Questions to Cameron-nothing 		
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<p>Student-Ravi Parmar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katie Walthers with Belmont Recycling Program- hoping to have presentation for next meeting –second Saturday of the month except for December. Will be first weekend 		
<p>7. Correspondence –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Release drill- District isn't ready to do drill-Alison Mackinga HR person sent a note out outlining concerns and also ideas of what time of day when to do drill, etc. Questions-can we share with PAC? No not yet, if you know someone who will be interested then yes, but keep it in SPEAC for now-Contact Stephanie L. if interested Question-would it be helpful to get feedback about if parents will be taking time off to do drill, to prepare parents so they know how to arrange emergency contacts and such.- maybe having an opportunity in one school, then another later 		
<p>8. Treasurer's Report –Terry Phelps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaming balance: \$3,264.11 • General Account: \$10,489.17 • Last year, to make things easier, we did put money aside –our biggest expense is VIP conference (about \$2300.00) –second expense is BCCPAC fees and travel- the rest is for things such as running meetings etc. – Terry's feeling is that we should spend more as we are leaving too much in the bank, leave just enough for the next board (about \$4000.00) leaving us about \$8000.00 to spend • Round table for opinions of person in attendance- are we comfortable about \$4000.00 as contingency fund • Can we boost conference monies to around \$4000.00? yes • BCCCPAC-what is the interest in supporting this conference? Stephanie L.- BCCPAC isn't hold a fall conference anymore, just Spring – Comment-if there is value to going, yes A vote to see who supports monies going to BCCPAC? 6 yes – should budget some money as we have already said that SPEAC would support BCCPAC 		

<p>Two people to conference to meet our obligations? Yes Question-how much have we paid for VIP conference this year? Nothing paid for yet Motion to pass Budget as discussed (Colwood /Ruth King)</p>	<p>Carried</p>	
<p>9. President's Report-Stephanie Longstaff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast for Learning • Aboriginal Gathering tonight-David Bouchard a great story teller-told of his life experiences and has written 40 children's books- (can arrange to have him at VIP Conference) • Two week Spring Break – for the staff to find answers for the board, to help them make the decision. thinking is that a two week spring break shouldn't occur due to saving money, opinions are split with board and parents, maybe add time as a full week of school rather than 5 minutes per day • Gender/ Diversity Policy-committee want two parents to be on committee who feels strongly about this policy and can help implement policy – contact Stephanie L. if interested – meetings are generally at 4pm to accommodate principals and such-meetings are at SBO – can send out policy out to PAC-Stephanie L. will send information to Michelle to send out to anyone who wants information • Lice committee-going nowhere as Stephanie hasn't worked on it • Nature Kindergarten-District has a first come first serve policy and will have to go to Board if they want to change that- a good way to find students is to have parents apply for position, need to have criteria to meet district demographics <p>Questions- how will they be affected in Grade One after child has attended Nature Kindergarten? It is a concern, but this a pilot program and nothing in place to make a grade one Nature Program.</p>		
<p>10. Executive Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board meeting –Georgina Tran– Jim's report at board meeting was he was having a good day • Bus Transportation reports-no reports of issues, but the story is different from other persons 		

<p>11. New Business</p> <p>a. Draft Policy and Regulations for review-on and about volunteers in schools-being put off until Feb. 2012- Stephanie L. to email information to group Comment- new changes been made to criminal record checks, random finger printing being done etc.</p> <p>b. Island DPAC Association- Victoria DPAC is working towards getting an Island DPAC Association that wouldn't make decisions but to share information and ideas, would be by electronic communication, A network of DPAC- any thoughts or ideas, share with Stephanie L. Comment-thought this would eliminate BCCPAC as the middle man and be able to go to Minister ourselves-not a lobby group, only sharing information at this point-don't want to create another political level</p>		Stephanie L.
<p>Next meeting will be held on December 14, 2011 at The School Board Office – 7pm</p>		
<p>12. Meeting adjourned at 9:30p (Dunsmuir/Savory)</p>	Carried	