

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48 (SEA TO SKY)

Special Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 28th, 2011
School Board Office
Squamish, BC

MINUTES
11-09-28 BM-O

Present: Rick Price, Chairperson
Andrea Beaubien, Vice Chairperson
Rebecca Barley, Trustee
Christine Buttkus, Trustee
Laura Godfrey, Trustee
Chris Vernon-Jarvis, Trustee
Dave Walden, Trustee
Dallas Cristofoli, Superintendent of Schools
John Hetherington, Secretary-Treasurer
Linda Arnold, Executive Assistant
Beth Miller, President, SSTA
Shannon Schaefer, President, CUPE
Lori Arneson, DPAC
Rebecca Aldous, Reporter, Squamish Chief

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm.

1. **AGENDA**

MOVED/SECONDED **“THAT the agenda of this meeting be adopted.”**
CARRIED

2. **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT ON THE ORGANIZATION OF CLASSES**

MOVED/SECONDED **“THAT the Board acknowledge submission of the Superintendent’s Report on the Organization of Classes pursuant to S.76.3 (6) of the School Act.”**
CARRIED

Oct.12
Agenda

- Dallas Cristofoli reviewed the Superintendent’s Report for the information of those in the audience. She noted that the School Act requires that on or before October 1st, the Superintendent must submit a report on the organization of classes in the School District. By October 15th it must be accepted by the Board and sent to the Ministry.
- She noted that data is based on last Wednesday’s information and that the organization of classes is in compliance with class size provisions except for three classes at Signal Hill Elementary.
- Chair Price thanked Interim Superintendent Cristofoli for all her work during the school start-up.

3. **DISCUSSION OF FUNDING ALLOCATION SYSTEM**

- John Hetherington informed the Board that BCSTA has asked Boards of Education to provide input on the funding formula for allocating Operating grants, including suggestions for change. A Representative Committee will be formed to review the input received from Boards and will refer suggestions to the Ministry.
- Mr. Hetherington noted that the purpose of this discussion was to review the

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Input
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BCSTA

formula used to allocate the grants not the amount of funding that is available.

- Trustee Beaubien commented that as Kindergarten is now at full day perhaps it should be funded at more than 1.0 due to additional costs involved.
- John suggested that the Funding Protection Grant may be an item to be reviewed. The Grant provides that no district will receive less than it did last year even if the school enrollment decreases.
- Trustee Vernon-Jarvis noted that a district would still have the same overhead and expenses regardless of the decrease in population. John suggested that perhaps every district should get a base grant to apply to a certain level of overhead required for schools that isn't recognized in any of the formulas.
- Trustee Beaubien queried the costs of a student challenging a course. John answered that the Government funds a successful challenge at \$200.

4. **QUESTIONS OF CLARIFICATION FROM THE PUBLIC**

- Beth Miller commented regarding the classes at one particular school that the Superintendent stated are not appropriate for student learning; does the Board now have to act to change this immediately.
- John Hetherington replied that the School Act says that on or before October 15th the Board must accept the Report or advise the Superintendent to revise the Report. The information regarding student numbers changes from day to day and the last collection of data was September 20th. First the district needs to confirm that these are Bill 33 students, and then it must confirm the number of actual students in the class. The Superintendent can then adjust classes so that in her estimation they are appropriate for student learning.
- Beth stated that as of last Friday she had heard that there are actually 4 classes that exceed the limits. Dallas Cristofoli replied that the report was frozen last Wednesday so there would be another consultation before the October Board meeting.
- Mr. Hetherington stated that this Friday is the snapshot date for funding for this year and that will provide us with a clear picture.
- Ms. Miller asked whether there are any classes over 30 students at the elementary level and Ms. Cristofoli replied there were none at all.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED/SECONDED

“THAT the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 245 pm.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer