

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48 (HOWE SOUND)

Minutes of a Special Board Meeting No. 737 held on Monday, October 31, 2005 at Myrtle Philip Community School in Whistler. The meeting commenced at 10:05 a.m.

Present Doug Hackett, Chairperson  
Judy Bourhis, Trustee  
Don Brett, Trustee  
Andree Janyk, Trustee  
Mike Milner, Trustee  
Constance Rulka, Trustee  
Rick Erickson, Superintendent of Schools  
Nancy Edwards, Secretary-Treasurer  
Gerri Galloway, Social Responsibility Coordinator  
Margaret Paxton, Literacy Coordinator  
Alex Marshall, Director of Instruction  
Pius Ryan, Director of Instruction  
Ron Albertin, Principal, Myrtle Philip Community School  
Cathy Jewett, DPAC Chairperson

1 **AGENDA**  
BOURHIS/MILNER "THAT the agenda of this meeting be approved." CARRIED

2 **MINUTES**  
MILNER/BRETT "THAT the minutes of Board Meeting No. 736 held Wednesday, October 12, 2005 be adopted." CARRIED

3. **ACTION ITEMS**

i) **Student Achievement Committee - October 26, 2005 - Recommendation District Accountability Contract**

Rick Erickson, Superintendent noted that the District Accountability Contract must be developed each year and submitted by October 31<sup>st</sup> to the Ministry of Education. Staff would like to see more participation/consultation with others such as parents, staff, and community. Therefore the draft presented today will be revised as necessary throughout the year and the revised documents will be submitted to the Ministry of Education. Gerri Galloway, Social Responsibility Coordinator, Margaret Paxton, Literacy Coordinator, Alex Marshall, Director of Instruction, and Pius Ryan, Director of Instruction reviewed the various sections of the draft District Accountability Contract. The contract was also reviewed in detail by the Student Achievement Committee on October 26, 2005.

Doug Hackett, Chairperson thanked staff for their work in developing this District Accountability Contract.

Cathy Jewett, DPAC Chair asked a number of questions about the contents of the document. She also suggested including the number or percentage of student participating in school sponsored extra-curricular activities. She expressed concern that there is an erosion of extra curricular activities taking place and that a number of these activities are undertaken by parent volunteers who are in danger of experiencing burn out.

JANYK/MILNER "THAT the Board approve the District Accountability Contract as presented." CARRIED

ii) **Literacy Program – Myrtle Philip Community School**

Ron Albertin and Amy Cassidy, Literacy Teacher Assistant gave an overview of the Literacy Program in place at Myrtle Philip Community School. Principal Ron Albertin expressed appreciation for staff and volunteers who are making this program a great success at the school.

iii) **BCSTA - Regarding Ministry of Education's New Mandate**

The Board reviewed the letter from Penny Tees, BCSTA President, seeking the input of Boards on the New Mandate for School Boards as outlined by Deputy Minister Emery Dodsall. The BCSTA Provincial Council is suggesting:

1. School Boards welcome an enhanced role in the partnership with the Ministry of Education.
2. Any changes to the role of school boards should re-affirm local autonomy.
3. Any new responsibilities for school boards will require appropriate funding so as not to impede their ability to continue improving student achievement from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

The Board discussed the possible implications for school districts of this changed mandate and they would like the Ministry of Education to know they want to be part of the discussion. Once all the factors are known, the Board will determine whether they are in favour of the concept.

The Board needs to:

- look at what the model looks like;
- assess the resources required;
- and then advise the Minister of Education what financial and/or other resources are required to ensure that this new mandate is fully funded.

JANYK/BRETT            **“THAT a draft letter, as suggested by Penny Tees, be presented for consideration at the regular Board meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup> 2005.”**  
CARRIED

iv) **Motion of Support Requested from the HSTA**

JANYK/BRETT            **“THAT the Board send a letter to the Minister of Education advising:**

- that the Board of School Trustees for School District No. 48 (Howe Sound) is pleased to have taken a leadership role in ensuring that quality education is delivered for all students in our district;
- we acknowledge that the Ministry of Education has provided funding for 2005/06 in order for the School District to meet this mandate.

Therefore the Board requests that funding for 2005/06 be retained in full, in the district,

And further that if this funding is to be reduced, the District would like to be advised how the learners in School District No. 48 will benefit from funding being retained by the Ministry of Education.”

CARRIED

4. **ITEMS BROUGHT OUT OF IN CAMERA**

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

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

BOURHIS /            **“THAT the meeting be adjourned.”**

Meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary-Treasurer