

Minutes of Board Meeting No. 776 held Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> 2007 at the School Board Office. The meeting commenced at 6:00 pm.

Present:

Dave Walden, Chairperson  
Rick Price, Vice-Chairperson  
Andrea Beaubien, Trustee  
Lyle Fenton, Trustee  
Andrée Janyk, Trustee  
Mike Milner, Trustee  
Chris Vernon-Jarvis, Trustee  
Nancy Edwards, Secretary-Treasurer  
Rick Erickson, Superintendent of Schools  
Myrna MacRae, Executive Assistant  
Diane Kokubun, Teacher, HSS  
Diane Gould, Parent  
Laura Flynn, Teacher  
Linda Firbank, Teacher  
Paul Demers, Teacher  
Sara Price, Teacher  
Whitney Franklin, Teacher  
Carl Walker, Teacher  
Nancy Campbell, Principal  
Carolyn McDougall, Teacher  
Dorothy Gregg, CUPE Local 779  
Terrill Patterson, Member of the Public  
Dawn Lecky, Parent

Nancy Edwards advised that she would act as Chairperson until the election was complete.

1 **AGENDA**

**“THAT the agenda of this meeting be approved.”**

CARRIED

2, **Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

Nancy Edwards explained the election procedure for the positions of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

**Election of Chairperson**

Nominations for Chairperson were received by ballot. Dave Walden was the only Trustee nominated for the position of Chairperson. Mr. Walden accepted the nomination and was declared elected by acclamation.

Trustee Dave Walden assumed the position of Chairperson.

**Election of Vice-Chair Person**

Nominations for Vice-Chairperson were received by ballot. Rick Price

was the only Trustee nominated for the position of Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Price accepted the nomination and was declared elected by acclamation.

3. **MINUTES**

A. **“THAT the minutes of Board Meeting No. 775 held Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> 2007 be adopted.”**

CARRIED

B. **“THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> 2007 be adopted as amended.”**

CARRIED

C. **“THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> 2007 be adopted as amended.”**

CARRIED

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. **CHAIRPERSON’S REMARKS:**

- Seasons Greetings was extended to staff, students, parents and fellow Trustees
- School Christmas Concerts – Everyone was encouraged to attend the school Christmas concerts and other activities taking place in December.
- International student assessments – The comparison of BC student performances against other provinces and countries were reviewed noting that BC assessments were very good in many areas.

B. **SUPERINTENDENT’S REMARKS**

- Late French Immersion (Gr. 5, 6, 7) 2008-2009 Update - As a result of the large enrolment at Mamquam Elementary School the district will be looking at other schools for late French Immersion programs. Information will be provided to parents in January with registration taking place in February. Registration for a late French Immersion Program will also take place in Pemberton in February. If there are sufficient students the program will commence in 2008/09.
- SFU Cohort – Professional Learning – The first group of 32 teachers will be graduating later this spring with a new group set to start soon. Teachers appreciate the opportunity of having the instructor coming to Squamish rather than having to travel to Vancouver for their courses.

C. **SECRETARY-TREASURER’S REMARKS**

- Funding 2007/08 – The school district has not yet received

the final funding information for 2007/08 from the Ministry of Education. The change in the method of calculation of part time secondary students has staff concerned about the impact on funding. A Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled as soon as the information is received from the Ministry of Education.

#### 4. **RECEIVING DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

##### A. Howe Sound Teachers' Association

A delegation of teachers from Howe Sound Secondary School provided information and examples of the impact the level of funding and lack of resources is having on their school. Some of the concerns raised included:

##### International Education

- Challenges with the international education program with the continuous arrival of international students.
- The large increase in the number of international students in the school at the senior level has resulted in a very high percentage of international students in each class.
- Difficulty in teaching to a broad variety of skill levels in academic classes.
- Lack of English language skills of International students in some of the senior courses.
- Lack of consultation with school on acceptance of international students.
- Large numbers of students from one country has created problems among the students.
- Lack of ESL support for classroom teachers.
- Entrance requirements for international students need to be reviewed.

##### Alternate Education

- Concern that the alternate school was split into two isolated classes several years ago.
- The current reorganization of a district alternate program is long overdue as there has been a large increase in the number of at-risk youth requiring alternate education
- Reduction in the number of staff for alternate education and elimination of behaviour resource teachers and teacher assistants at both secondary schools in Squamish.

##### General Instruction

- An increase in the number of "grey area" students who do not receive extra funding but require extra services.
- The cumulative affect of these and many other factors is difficult for teachers and they need more resources.
- Large increase in educational administration staff at the district level.
- There are too many district programs when there should be more teachers in the schools.
- While the district programs may have been created to help teachers in the classroom many teachers are unable to participate in the extra Pro-D activities due to their workload.

- Reductions in the number of teacher-librarians.
- A copy of the report Howe Sound School Library Situation was distributed to Trustees. The delegation answered questions from the Trustees. The board will consider the comments provided by the group at a future meeting.

5. **BUSINESS ARISING**

- A. From the Committee of the Whole Meeting November 14, 2007
- i) **“THAT Eric Jones be asked to provide his recommendations as to how the school district can most effectively contribute to the physical health of its students.”**  
CARRIED
  - ii) **“THAT the Board support unpaid leaves of absence for employees to volunteer at World Cup events up until 2010, subject to educational and operational needs being met.”**  
CARRIED
  - iii) **“THAT the Board provide Christmas lunches for employees at the schools/workplaces with one Trustee hosting each event, and further that a card signed on behalf of the Board members be included.”**  
CARRIED
- B. From the Committee of the Whole Meeting November 28, 2007
- i) **“THAT the November 14 2007 motion be corrected to read: THAT the Board provide a tuition free educational program to adult graduates *enrolled in School District 48’s Distributed Learning Program*, consistent with the three stages announced by the Ministry of Education in September 2007.”**  
CARRIED
  - ii) **“THAT the November 14 2007 motion be corrected to read: THAT the Board approve the Locally Developed Courses for the 2008-09 school year.”**  
CARRIED
  - iii) **“THAT senior staff contact VANOC and clarify their interest and proposal for the rental of School District 48 secondary schools during the 2010 Olympics.”**  
CARRIED

## 6. ACTION ITEMS

- i) Superintendent's Report to the Board of Education – Re: Student Achievement

**“THAT the Board receive the Superintendent's report on student learning achievements dated December 2007.”**

CARRIED

The Superintendent's Report to the Board of Education on Student Achievement will be discussed at the January 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting and then distributed to partner groups. Final approval is expected on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

- ii) Request to Place Christmas Tree at Signal Hill Elementary School

**THAT the Board approve the request from the Village of Pemberton to plant a Christmas tree on the Signal Hill Elementary School grounds, subject to the appropriate paperwork and insurance being provided.”**

CARRIED

**THAT staff investigate to determine who is responsible for placing the manger on the Signal Hill Elementary School grounds and encourage them to relocate the structure to an alternate site in Pemberton.**

CARRIED

## 7. TRUSTEE ITEMS

- i) BC School Sports - *A. Janyk*  
Andrée Janyk reported that the BC School Sports Association made a presentation to the fall Council Meeting of Ministers and made a point of recognizing the importance of teachers and volunteers as coaches for school teams.

The fundraising for health care facilities and equipment in the corridor was discussed at a recent meeting of the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority attended by Andrée Janyk. There was a concern that community groups are given estimates of costs for projects and once the fundraising is complete the costs have escalated and the projects are unable proceed without additional funds.

Trustee Beaubien announced that a coalition of Squamish area PACs are bringing mathematician John Mighton to speak to parents on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Everyone was encouraged to attend.

## 8. COMMITTEES

- A. Finance Committee – The meeting was cancelled.

B. Policy Committee

- i) Business Arising from the Policy Committee Meeting held December 10th 2007

Policy, Regulation and Administrative Procedure 504.9-  
Anaphylaxis

**“THAT Policy, Regulation and Administrative Procedure 504.9-  
Anaphylaxis be adopted.”**

CARRIED

- ii) Policy 504.10 Schools: Healthy Living

**“THAT Policy 504.10 – Schools Healthy: Living be given first and second reading and proceed through the Policy Impact Process.”**

CARRIED

- iii) Policy 504.11 Healthy Living

**“THAT Policy 504.11 – Schools: Healthy Living: Physical Activity be given first and second reading and proceed through the Policy Impact Process.”**

CARRIED

The remaining items from the Policy Committee will be placed on the next public meeting agenda.

9. **BYLAWS & POLICIES**

- i) Policy 302.4 Principal/Vice-Principal Recruitment  
Rick Erickson recommended removing the requirement for a Masters Degree in the criteria for a Principal/Vice-Principal in Regulation 302.4 by stating that it was desirable, not essential.

**“THAT Regulation 302.4 Standard Practice for Principal/Vice-Principal Recruitment be adopted as amended.”**

CARRIED

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

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

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

“THAT the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 745 pm

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Chairperson

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Secretary-Treasurer