

School District No. 48 (Howe Sound)

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting No. 795 held Wednesday, October 8, 2008 at the School Board Office. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

Present: Dave Walden, Chairperson
Rick Price, Vice-Chair
Andrea Beaubien, Trustee
Lyle Fenton, Trustee
Mike Milner, Trustee
Chris Vernon-Jarvis, Trustee
Andree Janyk, Trustee
Rick Erickson, Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Edwards, Secretary-Treasurer
Magy Odorfer, District Principal
Trish Farina, Executive Assistant
Crystal Shostak, RCMP Liaison Officer
John Hall, President, HSTA
Terrill Patterson

DRAFT

1. AGENDA

“THAT the amended agenda with the addition under Action Items - Organization of Classes Report – September 23, 2008 of this meeting be approved.”

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

A. Recommendation: **“THAT the minutes of Board Meeting No. 793 held Wednesday, September 10th 2008 be adopted.”**

CARRIED

B. **“THAT the minutes of Board Meeting No. 794 held Wednesday, September 24th 2008 be adopted.”**

CARRIED

C. **“THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held Wednesday, September 10th 2008 be received.”**

CARRIED

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. CHAIRPERSON’S REMARKS

- Board Goals
Dave Walden responded that the Board has been working with a consultant, Robin Brayne on the direction the Board can take to be more effective with the demands of an increasingly tight budget and timelines. The Board has met with the consultant – on June 26th & 27th for a two day work session and then again on September 17th. The Board will be inviting principals to attend

their next meeting.

- Ministry of Education
Dave Walden informed the Board that a response letter from the Honourable Shirley Bond had been received regarding the School Districts demands on tight budgets.

B. SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS

- District ProD – September 12, 2008
Rick Erickson, Superintendent of Schools reported that the District Pro-D that was held at Whistler Secondary was an excellent day. The Pro-D theme – “Reaching & Teaching Youth in Today’s World” was well attended and the presenter and panel speakers were great. Superintendent Erickson thanked Magy Odorfer, District Principal for the role she took in ensuring that the day was successful.
- Emergency Preparedness
Rick Erickson, Superintendent of Schools reported that Gerri Galloway, Principal of Spring Creek Community School is also the coordinator of the District’s Emergency Preparedness program.
- Technology Planning
Rick Erickson, Superintendent of Schools reported that he will be discussing the forming of a technology committee to help facilitate the use of technology as an instrument for instruction.
- Inter-school Volleyball – Secondary
Rick Erickson, Superintendent of Schools reported that Ryan Massey, Vice Principal of Don Ross Secondary School made a presentation to the Board in September regarding the creation of a Howe Sound School District Sports Association. Rick Erickson updated the Board that the inter-school volleyball games have now begun with many positive comments from parents.
- BCeSIS
(BC electronic Student Information System) is the common student information system for the Province of BC. The development and implementation of BCeSIS is a collaborative effort between BC school districts and the Ministry of Education. BCeSIS has been implemented in all SD48 schools. BCeSIS provides access to a central student registry and permanent student record. When all the challenges have been worked out – BCeSIS will provide parents, teachers, principals, planning councils and educational leaders with an efficient, internet accessible tool to manage student information and make informed educational decisions.

C. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REMARKS

- Transportation – Kids on the Go – update
Staff recently heard back from the RMOW and they would like to enter into an agreement for the 2008/09 school year. The agreement will provide transportation for the Kids on the Go after school daycare program starting in November and running until the end of this school year. The RMOW has expressed an interest in looking at this as a Pilot Project. Further discussions will be held with the RMOW to advise them that the student rider ship changes each September and therefore the RMOW can not assume

we can provide transportation for the – Kids on the Go after school day care program on an ongoing basis. The matter would need to be re-considered each Fall after we know what our rider ship on that particular route will be.

- Closure of classrooms
Due to declining enrollment projections some elementary classrooms were closed and custodial staff levels were cut. Enrolment numbers have now been finalized and an increase in student numbers at the elementary level has created a surplus that will allow for the re-hiring of some custodial positions.
- Petition regarding bussing in Pemberton
A petition to reinstate the bus route in the Lower Pemberton Valley was received by the Board. The petition requested that the Board re-instate the bus route in the Lower Pemberton Valley. The Board considered the petition and the information provided and they passed the following motion:

Recommendation:

“THAT additional stops for courtesy riders be implemented on the Upper Valley school bus route at each end of Taylor Road and Pemberton Meadows Road, effective Tuesday, October 14th and further that these stops be in place for the 2008/09 school year and be subject to review if over crowding on the bus becomes an issue.”

Advise schools

CARRIED

4. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2008**

- A. Response - Presentation on September 10th by Ryan Massey, Athletic Co-ordinator
- Item has been deferred until after the Finance Committee has developed recommendations with respect to allocation of 2007/08 surplus.

5. **ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Organization of Classes Report, September 23, 2008
Rick Erickson, Superintendent of Schools presented the Board with the (Class Size) Organization of Classes Report. As of September 23, 2008, there are 11 classes in grades 8 to 12 that have more than 30 students.

Recommendation:

“THAT the Board receive and approve the Superintendent’s, “Organization of Classes Report – September 23, 2008”.

CARRIED

6. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A. RCMP Liaison Officer - Update
Constable Crystal Shostak, RCMP Liaison Officer met with the Board to update them on her first month in the newly created position.
- Response at Howe Sound Secondary School was initially “What are you doing here”. Students seemed shocked and surprised to see Constable Shostak at the school. Crystal reported that now

students are engaging her in conversation and are not displaying their initial surprise at her presence in the school.

- Crystal has visited all Squamish schools and made her presence know as School Liaison Officer.
- Crystal reported that she was introduced to a group of international students who felt unsure with a police officer being in the school. Many of these students came from countries where the police are feared. Crystal decided to take these students to the RCMP detachment for a tour and then she visited HSS another time to show the international students the RCMP original Red Surge uniform.
- Teachers have reported to Crystal that they have notice less drug related behaviour in the school and their classrooms.
- All the students at the smoke pit know who Crystal is and vice versa.
- There will be an event planned related to drugs – “What I’m taking into my body”.
- A wall will be made available for Grad painted messages this year to hopefully cut down on graffiti damage in town around the time of grad.
- Crystal works Monday to Friday in the schools or dealing with related youth issues.

7. **COMMITTEES**

A. Finance Committee Notes of September 10, 2008

“That the Notes of the Finance Committee Meeting held September 10th, 2008 be received.”

CARRIED

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

Nil

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

John Hall, President of HSTA asked about specialty classes i.e. Band, PE as related to class size. He also asked a question related to BCeSIS regarding teachers being required to sign a User License Agreement. Magy Odorfer will look into this and get back to John Hall.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

“THAT the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer