

MINUTES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE PUBLIC MEETING Spencer Middle School 1026 Goldstream Avenue May 10, 2017 – 7:15 p.m.

TRUSTEES:	Bob Phillips, Board Chair	Dianna Seaton, Board Vice-Chair
	Wendy Hobbs	Ravi Parmar
	Neil Poirier	Denise Riley
	Margot Swinburnson	
STAFF:	Jim Cambridge, Superintendent	
	Harold Cull, Secretary-Treasurer	
	Paul Block, Assistant Superintendent	
	Dave Strange, Assistant Superintendent	
	Dan Haley, Executive Director, Human Resources	
SECRETARY:	Joanne Kimm	

There were 10 members of the public in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIRST NATIONS TERRITORIES

The meeting was called to order at 7:18 p.m. Bob Phillips and Ravi Parmar acknowledged the traditional territories of the First Nations.

PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS (15 minutes each)

Welcome – Terry Honer, Principal

Terry welcomed the public to the meeting. He announced that staff and students attended a life service for Cathie Wright, who dedicated over 40 years of service to the District. He introduced Jen Nixon, Vice-Principal, who presented a slideshow featuring an organization called *Education is Power*. The organization links students via skype from Canada with students from Kenya, Tanzania. Students from Spencer are heavily involved with the program.

District Presentation: SD62 Teenwork Pilot Project – Dave Strange/Krista Nakatsuka/Sarah Leswal

Dave introduced Sarah and Krista, who presented information regarding the TeenWork Employment Initiative. The program supports teens aged 15-19, with disabilities, entering the workforce after high school. The presentation indicated that 15% of BC's population live with a disability, and 25% fewer people with disabilities gain meaningful employment than those who do not have a disability. High schools have not been able to consistently support students with disabilities with work experience opportunities. Teenwork has been assisting students since 2009.

Sooke Rotary Presentation – Margot Swinburnson

Margot Swinburnson indicated that the Sooke Rotary group would like to present \$2,500 for literacy supplies. John Muir will be getting \$502 (for supplies and to assist with the school's garden); the other schools in Sooke will each be receiving \$280.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

2017/18 Public Budget Series – Harold Cull

The budget timelines were presented to the public. The deadline to submit the budget to the Ministry is June 30, 2017. The Board will hold second and third readings of the budget bylaw on June 13, 2017, a slight change from the previous anticipated date of May 23 due to the Classroom Enhancement Fund (CEF) submission to the Ministry. An overview of the CEF was provided. The estimated capital needs was submitted to the Ministry on April 28; the estimated operating needs was submitted on May 4; and the estimated overhead needs was submitted on May 9. There is a tight timeline to ensure that schools have enough space for students and additional teachers in September. The expectation is that the CEF will be fully funded by government.

The budget was calculated assuming the CEF is fully funded. The District continues to grow (revenues are up by approximately \$4 million); however, there is a large amount of expenditures which will offset revenues (approximately \$4 million). The rest of the budget will remain a "status quo" budget.

The Budget Management Team will continue to meet. Public budget updates will continue at the May 23 Board and June 13 ECOW meetings. The Board will be requested to review and accept the first reading of the budget bylaw on May 23, with second and third readings on June 13.

Disposition of Metchosin School Site – Harold Cull

The Board was presented with the proposal to dispose of the Metchosin School site. The Board had determined that the site is not required for educational purposes. Utility costs alone are greater than the rental revenue. The Board has a large capital ask through the Ministry of Education. Additional restricted capital is required to support the capital ask. Board policy requires public consultation. In order to dispose of the property, the Board must do so through a bylaw. Disposal of the site must be done through a formal process and fair market value.

It was noted that the public has provided Trustees with feedback on the potential disposal of the site. There were approximately 10 responses received from the public meeting on April 25 and the advertisements in the Goldstream Gazette on April 12 and 14.. The majority of the feedback indicated that the public would like to see "status quo" (art and public use). It was noted that Metchosin Arts Council and Cultural Association held a public meeting to discuss future use of the site. A draft business proposal was shared with the District. Another proposal was to re-build the site as a school. However, the growth in that area is not large enough to warrant re-opening or re-building the school.

A member of the public enquired as to the appraised value. The site was appraised at approximately \$1.6 to \$1.7 million.

The zoning of the site was discussed. The District of Metchosin may not be open to re-zoning the site if another use is proposed for it. This could pose challenges for potential buyers.

It was discussed that while the Board is sympathetic to the community, it needs to raise Capital funds in order to acquire new school land to build schools. As growth in Metchosin has mainly been seniors, the site is no longer viable for a School District 62 school.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Certified Correct:

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer