

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 36 (SURREY) HELD IN THE CITY OF SURREY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th, 2006 AT 7:30 P.M.

IN ATTENDANCE

Trustees

P. Glass, Acting Chairperson
T. Allen
W. Jefferson
L. McNally
H. Stilwell

Staff

P. D. Drescher, Deputy Superintendent
P. Dundas, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
L. McCuaig, Administrative Assistant

Absent

S. Wilson, Chairperson
R. Masi

[1] **CALL TO ORDER**

Acting Chairperson Glass called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Presenters & Staff:

In addition to the Table Officers named above, the following presenters and staff were in attendance at the meeting:

Kelly Thomson, Director, Fiscal Management Services; Linda Gertz, Assistant Manager, Fiscal Planning & External Reporting; Kerry Magnus, Associate Director, Business Management Services; John Ormond, Assistant Superintendent; Angie Smith, Administrative Secretary; and Phil Snobelen, Partner, Grant Thornton LLP.

(a) **"O Canada"**

Trustees, Administration and the audience sang "O Canada".

Chairperson's Announcements:

Acting Chairperson Glass advised that Chairperson Wilson was not present at the meeting due to illness. Superintendent McKay and Secretary-Treasurer Noye were not present at the meeting as they were on school district business.

(b) Approval of Agenda of Regular Board Meeting

Acting Chairperson Glass requested that item 3(f) *Transportation Committee Report (verbal)*, be added to the agenda.

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Allen:

THAT the agenda of the Regular Board meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED

[2] **DELEGATIONS**

(a) Delegation: Cathy Bach, Chairperson, 2812 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps, Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, re: Facility Rental Costs

Phil Kirby, represented the 2812 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps Parent Sponsoring Committee and provided Trustees with background information on cadet parents' request for the facility rental fees they currently pay for the use of school district facilities to be waived.

The National Cadet Program is free to all with the Department of National Defense (DND) providing the salaries and training of the officers as well as the cadet dress uniform, the summer kit and camps. DND also allows the corps the free use of their facilities for meetings; however there is not a DND facility in Surrey.

The Parents' Sponsoring Committee Society is therefore responsible to provide a place for the corps to meet. They conduct fundraising events to obtain funds to pay for their meeting space and storage requirements as well as equipment and transportation costs for the program.

The delegation indicated that the Parents' Sponsoring Committee Society believes the rent paid to the Board reduces the quality of the cadet program they provide to the youth of Surrey.

The delegation is requesting that the facility rental costs be waived for the cadet meeting places provided by the Board.

The Acting Chairperson thanked the delegation and advised that a response would be provided at the next Regular Board meeting.

[3] **ACTION ITEMS**

- (a) Adoption of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting Held 2006-06-29 and Special (Open) Board Meeting Held 2006-08-04

It was moved by Trustee Allen, seconded by Trustee Jefferson:

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held 2006-06-29 and Special (Open) Board meeting held 2006-08-04 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

- (b) Capital Project Bylaw No. 115542 – New Seventy-two Passenger Bus

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Stilwell:

THAT Capital Project Bylaw No. 115542 be given three (3) readings at this meeting.

CARRIED

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Jefferson:

THAT Capital Project Bylaw No. 115542 be approved as read a first time.

CARRIED

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Stilwell:

THAT Capital Project Bylaw No. 115542 be approved as read a second time.

CARRIED

It was moved by Trustee Stilwell, seconded by Trustee Allen:

THAT Capital Project Bylaw No. 115542 be approved as read a third time and finally adopted.

CARRIED

- (c) Capital Project Bylaw No. 115543 – Replacement of Two Seventy-two Passenger Busses – Bus #2842 and Bus #2843

It was moved by Trustee Jefferson, seconded by Trustee McNally:

THAT Capital Project Bylaw No. 115543 be given three (3) readings at this meeting.

CARRIED

It was moved by Trustee Allen, seconded by Trustee Stilwell:

THAT Capital Project Bylaw No. 115543 be approved as read a first time.

CARRIED

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Jefferson:

THAT Capital Project Bylaw No. 115543 be approved as read a second time.

CARRIED

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Allen:

THAT Capital Project Bylaw No. 115543 be approved as read a third time and finally adopted.

CARRIED

(d) Declaration of October 5, 2006 – “World Teachers’ Day”

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Jefferson:

THAT the Board declare October 5th, 2006 as “World Teachers’ Day” and acknowledge the significant contribution our teachers make in keeping our learners at the centre.

CARRIED

(e) Audited Financial Statements and Auditors’ Report for the Year Ended 2006-06-30

Patti Dundas, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Kelly Thomson, Director, Fiscal Management Services and the Board’s auditor, Phil Snobelen, Partner, Grant Thornton, provided Trustees with information regarding the Audited Financial Statements and Auditors’ Report for the Year Ended 2006-06-30.

It was moved by Trustee Jefferson, seconded by Trustee Allen:

THAT the Audited Financial Statements and Auditors’ Report for the fiscal year ended 2006-06-30 be accepted and submitted to the Ministry of Education.

CARRIED

(f) Transportation Committee Report

Trustee McNally provided a verbal report on the 2006-09-27 Transportation Committee meeting and requested the Board's ratification of the Committee's decisions on the following two transportation requests.

- (i) Kevin Finn is an out of catchment, grade 8 student enrolled at Guildford Park Secondary School. His mother, Mrs. Melody Coulter, requested that transportation to and from Guildford Park Secondary School be provided to Kevin by the Board as she believes he is a special needs student and requires assistance.

The district does not have a regular bus to Guildford Park Secondary or a route that would enable students to be transported to that school.

Student Support Services has reviewed this request and advised that Kevin does not meet the criteria for special needs transportation,

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Allen:

THAT Board Policy #5400 - *Pupil Transportation*, be upheld and Mrs. Coulter be advised that her request cannot be accommodated as Kevin Finn does not qualify for special needs transportation; the Board also does not provide transportation services to out of catchment students; and the school district does not have a bus route or schedule that could provide transportation to/from Guildford Park Secondary School.

CARRIED

- (ii) Shannon and Marylynn Permal are students at Dr. F. D. Sinclair Elementary. Their mother, Mrs. Meena Permal, usually drives them to and from school. However, she has been unable to drive her children to/from school this school year as a result of injuries she sustained in a car accident in August 2006. Family members have been driving the students to school, but are not always available to provide transportation. Mrs. Permal's lawyer has made a request on her behalf that the Board provide transportation for Shannon and Marylynn Permal.

The district does not have a regular bus to Dr. F. D. Sinclair Elementary or a route that would enable students to be transported to that school.

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Allen:

THAT Board Policy #5400 - *Pupil Transportation*, be upheld and Mrs. Permal be advised that her request for Shannon and Marylynn Permal to be transported to/from Dr. F. D. Sinclair Elementary School, cannot be accommodated as the school district does not have a bus route or schedule that could provide transportation to/from Dr. F. D. Sinclair Elementary School.

CARRIED

[4] **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

(a) Trustee Reports

Trustees reported on their recent activities.

(b) Notice of Motion, Trustee W. Jefferson, re: Declaration of November 1, 2006 – “Take Our Kids to Work” Day

Trustee Jefferson provided Trustees with information regarding the 2006-11-01 “Take Our Kids to Work” Day and presented a Notice of Motion for information.

It was moved by Trustee Stilwell, seconded by Trustee McNally:

THAT the Board give formal consideration to the *Notice of Motion, Trustee W. Jefferson, Re: Declaration of November 1, 2006 – “Take Our Kids to Work” Day*, at the 2006-09-28 Regular meeting.

CARRIED

It was moved by Trustee Jefferson, seconded by Trustee Allen:

THAT WHEREAS the “Take Our Kids to Work” program sponsored by The Learning Partnership, brings together business people, education and community leaders who are committed to creating challenging learning and career opportunities for young people in Grade 9; and

WHEREAS this project will show students through direct experiences, just how important skills, training and education are to their success; and

WHEREAS substantive curriculum materials have been written for in-class projects and assignments to support the day and make the experience more meaningful for the students, including the Workplace Guide which is also available to assist participating workplaces in preparing a positive experience for employees and their guests; and

WHEREAS the success of the day is contingent on the level of participation by the students, parents, teachers and employers in bringing to reality the experience of an average work day.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT the Board declare November 1, 2006 as "Take Our Kids to Work" day and publicize the event throughout the school district by reminding staff, parents, students and the business community of the benefit to our Grade 9 students afforded by supporting the various activities during this special day.

CARRIED

- (c) Notice of Motion, Trustee H. Stilwell, re: Clarification from Minister of Education on Parental Rights for Students Opting Out of Classes

Trustee Stilwell provided Trustees with a notice of motion that would request clarification from the Minister of Education on parental rights for students opting out of classes, for information. This matter will be brought to the next Regular Board meeting for formal consideration.

- (d) Grad Portfolio Update

Peter Drescher, Deputy Superintendent, provided Trustees with updated information regarding graduation portfolios.

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Stilwell:

THAT the Board Chairperson be directed to write the Minister of Education explaining the difficulties the review timelines for the graduation portfolios will create for school district staff and students and request a decision on the issue before the end of this calendar year.

CARRIED

- (e) Progress Report – Active Capital Projects

Trustees received a progress report regarding active capital projects.

(f) Class Organization Status Report

Peter Drescher, Deputy Superintendent, provided Trustees with a verbal report on the status of class organization in the district. This topic will be a monthly agenda item as required by Bill 33.

(g) Incoming Correspondence

There were no correspondence items requiring Trustees' attention.

[5] **FUTURE BUSINESS**

(a) Items for Future Discussion

Trustees made note of topics requiring discussion by the Board in the future on the agenda administrative memorandum schedule.

(b) Future Meetings

Trustees made note of future meetings outlined on the agenda administrative memorandum schedule.

[6] **QUESTION PERIOD**

An informal question period of up to 30 minutes will be provided immediately following the conclusion of the meeting.

[7] **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Trustee McNally, seconded by Trustee Jefferson:

THAT the Regular meeting of the Board be adjourned at 8:25 p.m.
CARRIED

P. Glass
Acting Chairperson

P. Dundas
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer