

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 36 (SURREY) HELD IN THE CITY OF SURREY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th, 2008 AT 7:30 P.M.

IN ATTENDANCE

Trustees

R. Masi, Chairperson
W. Jefferson, Vice Chairperson
T. Allen
P. Glass
L. McNally
H. Stilwell
S. Wilson

Staff

M.A. McKay, Superintendent
W.D. Noye, Secretary-Treasurer
P.B. Drescher, Deputy Superintendent
L. McCuaig, Administrative Assistant

[1] **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Masi 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:

Simon Ayres, Associate Director, Fiscal Management Services; Lisa Baker, Librarian, Lena Shaw Elementary; Dr. Elisa Carlson, Principal, Lena Shaw Elementary; Leslie Clark, Manager, Chapters; Bob Coventry, Assistant Superintendent; Donna Diskos, Principal, Grant Thornton LLP; Patti Dundas, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer; Linda Gertz, Assistant Manager, Fiscal Management Services; Alan Jones, Assistant Superintendent; Lisa Matkovic, Teacher, Lena Shaw Elementary; John Ormond, Assistant Superintendent and Doug Strachan, Manager, Communication Services.

(a) **"O Canada"**

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

(b) **Approval of Agenda of Regular Board Meeting**

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

THAT the agenda of the Regular Board meeting be approved as presented.
CARRIED

Cont'd...

- (c) Recognition: Indigo Love of Reading Foundation, Re: Literacy Support – Lisa Baker, Librarian; Lisa Matkovic, Teacher; and Dr. Elisa Carlson, Principal; Literacy Support and Grant Success

The Board recognized Lisa Baker, Librarian; Lisa Matkovic, Teacher and Dr. Elisa Carlson, Principal, Lena Shaw Elementary and the Indigo Love of Reading Foundation for their dedication and exceptional contributions to improving student literacy.

Bob Coventry, Assistant Superintendent, provided Trustees with information regarding the special student literacy project at Lena Shaw Elementary.

During the last school year, the staff of Lena Shaw Elementary school decided to pursue a very generous national grant to support literacy. Two teachers and the Principal worked on assembling the grant application, putting in extensive work and research. The application had to be thorough, detailed and convincing to be successful, especially as it was competing with about 250 other schools from across Canada.

The application consisted of a 32-page written submission, including community letters of support, as well as an elaborate scrapbook about the school and a PowerPoint presentation. The application summarized Lena Shaw's outstanding commitment to literacy over the past decade.

The work and commitment of these individuals, with help from the whole school, paid off with a \$162,000 grant from the Indigo Love of Reading Foundation. Since 2004, this charitable foundation has dedicated itself to providing new books and learning materials to Canadian elementary schools in need.

Lena Shaw has partnered with Chapters in Surrey where school staff could pick out books, as part of the grant. Enthusiastic Strawberry Hills Chapters manager Leslie Clark closed the store to the public and organized a private celebration for Lena Shaw teachers who were able to '*shop-till-they-dropped*' for their school. Ms. Clark has also been a great liaison for Indigo in organizing meetings with Indigo's children's literature specialist, locating difficult books and facilitating school orders.

The Board recognized teacher Lisa Matkovic, librarian Lisa Baker and principal Dr. Elisa Carlson for their extraordinary efforts in supporting literacy at Lena Shaw Elementary School.

The Board recognized the Indigo Love of Reading Foundation for its exceptional commitment and support of student literacy across Canada.

On behalf of the Board, the Chairperson presented all four recipients with a pin and certificate acknowledging their formal recognition.

[2] **DELEGATIONS**

No items.

[3] **ACTION ITEMS**

(a) Adoption of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting Held 2008-09-11

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

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held 2008-09-11 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

(b) Notice of Motion, Trustee S. Wilson, re: Declaration of November 5, 2008 – “Take Our Kids to Work” Day

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

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.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board declare November 5, 2008 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 S. Wilson, re: Stetson Bowl

It was moved by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Glass:

THAT whereas the Board of Education is very active in promoting links between the school district, the city and other partners; and

Whereas the Board recognizes the importance of building a sustainable infrastructure in the regions within our school district and the associated town centers; and

Whereas the Board is strongly committed to providing accessible options for students to engage in healthy lifestyles through sports and other physical activities; and

Whereas the Stetson Bowl at the Cloverdale Fairgrounds has potential to be revitalized and used more effectively for community and school sporting activities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Administration be directed to:

- a) contact the City of Surrey and request that a Working Group be established to explore partnership opportunities for the Stetson Bowl; and
- b) sponsor and jointly fund with interested parties, a feasibility study, up to a maximum of \$25,000, to provide the parties with a full overview of the potential costs and benefits associated with renewal of and increased access to the Stetson Bowl for both school and community sporting activities; and
- c) refer the feasibility study findings to the 2009/2010 Budget Committee for consideration.

CARRIED (Opposed: Trustee Allen)

(d) Audited Financial Statement for the Period Ending 2008-06-30

Wayne Noye, Secretary-Treasurer; Donna Diskos, Principal, Grant Thornton LLP and Simon Ayres, Associate Director, Fiscal Management Services, provided Trustees with information regarding the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending 2008-06-30.

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

THAT the Audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the fiscal year ended 2008-06-30 be accepted and submitted to the Ministry of Education.

CARRIED

(e) Declaration of October 5, 2008 – "World Teachers' Day"

Mike McKay, Superintendent, provided Trustees with information regarding the annual "World Teachers' Day".

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

THAT the Board declare October 5th, 2008 as "World Teachers' Day" and acknowledge the significant contribution our teachers make in keeping our learners at the centre.

CARRIED

[4] **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

(a) Trustee Reports

Trustees reported on their activities since the last Board meeting.

(b) Incoming Correspondence

Trustees reviewed Correspondence #3-01 from Laurie Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture, City of Surrey, regarding Bid for 2013 BC Disability Games.

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

THAT the Board provide City of Surrey with a letter of support in principle for its bid to host the 2013 BC Disability Games through limited use of facilities for sports venues; billeting athletes, coaches and chaperones; custodial costs, waste removal; opening and closing of schools; and

THAT all costs, including security, are to be borne by the City of Surrey.

CARRIED

[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 8:14 p.m.

CARRIED

R. Masi
Chairperson

W. D. Noye
Secretary-Treasurer