

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 24th, 2009 AT 7:30 P.M.

IN ATTENDANCE

Trustees

L. McNally, Chairperson
S. Wilson, Vice Chairperson
T. Allen
I. Chatha
P. Glass
L. Larsen
R. Masi

Staff

M.A. McKay, Superintendent
W.D. Noye, Secretary-Treasurer
A. Smith, Administrative Secretary

[1] **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson McNally 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; Sharon Cohen, Assistant Superintendent; Merlin Chatwin, Community Schools Partnership Coordinator, Guildford Park Secondary; Donna Diskos, Principal, Grant Thornton LLP; Patti Dundas, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer; Assad Farooq, Student, Newton Elementary; Linda Gertz, Assistant Manager, Fiscal Management Services; Tanbir Gill, Student, Newton Elementary; Pat Horstead, Director of Instruction; Paul Kang, Branch Manager of RBC King George, Surrey; Kerry Magnus, Associate Director, Business Management Services; Pam Pittman, Development Officer, Business Development; Liane Ricou, Manager, Business Development; Carmen Ryujin, Manager, Cultural and Community Markets, RBC; Lise Schrag, Vice Principal, Newton Elementary; Doug Strachan, Manager, Communication Services; Glenn Young, Helping Teacher, Physical Education.

(a) **"O Canada"**

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

(b) Approval of Agenda of Regular Board Meeting

Chairperson McNally requested that item 3(f) *Annual Facility Grant (AFG) Reduction Strategy* be added to the agenda and all items be renumbered accordingly.

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

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

CARRIED

(c) Presentation: RBC Donation re: Wicket Cricket and After School Program

Chairperson McNally welcomed representatives from RBC, Mr. Paul Kang, Branch Manager of RBC King George and Ms. Carmen Ryujin, Manager, Cultural and Community Markets RBC. Chairperson McNally announced that through a very generous grant of \$47,500 from RBC, the District is able to celebrate two wonderful new programs.

Pat Horstead, Director of Instruction and Head of the Community Schools Partnership Program, along with Merlin Chatwin, Community Schools Partnership Coordinator provided information on a new "After School Program" at Lena Shaw Elementary. This unique program was created by three district departments working together, Business Development; Community Schools Partnership Program and the Lena Shaw staff. Through Business Development applying for, and securing a \$40,000 grant from RBC, the district is able to run the program for the 2009-2010 school year.

Glenn Young, Helping Teacher, Physical Education explained the background behind the second new program called "*Wicket Cricket*". Mr. Young reported that in September 2008, RBC contacted him and began discussions to create a cricket education program for elementary schools. The program took off last year with a generous \$7,500 donation from RBC.

Lise Schrag, Vice Principal, Newton Elementary and two of Newton Elementary students, Tanbir Gill and Assad Farooq expressed students' excitement and enjoyment of participating in this cricket program and answered questions from Trustees.

Chairperson McNally, on behalf of the Board, thanked Mr. Kang and Ms. Ryujin, RBC for their generous support to the students of Surrey and White Rock and presented them with a plaque of recognition as a token of the Board's appreciation.

Mr. Kang and Ms. Ryujin, on behalf of RBC, expressed their pleasure in working with the programs and connecting with the community. To the delight of the Board of Education, RBC announced that they have made a 5 (five) year commitment to support the programs.

[2] **DELEGATIONS**

No items.

[3] **ACTION ITEMS**

- (a) Adoption of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting Held 2009-06-25 and Special Open Meeting Held 2009-07-09

It was moved by Trustee Allen seconded by Trustee Masi:

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held 2009-06-25 and Special Open Meeting Held 2009-07-09 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

- (b) Response to Delegation: Brent Dennis, Gifted/Learning Disabilities Advocacy Group – Surrey, re: Support for Gifted Students with Learning Disabilities

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

THAT the Board extend its appreciation to Mr. Dennis of the Gifted/Learning Disabilities Advocacy Group – Surrey, for his comprehensive presentation regarding support for gifted students with learning disabilities on 2009-06-25; and

THAT Administration be directed to continue the district's efforts to support gifted/learning disabled students; and

THAT Administration be directed to provide the Gifted Learning Disabilities Advocacy Group – Surrey with information on the district's efforts in this regard and discuss additional suggestions they may have.

CARRIED

- (c) Declaration of October 5, 2009 "World Teachers' Day"

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

It was moved Trustee Glass, seconded by Trustee Allen:

THAT the Board declare October 5th, 2009 as “World Teachers’ Day” and acknowledge the significant contribution our teachers make in keeping our learners at the centre.

CARRIED

(d) Audited Financial Statements for the Period Ending 2009-06-30

Wayne Noye, Secretary-Treasurer introduced a member of the audience, Mr. Jason Reid, Executive Director, Office of the Auditor General. The Office of the Auditor General is scheduled to conduct external audits of the School District, over the next five years.

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 2009-06-30.

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

THAT the Audited Financial Statements and Auditor’s Report for the fiscal year ended 2009-06-30 be accepted and submitted to the Ministry of Education.

CARRIED

(e) Award of Construction Contract – McLeod Road Elementary – Site 063 – Seismic and Building Upgrade

It was moved by Trustee Chatha, seconded by Trustee Masi:

THAT, subject to receiving government funding, the Board’s signing officers be authorized to execute standard Stipulated Price Construction Contract with the lowest qualified bidder, Envoy Construction Services Ltd., in the total amount of \$2,131,000 (excluding GST) for a seismic and building upgrade – McLeod Road Elementary – Site 063, located at 6325 – 142nd Street.

CARRIED

(f) Annual Facility Grant (AFG) Reduction Strategy

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

THAT the Board, to mitigate the impact of the elimination of the 2009/10 Annual Facilities Grant and subject to the approval of the Minister of Education, approve the allocation of \$6,100,000 from its Capital Reserve account to its Annual Facility Grant account.

CARRIED

[4] **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

(a) Trustee Reports

Trustees reported on their activities since the last Board meeting.

(b) Notice of Motion, Trustee S. Wilson, re: Declaration of November 4, 2009 – “Take our Kids to Work” Day

Trustee Wilson provided Trustees with information regarding “Take Our Kids to Work” Day and presented a Notice of Motion for information.

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

THAT the Board give formal consideration to the *Notice of Motion, Trustee S. Wilson, Re: Declaration of November 4, 2009 – “Take our Kids to Work” Day*, at the 2009-09-24 Regular meeting.
CARRIED

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

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 4, 2009 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

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students afforded by supporting the various activities during this special day.

CARRIED

(c) Progress Report – Active Capital Projects

Trustees received a progress report regarding active capital projects.

(d) 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 Glass, seconded by Trustee Allen:

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

CARRIED

L. McNally
Chairperson

W. D. Noye
Secretary-Treasurer