

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, APRIL 15th, 2010 AT 7:30 P.M.

IN ATTENDANCE

Trustees

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

Staff

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

Absent

P. Glass

[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:

Ryan Buhrig, Student Council President, Elgin Park Secondary; Kevin DeBoice, Principal, Elgin Park Secondary; Robin Funk, Early Learning / Literacy Helping Teacher; Pat Horstead, Director of Instruction, CISC; Jamie Ishikawa, Student council President, Semiahmoo Secondary; Yvonne Marinus, StrongStart Coordinator; 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**

Chairperson McNally requested that item 4(c) *Incoming Correspondence* be revised; item 4(d) *Proposed Local Calendar for 2010/2011 School Year* be added to the agenda; item 4(a) *Trustee Reports* be removed from 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: South Surrey/White Rock Foundation – Youth Philanthropy

Kevin DeBoice, Principal, Elgin Park Secondary; Ryan Buhrig, Student Council President, Elgin Park Secondary; and Jamie Ishikawa, Student Council President, Semiahmoo Secondary; provided Trustees with information regarding a youth philanthropy project. Highlights included:

- All five South Surrey/White Rock high schools have joined together to create a youth philanthropy group and are working on the “Together” Project.
- Schools involved are: Earl Marriott Secondary, Elgin Park Secondary, Semiahmoo Secondary, Southridge, and White Rock Christian Academy.
- The White Rock/South Surrey Community Foundation (WWSSCF) (previously known as the Peace Arch Community Services) has sponsored the group and created a “Youth Philanthropy” branch of their organization for these students.
- The main focus of the youth group is to harness the collective forces of “Youth Helping Youth” within the community. They will raise money for a new Youth Philanthropy Endowment.
- The Endowment Fund will provide grants to support local charitable causes, with high school students deciding how the funds they raised will be used.
- Two representatives (1 grade 11 student and 1 grade 12 student) from each of the 5 schools, meet on a regular basis. The main focus of this group is to raise money to support youth in the area. The group decides how to raise funds and where to spend them.
- The WWSSCF provide “parent group” support to the youth group. For example they provide banking and bookkeeping support to the youth group.
- The “Together Project” highlights youth helping youth. The group is selling community bracelets with the theme “together” to raise funds. They will distribute the bracelets to schools, local businesses and community groups. They plan to raise over \$20,000 with this project.
- Sponsorship – Peace Arch News has joined the team as the media sponsor. Excellent Ice, Mardon and Campbell Insurance and Scotia Bank – Grandview are also sponsors.
- Sponsors have already contributed almost \$10,000 to this project.

Additional information is available at the following web site:

www.wrscf.org/together

(c) Presentation: StrongStart Programs

Pat Horstead, Director of Instruction, CISC, Robin Funk, Early Learning / Literacy Helping Teacher and Yvonne Marinus, StrongStart Coordinator, provided Trustees with information on the StrongStart Programs in the district.

Twenty-one StrongStart Programs are operational in 20 schools in the district and are making a significant difference for our students, their families and the community. Eleven sites have been operational for 2 years. Ten sites have been operational for 1 year. Over 1,400 children are registered in the program. Average attendance is 25-30 families a day. At 3 of our sites there are over 40 families attending every day on a consistent basis.

The StrongStart Program is a drop in program for children aged 0-5 years and their families. It is a 3 hour pre-school type program but is very different in that parents are requested to stay. Siblings are often included. Activities include: free play and/or art; short and interactive circles; healthy snacks; additional play sessions focused on larger motor skills (large puzzles, playing outside on the playground, etc.). Sectioning the 3 hour program into shorter activity periods works well and accommodates the comings and goings of parents and children. StrongStart students are included in sports day events and other school celebrations which help them become part of the school community.

The StrongStart Centres are important in Surrey because they:

- Provide an environment where families can learn new ways to support their children at home and school.
- Connect families with their community, with resources and supports and services.
- Provide our children with quality early learning experiences that are play based in a literacy rich environment, better preparing them for future success.

Schools are advising:

- There is a more positive and more well developed relationship between the school and the family
- The school has an increased knowledge of the children entering Kindergarten
- Children are more confident and better prepared for kindergarten
- Schools are better able to meet the needs of the children upon entering kindergarten.

Further information available on the school district's website at: www.sd36.bc.ca

Cont'd...

[2] **DELEGATIONS**

No items.

[3] **ACTION ITEMS**

(a) **Adoption of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting Held 2010-03-25**

It was moved by Trustee Allen seconded by Trustee Wilson:

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held 2010-03-25 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

[4] **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

(a) **Report on Changes to Classes Pursuant to Section 76.4 of the School Act**

Mike McKay, Superintendent, provided Trustees with information regarding the changes to classes pursuant to Section 76.4 of the *School Act*.

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

THAT the Board accept the report on changes to classes pursuant to Section 76.4 of the *School Act*.

CARRIED

(b) **Incoming Correspondence**

There were no correspondence items requiring Trustees' attention.

(c) **Proposed Local Calendar for 2010/2011 School Year**

Mike McKay, Superintendent, provided Trustees with information on the proposed local school calendar for the 2010/2011 school year. The following proposed alterations to the Standard Ministry of Education school calendar will be presented to the K to 12 educational community and stakeholders, for discussion and feedback:

- Five fewer days of instruction (with an increase of instructional time to make up the five days). The dates to be March 28 – April 1, 2011 (the week subsequent to the provincial school calendar spring break week).
- Six district-wide non-instructional days (or “Pro-D” days) on common dates throughout the school district for the purpose of providing families with greater consistency for their planning, as follows:
 - September 27, 2010
 - October 22, 2010
 - November 12, 2010
 - February 11, 2011
 - May 6, 2011
 - May 30, 2011

A full report on the proposed school calendar changes will be presented to the Board at a later date, for formal consideration.

[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 Allen, seconded by Trustee Chatha:

THAT the Regular meeting of the Board be adjourned at 8:31 p.m.
CARRIED

L. McNally
Chairperson

WDN/lm

W. D. Noye
Secretary-Treasurer