

Minutes



PUBLIC MEETING

The Board of Education of School District No. 34 (Abbotsford)

2790 Tims Street, Abbotsford, BC., V2T 4M7

Phone: 604.859.4891 Fax: 604.859.5898

Date: March 7, 2017
Time: 7:06 p.m. to 9:13 p.m.
Location: Abbotsford School District Administration Office

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE: Shirley Wilson, Chair
Stan Petersen, Vice Chair
Phil Anderson
Preet Rai
Cindy Schafer

TRUSTEE REGRETS: Freddy Latham
Rhonda Pauls

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Kevin Godden, Superintendent
Ray Velestuk, Secretary-Treasurer
Cheryl McLeod, Executive Assistant
Corissa St.George, Recording Secretary

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

2.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

R17-044 It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee Anderson

THAT the Board of Education approve the Agenda of the Public Meeting of March 7, 2017.

CARRIED

3.0 O CANADA

The Board began the meeting with the singing of O Canada.

3.1 Acknowledgement of Local Indigenous Community

Chair Wilson acknowledged that we reside on the shared traditional ancestral territory of the Sumas and Matsqui First Nations.

4.0 CONSENT ITEMS

4.1 General Record of the Closed Meeting held February 21, 2017

R17-045 It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Anderson

THAT the Board of Education approve the General Record of the Closed Meeting held February 21, 2017.

CARRIED

4.2 Minutes of the Public Meeting held February 21, 2017

R17-046 It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Anderson

THAT the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Public Meeting held February 21, 2017.

CARRIED

4.3 B.C. Service Delivery Project Annual Report

R17-047 It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Anderson

THAT the Board of Education receive the B.C. Ministry of Education Correspondence and Service Delivery Project Annual Report (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016).

CARRIED

4.4 Ministry of Education Correspondence re Substance Abuse

R17-048 It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Anderson

THAT the Board of Education receive the BC Ministry of Education correspondence regarding substance abuse.

CARRIED

4.5 BCSTA Correspondence to Premier Clarke re Refugee Support

R17-049 It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Anderson

THAT the Board of Education receive the letter from BCSTA to Premier Clarke regarding further supports for Refugee Students.

CARRIED

5.0 DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

5.1 Student Presentation: Mt Lehman - Coding

Superintendent Godden welcomed Principal Abby Chan and students from Mt Lehman Elementary. Principal Chan explained that about a year ago, when the Premier announced that coding would be in the curriculum, he was interested in having his students try it out. The students shared that they enjoy coding since it gives them the opportunity to explore computer science and create their own programs. Students joined Trustees and demonstrated how first steps of coding work.

6.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions asked in this question period.

7.0 REPORT ON ACHIEVEMENT/RESULTS

7.1 Superintendent's Annual Report on Student Achievement

Superintendent Godden provided highlights from the presentation on Tuesday, February 28 at the Matsqui Centennial Auditorium and noted the Board will need to determine how they hope to report Student Achievement in the future. The Framework for Enhancing Student Learning requires Board approval of the report.

R17-050 It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Anderson

THAT the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's Annual Report on Student Achievement for 2016.

CARRIED

7.2 Abbotsford Virtual School Progress Report

Superintendent Godden welcomed District Principal Brad Hutchinson who provided a progress report of the past year at Abbotsford Virtual School. Mr. Hutchinson highlighted a new program titled Fusion which will offer a mix of classroom and virtual instruction in a blended learning environment and include hands-on experiences that are project-based and technology-supported.

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7.3 Eugene Reimer Middle Soccer Academy Proposal

Superintendent Godden highlighted the key features of the proposed Soccer Academy at Eugene Reimer. The Board requested an update on the Academy prior to the 2018/19 school year.

R17-051 It was MOVED by Trustee Schafer and SECONDED by Trustee Anderson

THAT the Board of Education approve the proposed Soccer Academy at Eugene Reimer Middle School.

CARRIED

7.4 District Program Reviews

Superintendent Godden recommended enrolment limitations to the French Immersion Programme for 2017/18 to enable staff to work through space challenges and the recruitment plan for French Immersion teachers. Solving these issues is necessary to ensure that students continue to receive a quality experience while enrolled in the programme. Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk emphasized that the Board's discussion in recent meetings regarding enrolment pressures has now been compounded with the class size changes. The capacity situation in the Abby Family of Schools and in particular, Abbotsford Middle will need to be addressed for the coming year. The Long Term Facilities Plan currently under revision will consider these imminent issues but additional planning is dependent on the Operating Grant announcement taking place on Wednesday, March 15. The Board requested a meeting as soon as possible after Spring Break. Staff will compile information for the board's review and consideration.

R17-052 It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee Rai

THAT the Board of Education approve French Immersion Programme enrolment limitations as presented for the 2017/18 school year.

CARRIED

7.5 Budget Update

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk provided an overview of the Public Budget Consultation presentation held on March 2, including the emerging issues and budget pressures. He noted that staff are still in the process of reviewing the impact of the decision to restore Collective Agreement provisions from 2002. The Operating Grant announcement will take place on Wednesday, March 15 and the second Public Budget Consultation is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12 at the School District Board Office.

7.6 Character Canada Conference Sponsorship

R17-053 It was MOVED by Trustee Anderson and SECONDED by Trustee Schafer

THAT the Board of Education approve Gold level sponsorship for the Character Canada Conference in the amount of \$10,000.

CARRIED

7.7 Community Matters Award

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk advised that the Board Chair has appointed Trustees Anderson and Latham to the Community Matters Award Selection Committee.

7.8 Summer Games Legacy Funds

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk reported that \$152,000 is available as part of the success of the 2016 BC Summer Games in Abbotsford to be distributed to non-profit sport, recreational, and cultural organizations within the City of Abbotsford. The District will submit three projects for consideration to the Legacy Committee. The Board suggested asking the City to provide a letter of support to strengthen our submission.

7.9 School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Banking Services

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk requested that the Board defer the call for proposals until 2019. The District has been very satisfied with service and benefits provided by the Bank of Montreal at this time. The upcoming budget changes and collective agreement challenges pose additional workload pressures, making it an inopportune time to change financial institutions.

R17-054 It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Petersen

THAT the Board of Education extend the current term with the Bank of Montreal as the service provider for School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) banking until June 30, 2019.

CARRIED

8.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 The Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held January 24, 2017

R17-055 It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee Schafer

THAT the Board of Education receive the Minutes of the Education Committee of the Whole Meeting held January 24, 2017.

CARRIED

9.0 REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

9.1 Abbotsford Community Foundation

Chair Wilson advised that the Abbotsford Community Foundation will be handing out more awards than in previous years. Trustee Schafer, who previously served on the committee, has agreed to assist in reviewing the applications and will join Chair Wilson and four committee members to review and shortlist student applications.

10.0 NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to report at this meeting.

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11.0 TRUSTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustees shared events they attended including the BC High School Wrestling Championship in Salmon Arm and the Fraser Valley Cultural Diversity Awards.

12.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions asked in this question period.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Board Chair

Certified Correct, Secretary-Treasurer