



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 7:00pm
West Vancouver School Board Office

Present: C. Broady, Chair; S. Donahue, P. Dorsman, D. Stevenson, Trustees; C. Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools; K. Martin, Associate Superintendent; S. Nosek, Associate Superintendent; J. Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer; L. Tomlinson, Director of Instruction; D. Nelson, Director of Instruction; L. Hill, District Coordinating Principal

Absent: N. Brown, Vice Chair; W. Hickey, Director of Facilities

A. CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Broady called the meeting to order and acknowledged that we are on the traditional territory of the Squamish Nation. She said we greatly appreciate our relationship with all members of the Nation as we live and learn together. Regrets were offered on behalf of Vice Chair Brown who was unable to attend due to illness.

The Chair then encouraged everyone to attend one of the many performances and displays as part of the Lighthouse Festival from April 23 – 27. She also highlighted the DPAC presentation of “Angst” on April 25 at the Kay Meek Centre.

B. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

“The First Peoples’ Principles of Learning Using Place-based Learning at EHMS”

– Eagle Harbour Montessori

Principal Craig Cantlie, Vice Principal Val Stevenson, and teacher Jessica Maki

Principal Cantlie introduced Vice Principal Stevenson, who in turn introduced Kindergarten / grade 1 teacher Jessica Maki and acknowledged teachers Sarah Everett and Erica Hardern, whom she said work as a team to provide fluidity of learning across classrooms. Ms Maki continued by telling trustees that this has been a two year journey for her, combining the Montessori emphasis on nature and cultural studies to create empathetic learners with the First Peoples’ Principles of Learning and place-based studies as a teaching method. She said she feels it is time to make a shift in pedagogy in order to honour First Nations and that she hopes this is her piece of contributing to reconciliation. She acknowledged that often she is learning alongside her students.

Ms Maki then gave examples of the work she and her students have been doing, such as fostering a connection to place through the use of sit spots and observation. Students have also explored the natural world in the immediate area around the school, wondering what it used to look like, and going on walks with Elders to learn and listen. They now know that trees are considered witnesses and used their imaginations to “listen” to the stories that the trees told them. Ms Maki said her students are connected, noticeably calmer, and have a greater awareness of their impact upon the natural world. That awareness has led to such things as inquiry projects about garbage and waste.

Through storytelling workshops with Rebecca Campbell and presentations by Sto:lo scholar Dr Jo-Ann Archibald, students are learning that stories are embedded in place, and learning is embedded in story. They are beginning to understand the importance of communication and shared knowledge, intergenerational learning, and the value of one’s own traditions and respect for those of others. The Inquiry Cycle is being used to help students identify their own traditions and their ability to take action and exert influence in their own circles. Last year they published a book, and this year are learning about generational knowledge by inviting families into the classroom to shared values and traditions through photographs and discussion.

Ms Maki concluded by saying she felt privileged to be a part of a community that allows and encourages exploration and growth.

“The Sounds of Science – Music and Erosion” – Caulfeild Elementary

Principal Craig Cantlie, Vice Principal Sara Bell, teacher Debbie Stewart, and students Carmelito, Lucas, Moira, and Kal

Principal Cantlie introduced Vice Principal Sara Bell, who introduced music teacher Debbie Stewart and grade 4 students Carmelito, Lucas, Moira and Kal. Ms Bell explained that this project was funded by an innovation grant and based on the inquiry cycle model. Ms Stewart spoke of her passion for music, how it is a part of all of us, and its role in culture and memory. She spoke of its powerful ability to help make connections and how she truly believes there is value in integrating music into all aspects of learning.

Ms Bell walked trustees through the inquiry cycle, explaining the use of a collaborative, transdisciplinary, online inquiry planning tool. Ultimately, the definition of the inquiry question was “How can I use fine arts to discover new ways to communicate my learning?” This year’s grade 3 students are in the middle of the cycle at the moment, and in order to avoid influencing the outcome of their inquiry, grade 4 students related their experiences from the project last year. Carmelito and Lucas told trustees about how they used labs to see forms and check the effects of erosion upon them, describing the various types of weathering they learned about. Moira explained how they came up with the question “how can I use music and sounds to communicate the process of erosion?” She then told the board how students experimented with various sounds and instruments to discover the ones they thought best conveyed what they wanted. Kal explained what Foley is, adding sound effects in a studio to film or video after it’s been shot, giving the use of dropping pebbles to imitate rain as an example. Moira, Lucas explained the process of storyboarding, experimentation, and editing to get the effects they wanted, and Carmelito said he also used Garage Band, iMovie, and Foley. Two short excerpts were then shown of the students’ final project.

Students were required to complete a self-reflection at the end of the project, but Ms Bell pointed out that reflection happens throughout the process as well. From a teacher perspective,

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debriefing included identifying ways to improve and extend the learning, as well as identifying additional learning opportunities. This year, to foster authentic connections to the real world, students will hold a showcase to present their final videos to parents, not just fellow students. Moving forward, they will create science journals, have a session with a geologist, and connect and share learning with other students, possibly in Italy. Ms Stewart said the level of collaboration among staff and students was huge, but for her, the most important aspect was the shift in attitude of classroom teachers regarding including music in every class. Students finished by sharing their learning with trustees, with one saying that what he found most valuable was “the direct teaching.”

“Cedardale Vlogs: The story of lildanboi” – Ecole Cedardale

Principal Michelle LaBounty, Vice Principal Kristina Hayes, teacher Emily Klause, and students Danny, Michael, and Mahan

Principal LaBounty introduced Vice Principal Kristina Hayes, who is also the IB coordinator and grade 5/6 teacher, and Emily Klause, a grade 7 teacher who also teaches coding, provides technical support, and is the SOGI lead for the school. Students Danny, Michael, and Mahan then told the story of “lildanboi”. Danny explained that “lildanboi” was the name of his YouTube channel, which he started without permission in order to share his thoughts online. He said that the channel became a place where he picked on people and “roasted” them online. Eventually, the school found out and informed his parents. Danny got in trouble and had to delete all his posts, but not before teachers noticed his presentation and editing skills. To turn a negative into a positive, he was encouraged to put those skills to better use and recruited his classmates Michael and Mahan, with their intro, outro, and editing skills, to create HawksEye News. The boys played clips of their vlogs for trustees, and pointed out the elements upon which they wanted to improve, including audio quality and entertainment value. They said that they have learned more about the school, about new staff, and are providing a round-up of what’s happening in each division. The boys said that what they learned is best summed up as, “Social media is like water: you can teach us to swim, or watch us drown.” They concluded by thanking the Ecole Cedardale teachers for trusting them to swim.

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#1345	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Agenda of the Regular Meeting April 17, 2018 be adopted.
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Carried.

D. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 minutes)

No questions from the gallery.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting February 20, 2018

#1346	<u>MOTION</u> THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting February 20, 2018 be approved.	<u>Carried.</u>
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F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No business arising.

G. BOARD BUSINESS

1. Superintendent's Report

Chris Kennedy, Superintendent

The Superintendent gave brief updates on a number of items.

Teacher Recruitment / Retention

It was noted that this is a topic that is still very much in the news and West Vancouver School District has done early conversions for a number of specialty and exceptional teachers in order to boost retention. It was noted that we are unique in BC for being completely staffed for French Immersion. Our senior staff and HR department is working hard to build relationships with new teachers by visiting career fairs, telling the West Vancouver story, and holding breakfast meetings as a way of building relationships. Our anticipated retirement numbers are lower this year and while there is still some conversation, the number of teachers taking jobs closer to home seems to have reduced. Principals are optimistic that staff is stable. In terms of recruitment, the presentations by the Superintendent and others at career fairs make it clear that working in the district is worth the drive, by highlighting things like our innovation grants, various and numerous professional development opportunities, and by promoting the idea that we are a great district in which to find mentors, learn, and develop professionally. The Superintendent noted that he would like to see more teacher candidates in our secondary schools and hopes that connections to our local universities will result in more placements.

Early Learning Initiatives this Spring

A number of events were highlighted, including the Ready, Set, Learn event to be held on April 28 in conjunction with our community partners. It is expected that 250-300 families with preschool-aged children will attend. In partnership with the District of West Vancouver, West Vancouver Schools will host an Early Learning celebration dinner and dialogue on "Gender Creative Children" on May 3. Welcome to Kindergarten events will be held at every elementary school in May and June to welcome new students and families who will be joining the schools in September. As

well, a parent evening will be held at the Kay Meek Centre on June 7, and more than 40 teachers, EAs, and early childhood educators will be participating in a spring professional learning series on Early Learning and English Language Learners.

Kindergarten Enrollment Requests 2018-2019

Enrollment requests by first choice school were reviewed, comparing applications received to date with the same period last year. It was noted that there can be a number of factors that affect first choice requests, including anecdotal information from the previous year that Irwin Park is full or West Bay was able to place some out of catchment students, for example. There will be two K classes at many elementary schools, including Westcot, Irwin Park, Ridgeview, and West Bay. Early French Immersion will have the largest-ever K cohort in September 2018, with 60 students at Ecole Pauline Johnson and 33 at Ecole Cedardale.

First Enrollment Projection

Enrollment projection numbers were briefly reviewed and it was noted that traditionally September numbers are always higher. Westcot, West Bay, Ridgeview, and Irwin Park will continue to be 16 division schools.

What does all this mean?

The Superintendent reported that we are effectively at capacity in the district and increased demand will continue to present a challenge. Physical space is the greatest challenge on the east side of the district, and a portable at Irwin Park was installed this school year to house a grade 3 class, in order to comply with the SCC class size ruling. It was initially intended for use as an ELL space in 2018-2019, but will now continue to be used as a primary classroom to accommodate demand. Hollyburn, Caulfeild, and Lions Bay are the only elementary schools with physical space available to add divisions and because we historically see growth over the summer, we may need to identify additional classroom spaces for the 2019-2020 school year. Of the three secondary schools, WVSS is the best able to accommodate more students, as Rockridge and Sentinel are at capacity.

Grad Program

The grade 10 curriculum is being fully implemented for the 2018-2019 school year, with grade 11 and 12 to follow in 2019-2020. There is much conversation about the changes in Careers programs, with Planning 10 being replaced by Career Life Education, and Grad Transitions moving to Career Life Connection and Capstone. English 10 will move from a four-credit course to two two-credit courses, with schools offering pre-bundled options such as composition and spoken word. Post-secondary requirements will likely influence selection of the five available options. In grade 8 and 9, the focus will continue on self-assessment, with a plan to influence grades 10 – 12. Rockridge will use their IB approaches to learning. Numeracy assessments will be completed in June this year, for all students who did not write a Math 10 provincial exam. There has been some feedback that early versions are text-heavy, which has been a challenge for some ELL students.

Coding Updates

There is still a lot of energy and excitement around coding with the Hour of Code, Ignite Your Passion programs, and the robotics academy all continuing to see heavy subscription. The robotics academy is sending three teams to the world championships in the US next week, the Coding Quest Arcade showcase of student-designed games has 11 schools participating this year on May 31, and Hackergal, a new opportunity for girls in grades 6 – 9, will hold a Hackathon on May 2, with teams of two or three using Python coding to create interactive adventures. There will also be senior level courses at secondary, including Computer Studies 10, Computer Information Systems 11, and Computer Programming 12.

Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) Project

The roll out of this new system to replace our 25 year old analogue phone system has been excellent so far, thanks to the collaborative work of Helen Setsikas, Wade Hickey, and Sean Nosek. The RFP process took place in March 2017, with Mitel Business VOIP Solution selected. They were able to use the district's existing infrastructure and data network and all elementary schools, Rockridge, and Facilities have been transitioned already. There is currently a realized cost-savings of \$5300 per month, which will increase once Sentinel, WVSS, and the Board Office are switched before the end of the school year. There will be a land line maintained at each building for redundancy and emergency services.

Various other Key Updates

At this time, no changes in elementary administration or secondary principals are anticipated. Secondary vice-principal announcements will be out by early May. DPAC is hosting a parent education event on Wednesday, April 25 – a screening of the film "Angst", followed by a panel discussion.

Two key community events are coming up: the Lighthouse Festival in late April; and Booktopia in early May.

The Early Physical Literacy Team continues to receive interest in their work from across the province and will present this year's updates and data sharing at the June regular board meeting.

The Career Education Update, originally item 2, was skipped, as the meeting was running early and one of the students presenting had not yet arrived after his class. All trustees were in agreement that the item would be delayed until everyone was present and no motion was required.

2. Westcot Catchment

Chris Kennedy, Superintendent

The Superintendent told trustees he was bringing a recommendation forward to change the status of Westcot Elementary as a feeder school. Currently, it is a feeder school for Ecole Sentinel Secondary, guaranteeing all grade 7 students attending Westcot a place at Sentinel

for grade 8. The challenge moving forward is twofold: Sentinel is currently at capacity and with the growing numbers at elementary French Immersion (potentially 120 grade 8 students in eight years' time), will experience increased pressure; and Westcot is increasingly a destination school for out-of-district students, many of whom will find it easier and more convenient to commute to West Vancouver Secondary. He said it is a strategic decision, as WVSS currently has the physical space to accommodate more students, but also a practical one, as it would allow WVSS to be on equal footing as a viable option for OOD students. We will continue to allow any elementary student to apply to attend any secondary school and will accommodate them wherever possible, and allowing Westcot families to choose between a guaranteed place at either Sentinel or WVSS makes sense moving forward. Those families will be invited to Family of Schools' events with those from Hollyburn, Ridgeview, and Irwin Park, and counsellors from both Sentinel and WVSS will visit Westcot each spring. He emphasized that presentations will not be competitive sales pitches, and that all three secondary schools already consciously schedule information nights in such a way that parents can visit one or all events. The Superintendent asked trustees to consider this change as a long term solution.

#1347

MOTION THAT the Board approve the change in status for Westcot Elementary, to allow it to become a feeder school for both Sentinel Secondary and West Vancouver Secondary, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.

Carried.

3. BCSTA AGM

Carolyn Broady, Chair

The Chair reminded those present that the BCSTA Annual General Meeting is next week and that she expected a busy few days, with more than 40 motions being put forward. Trustees had a general discussion about some of the motions, including student trustees, funding, Indigenous Education, and the one they have put forward regarding cell phones.

The Chair encouraged all trustees to attend, saying it was their most important work, and also asked that they go and support WVSS teacher Jackie Wong, who is hosting a concurrent session on her project "Site Unseen: Gitga'at and West Vancouver Youth – Mural of Merging Voices."

4. Career Education Update

Liz Hill, District Coordinating Principal, Parnaz Kashani, District Careers Coordinator and students Brylie G., Antony T., and Willem Y.

District Coordinating Principal Liz Hill introduced Parnaz Kashani, district careers coordinator, who described for trustees the different career programs available in the district. Work Experience allows students to complete 90 – 100 hours, paid or volunteer, to develop employability skill and explore potential career interests. Youth Work in Trades provides students with 120 hours of work in an apprenticeable trade, where they can build their apprenticeship hours. Those students who complete more than 900 hours and maintain a C+ average receive a \$1000 government scholarship. We have at least three scholarship students each year. Youth Train in Trades provides students with the opportunity to complete level one of an apprenticeable trade, equivalent to first year at a

post-secondary trades institution such as BCIT. We offer two trades: Carpentry, housed at WVSS; and Culinary, offered at Carson Graham in conjunction with NVSD.

The teachers and career advisors at each secondary school were listed and their roles reviewed. They help students become employable through a series of supports including: teaching them about creating effective resumes and cover letters, how to search for jobs, and work safety; guiding them through the application and follow up process, and practicing for interviews; helping them to identify and find opportunities, often through events such as Find your Fit BC, career expos, and job fairs; and preparing them for life after high school by exploring post-secondary options and events. The value of community connections was also emphasized.

Ms Kashani said she believes the most important part of their role is to understand how the students feel about their opportunities, and passed the floor to three students who have participated in the three programs offered in West Vancouver Schools.

Brylie told trustees that this is her first year in Work Experience and it has given her the opportunity to explore two of her main interests – sewing and her love of pets. At the beginning of the year, she created a resume and cover letter and learned to be confident in her abilities. She eventually found work at the Bowen Island Dog Ranch and as a result of her experiences there, has used My BluePrint to explore universities that offer veterinary programs. As well, she was given an opportunity to volunteer in a grade 8 sewing class, where she learned to enhance her leadership skills. She said she has liked the opportunities Work Experience has given her, especially the chance to shadow a veterinarian so that she had a better understanding of the field and was able to reaffirm her interest. She said the career expos are really helpful, as are the many connections that the teachers have to create opportunities for students.

Antony is currently enrolled in both the Train in Trades and Work in Trades programs, attending the Culinary Arts program in North Van. He is also working as a line cook at The Beach House restaurant, a position he got through participation in Work Experience last year. He said that academics had always been a struggle for him, but that he has liked cooking since he was little. It was in his Foods 9 course that he heard about the Culinary Arts program for the first time, and it was through Work Experience that he had positions at Temper, Maple Leaf Garden Centre, and The Beach House. He said the decision to stay at The Beach House was a good one, as he really enjoyed working with like-minded people and learned so much. He began as a dishwasher, but after two months started to move up in the kitchen and is now a line cook, working on the grill at the moment. He is much happier and whereas his marks were below 50% in other courses last year, he now has a 98% average. Antony said he loves the skills he is learning in both the Culinary Arts program and at work, and now thinks that while he loves cooking, he would ultimately like to have a career as a supplier for the restaurant industry.

Willem said that he took wood work for the first time last year in grade 11 and that his Tech Ed teacher recommended that he consider the Carpentry program at WVSSS. He said he was very enthusiastic after the initial tour and that the program this year has been hugely beneficial for him. He said that last year his marks were at about 60%, but this year he has an 89% average and that the program has changed him. He described what his days are like in carpentry, saying that the day starts with Mr Cormier at about 6:50am. He said the program combines both practical and theory work and showed trustees the binder for the program. He said it is not easy per se, as it is basically a first year BCIT course, but that although it is lots of work, it is lots of fun, too. He explained that they have been helping to

build the Children’s Centre on Bowen Island, which has given them the opportunity to build concrete forms, framing, and help with the roof. He believes Mr Cormier realizes when a student is interested in something and that he will go above and beyond if the student will as well, and will do whatever he can to help. Willem said that this has been very good for him, as traditional school was “not his thing.” He said he is now a morning person, enjoying the Carpentry program on Day 1s, completing his academic classes at Rockridge in last block or outside the timetable, and working on Day 2s.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting - April 10, 2018

- Facilities Spring Break project update
- Irwin Park project announced
- Sentinel gym project update
- New playground grant
- 2018/19 Preliminary Budget – Funding

Committee Chair Stevenson briefly reviewed the minutes and highlighted the funding we have received for the Irwin Park building envelope and HVAC project.

He then read the bylaw associated with the Capital Plan:

#1348 **MOTION THAT the Board approve A BYLAW by the BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.45 (WEST VANCOUVER) (hereinafter called the “Board”) to adopt a Capital Plan of the Board pursuant to Sections 143 (2) and 144 (1) of the *School Act*.**

WHEREAS in accordance with provisions of the *School Act* the Minister of Education (hereinafter called the “Minister”) has approved the Capital Plan of the Board.

NOW THEREFORE the Board agrees to do the following:

- (a) Authorize the Secretary Treasurer to execute Project Agreement(s) related to the expenditures contemplated by the Capital Plan;
- (b) Upon ministerial approval to proceed, commence the Project(s) and proceed diligently and use its best efforts to complete each Project substantially as directed by the Minister;
- (c) Observe and comply with any order, regulation or policy of the Minister as may be applicable to the Board or the Project(s); and,
- (d) Maintain proper books of account, and other information and documents with respect to the affairs of the Project(s), as may be prescribed by the Minister.

NOW THEREFORE the Board enacts as follows:

1. The Capital Bylaw of the Board for the 2018/19 Capital Plan as approved by the Minister, to include the supported project(s) in the letter addressed to the Secretary Treasurer and Superintendent dated March 26, 2018, is hereby adopted.

2. This Bylaw may be cited as School District No. 45 (West Vancouver) Capital Bylaw No. 2018/19-CPSD45-01.

READ A FIRST TIME THE 17th DAY OF APRIL, 2018;

READ A SECOND TIME THE 17th DAY OF APRIL, 2018;

READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ADOPTED THE 17th DAY OF APRIL, 2018.

Carried.

Committee Chair Stevenson then gave a brief synopsis of the funding side of the 2018/19 preliminary budget and thanked the Secretary Treasurer for her work, saying it is reasonably good news thus far.

#1349 **MOTION THAT the minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting held April 10, 2018 be received.**

Carried.

I. CORRESPONDENCE

A list of the correspondence from the past month is posted online at <http://westvancouver.schools.ca/board-correspondence>

J. TRUSTEE MEETINGS & EVENTS

The Chair thanked trustees, noting it was a busy month, despite spring break.

Annual North Shore Sports Awards BCSTA Board of Directors' Meeting BICS PAC Meeting Caulfeild Bear House Post Ceremony & Feast Caulfeild Lantern Event Chartwell Learning Commons Open House Cypress Park Spring Musical Concert Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting Funding Formula Meeting with Review Committee Hollyburn Lantern Festival Meeting with Bowen Island Mayor & Council Pink Shirt Day Presidents' Committee Meeting Hollyburn Library Read Aloud	Irwin Park Library Read Aloud Rockridge Film – Grey Matter Sentinel Multi-Cultural Lunch Sentinel Production of Pride and Prejudice WV Chamber of Commerce Series with Mayor Smith WV Chamber of Commerce Series with MP Goldsmith-Jones WV Community Foundation Persian New Year Celebration WV Memorial Library Digital Space Opening WV DPAC Meeting WVSS Production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
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K. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minutes)

Renee Willock – Vice President, WVTA

- asked if with the change to VOIP, each classroom will still have a phone available

The Superintendent replied that it was an in/out system, and those classrooms that had previously had a phone, would receive one as part of the new system.

The Chair concluded the meeting by acknowledging the Humboldt Broncos bus tragedy and saying that our thoughts are with all those affected. She is cognisant of the fact that many of our students travel by bus every day and that it was an event that struck home.

L. ADJOURNMENT

8:44 pm

BOARD CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER