



**SD70 (ALBERNI) BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC MINUTES
7:00 pm – January 8, 2019
Administration Office, Port Alberni, B.C.**

Trustees P. Craig, J. Bennie, C. Watts, C. Washington, S. Leslie
Administration: G. Smyth, B. Witte, L. Cheetham
P&VP: M. Fryer

Call to Order – 7:12pm Trustee Craig in the Chair.

Trustee Craig acknowledged the Tseshaht and Hupacasath people on whose territory we live, work and learn.

Questions/Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Bennie and seconded by Trustee Watts that the Agenda of January 8, 2019 be approved.

CARRIED

Conflict of Interest Declaration – Nil

1.0 Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Trustee Washington and seconded by Trustee Leslie that the minutes of December 11, 2018 be approved.

CARRIED

2.0 Announcements of the Chair

- The Chair welcomed Councilor Ron Corbeil and PVPA rep Marc Fryer.

3.0 Good News from the Schools/ School Inquiry Project

4.0 Trustee Statements

- Trustee Craig reminded everyone about the Totem Tournament.
- Trustees attended many School Concerts in December.

5.0 Petitions/Delegations/Presentations - Nil

6.0 Staff Reports

6.1 Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent will provide his monthly report – *attached*.

6.2 Grad Program

The Superintendent reported on a meeting with the Ministry regarding the Grad Program and noted nothing substantial or groundbreaking about the new program. The courses and credit requirements are the same, course names are similar and there are some new course options in Language Arts and Social Studies. He also reported that while there is general support for the revised program, there remains some sizeable

system push-back with respect to system-wide literacy/numeracy assessments, structuring of Language Arts curriculum, lack of clarity regarding Career Ed course, absence of mandatory Aboriginal Ed course and failure to align K-9 reporting with 10-12 reporting.

6.3 Expenditures for November 2018 – *Lindsay Cheetham*

Moved by Trustee Washington and seconded by Trustee Leslie that the expenditures for the month of November 2018 be approved as follows:

Description	November
Supplies and Services	\$671,314.28
Salaries and Benefits	\$3,205,273.91
	\$3,876,588.19

CARRIED

7.0 Executive Committee Reports - Nil

8.0 Unfinished Business/New Business – Nil

9.0 Policy Development

9.1 Policy Adoption – *P101: Diversity and Inclusion*

Moved by Trustee Bennie and seconded by Trustee Leslie that the board approve the adoption of P101: Diversity and Inclusion.

CARRIED

10.0 Correspondence – Action Required - Nil

11.0 Correspondence – For Information

11.1 copy of letter from the District of Tofino dated December 14, 2018 re: *Tofino Official Community Plan 2019 Update*.

11.2 copy of letter from the City of Port Alberni dated December 11, 2018 re: *City of Port Alberni/SD70 Liaison*.

11.3 copy of the Westerly News dated December 5 and 12, 2018.

11.4 copy of the Ha-Shilth-Sa News dated December 13, 2018.

12.0 Board Committees - Nil

13.0 Internal District Committees - Nil

14.0 External or Community Committees

14.1 BCSTA Provincial Council – *Trustee Craig*

15.0 Audience Question Period - Nil

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on February 12, 2019 at the Administration Office at 7:00 p.m.

Pam Craig

Trustee Craig, Chair

L. Cheetham

L. Cheetham, Secretary-Treasurer



Superintendent's Report January 8, 2019

School Closure/Dismissal for Inclement Weather

Recent spate of weather – in particular power outages and compromised roads – serves as an opportunity to remind everyone of how schools respond to severe, unexpected weather that impacts on school operations. We're quite familiar with what happens when schools close for the entire day but less familiar with what happens when things happen *after* school is already in session.

For example, the extreme weather and power outages prior to winter break gave many people reason to think we'd close schools during the day and send students home prior to weather worsening. It's not as easy as it seems on paper, as dismissing school early impacts on established family expectations and routines, and is unlikely to successfully reunite all students and families prior to the end of a normal school day. In short, it is far easier, less chaotic and often safer to accommodate students through to the end of a normal school day than it is to have an early dismissal. This is especially the case when the impact of extreme weather is not universal across the community.

We *have* successfully dismissed early but usually in extreme cases when other systems and organizations are also closing operations for the day and families are both expecting and prepared to accommodate an early dismissal. Unless we have a clear indication that conditions will worsen or cannot be rectified, though, we stay in session and try to follow normal routines as best as possible.

Looking forward

- Elementary Report Card – January/February 2019
- Graduation Program Implementation – ongoing
- 2019/20 registration – starts February 1st, advertisements soon to be in newsletters and media
- Collective Agreement negotiations with CUPE Local 727 and ADTU/BCTF
- ADSS Totem Tournament – January 10-12
- Abashiri Delegation – January 10-11
- Curriculum Implementation Day – January 28th
- Finalizing UES/USS Seismic mitigation submission

Intersectoral Partnerships & Planning

- Early Care and Learning proposal from Alberni Valley Early Years Centre
- Child Care Spaces Planning – MCFD, Minister of State for Child Care, MoE
- Mental Health & Wellbeing – MMHA, MCFD, MoE