

Committee Report of Resources Committee Meeting Live and via MS Teams September 14, 2021

Present: Bob Beckett, Trustee (Committee Chair)
Wendy Hobbs, Trustee (Committee Member)
Margot Swinburnson, Trustee (Committee Member)
Ravi Parmar, Trustee
Scott Stinson, Superintendent & CEO
Harold Cull, Secretary-Treasurer
Krista Leakey, SPVPA
Amber Leonard, CUPE
Michelle Mackintosh, SPEAC
Ed Berlando, STA
Nicole Gestwa, IT

Guests: Pete Godau, Director of Facilities
Alex Samosevitch, Manager, Major Capital Construction
Mhairi Nicolson, Manager Minor Capital Construction
Tyson Sauser, Grounds Foreperson

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIRST NATIONS TERRITORIES

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by the Committee Chair, Bob Beckett acknowledged that we are honoured to be meeting on the traditional territories of the Coast Salish, specifically Esquimalt Nation, Songhees Nation and acknowledge the three nation SD 62 works with directly in our schools; Sc'ianew Nation, Coast Salish, and T'Sou-ke Nation; including the West Coast Pacheedaht Nation Nuu-chah-nulth. (words gifted by the three Nations SD62 works with)

2. COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board of Education of Sooke School District 62 (Sooke) received the Resources Committee Report dated June 8, 2021 at its Public Board Meeting dated June 22, 2021.

3. PRESENTATIONS

Committee Chair Bob Beckett welcomed the Committee back and asked our employee groups how the school year start-up has been from a personal and professional perspective.

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Ventilation in Schools and Buildings – Harold Cull

Staff presented to the Committee the approach taken by the District to improve the ventilation in our buildings as a result of the pandemic. As with most Districts, we have chosen to increase the amount of air exchanges in order to continue to keep our staff and students safe during and after the pandemic.

The Committee also discussed the following items:

- There are 6 air exchanges every hour in our buildings;
- We have over 100 systems in 28 schools;
- The District's HVAC systems were audited and created a baseline from which the improvements have been made from;
- Some of our older buildings have manual levers to exchange the air in rooms and most of these levers were upgraded to automatic systems that could be centrally controlled;
- Our portables have manual air exchange controls (opening windows) as well as furnaces to regulate the timing of the exchange
- The District will be completing the Ministry's Ventilation System Overview document and will providing copies to the local Joint Occupational Health and Safety (JOHS) Committees for discussion as the school/building level.

4.2 Minor & Major Capital Update – Mhairi Nicolson/Alex Samousevitch

Staff presented a series of pictures of the minor capital work completed in the District between April and the end of June 2021. Staff discussed the challenges it faces, including supply chain delays and product/material inflation. Future reports to the Committee will profile the work being considered in-house rather than contracting out to external parties.

The new school builds for Pexsisen Elementary and Centre Mountain Lellum Middle School were highlighted with a number of pictures to reflect the current work to date. The Committee also discussed ensuring the successful proponents on future projects have our current and former students work on these projects.

4.3 Pest Management Policy and Regulations F 228 – Pete Gadau

At the June 22, 2021 Public Board Meeting, the Board of Education directed staff to bring forward a revised Policy and Regulation F-228 Pest Management to reflect the banning of the use of glyphosates (Round-Up) on school grounds. The Committee discussed the current use of glyphosates (Round-Up) on SD 62 property; invasive species on school property; and alternative methods of control if Round-Up was barred.

The Committee also discussed rodent control and whether this should be included in Policy F 228. The Committee recommended that staff should bring the information presented to the Committee (including estimated costs to switch to another option) to the Board of Education at its Public Board Meeting scheduled for September 28, 2021 before revising the policy.

4.4 Guiding Principles to School Construction – Harold Cull

At the June 22, 2021 Public Board Meeting, the Board of Education directed staff to create an engagement process to develop guiding principles reflective of the voices of our students, partners, Indigenous nations, and community, to support future direction on capital projects.

The Committee suggested that the District reach out to local municipalities, to ensure their feedback is included in the guiding principles. Furthermore, it was recognized that SD 62 staff know their communities best and have great ideas. It was recommended that the District should solicit feedback from its staff prior to engaging the communities. The Committee agreed that conducting face to face discussions was key for success in this process; feedback will be reflected in the guiding principles which will be provided to the Board of Education for consideration.

5. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE: October 12, 2021