

GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, January 29, 2025
PHSS, Port Hardy – 5:00 pm
MINUTES

Attendance:

Shawn Gough	VINTA	Jason Voth	PHSS
Julie Nielsen	EVES	Melanie Demoe	PHSS
Leah Slacke	PHSS	Heather Miller	EVES
Colette Doan	EVES	Darcy House	PHSS
Jeanine Nicholson	NISS	Brianna Bartel	EVES
Barry Korven	NISS	Teresa Wadhams	CHES
Heather Jack	Sunset	Kevin McGhee	PHSS
Malcolm Fleeton	Sunset	Ricki McCrae	NISS
Courtney Wall	PHSS	Joel Dyck	PHSS
Paul Cagna	PHSS	Sarah Soltau	FRES
Marc Andre Gosselin	PHSS	Sharon Johansen	PHSS
Sherri Williams	PHSS	Eric Blouin	PHSS

1. Call to Order. Courtney Wall, Chair: 5:25 PM.
2. Review/adoption of agenda dated January 29, 2025.
MOVED: Demoe/Nicholson
That the agenda of January 29, 2025 be adopted as presented.
CARRIED
3. Review/adoption of minutes dated September 25th, 2024.

MOVED: Nicholson/Dyck
That the minutes of September 25th, 2024 be adopted as presented.
CARRIED

4. Business:

a. AGM Delegate election

Jason Voth announced the election and called for any nominations. Courtney Wall was nominated by Shawn Gough. Courtney Wall was declared after no one else stood against her. Courtney Wall is now the AGM Delegate.

b. Review of Local Matters Agreement in Principle

5 items put forth, to move the advance pay to the work day before the 15th, non certified teacher replacement, days in leu for teachers putting on training, definition of violence, no way diminishes the role of admin in violent situations, race relations to anti-racism this change has already taken place, other items put forth were considered provincial, clean-up LOU around spring break, who controls the extra minutes, days in leu for the extra minutes, elementary extra early release on early dismissal days, not getting much this year, the high schools are suppose to be getting a turn around day at the end of the semester. Going forward there will be more collaboration on the use of the extra minutes.

c. AIP voting process

There is a procedure in place for AIP voting to be done at the General meeting but would like to see more teachers get have a vote in each school. Each schools reps can take to their school a voting package, more people involvement in the vote that way.

MOTION: McCrae/Nicholson

That the 2025 Local Matters Agreement vote take place at each school.

CARRIED

d. MLA visit

Went to Campbell River to meet with Kindly, she was very open to a educational conversation and asked a lot of great questions. The meeting went well and went away feeling heard.

e. VINTALK editing committee

Is an online newsletter to get information out about what is going on in the district. Each school can submit articles to add to the newsletter, would like to see positive stories around the district from all the different schools. It is on the front page of the VINTA website, you can email articles to the office.

- f. VINTA AGM and elections timeline
Will take place on the 4th Wednesday in April as there are actually 5 Wednesdays. AGM procedures were reviewed. The names will be publicised 2 weeks prior to the meeting.
- g. Equity seeking and French Educators positions on EC
Engagement in the union, would like more people in the know, BCTF is asking us to do the French contact and equity seeking position.

MOTION: Slacke/McCrae

That VINTA add an Equity Seeking and a French Language position on the Executive starting in 2025.

CARRIED

- h. Ombudsperson Investigation
Exclusion of students, a questionnaire is already released out to parents/guardians. Teaching staff, EA's and admin questionnaire will be out soon. This is not an attack on individual teachers, it is to see where the system is failing, some students are not able to attend due to the activity occurring and lack of staffing. They are going to do the investigation province wide.

5. Reports

- a) Treasurer's Report
 - i. Current Financial Report
We have money, no concerns.

MOVED: Demoe/Soltau

That VINTA approve the current financial report.

CARRIED

- b) President Report
The page of notes is included in the package.
- c) Professional Development Report
2 on going PD activities occurring right now. There are 10 – 1k collaboration grants available (corrected to 7) Mentorship grants available as well, upcoming February school based should start planning, May 9th is the district day it will have a math theme.
- d) Bargaining Report
It was a good experience, learned lots and proud of the 50% agreements.

- e) Social Justice Report
Still learning, there is a post on the VINTA website for anyone interested and you can ask Juile if you have any questions.
 - f) Health, Safety and Wellness Report
HSW still lacking in areas, seeking to have the district audited due to their lack of efforts, they are planning some HSW training but it's not enough, they are not interested in being proactive, they are not following proper procedures when a worker loses work hours and attends outside medical help.
 - g) Teacher on Call Report
We have applied for the TTOC appreciation grant of \$1500, are still in the planning stages of what to do with the funds, either a gathering or gifts. 64 names are on the list of those 8-9 are not in a part time contract.
 - h) Aboriginal Educators' Contact Report
MMIW - Feb 13, 2025, Meeting at the U'Mista Cultural Centre at 10am
 - i) Local Representative
Not here – Heading to the AGM, will provide more information soon, provincial bargaining starting soon.
 - j) Political Action
Public education conference, they too are struggling with the amount of time students spend in the washrooms, lots of the same issues like lack of TTOC's, funding for programs, rural issues and housing.
6. Other Business:
Door prizes, the winners were Sherri Williams and Brianna Bartel.
7. Adjournment 6:30