

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)**

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017, 6:08 P.M.**

PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	G. Ellingsen D. Rainer G. Swan L. Ward
	Student Trustees	C. Davey T. Thomson
	Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Assistant Superintendent	J. Aziz
	Executive Assistant	J. Yakimchuk

AGENDA

17/124 It was moved and seconded:
THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

17/125 It was moved and seconded:
THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held October 18, 2017, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Presentation: MSS – Me to We

Student Trustee Thomson introduced Merritt Secondary School teacher Shannon Dunn and students Olivia Dunn and Brooke Sporan, who presented a video on this year's We Day held at Rogers Arena in Vancouver. They described how the students had to earn their ticket to attend We Day by volunteering and working on

projects. This year, there were 32 tickets earned at the school. Both students emphasised the overwhelming feeling of empowerment and inspiration to give back to their communities from attending the event.

Student Trustee Davy introduced Diamond Vale Elementary School principal Dan Duncan and teacher Becky Puterbough, as well as students Julianna Nicholls, Gursimar Nagra and Heidyn Hopkins. The students presented a video on their experiences surrounding We Day and noted that seventeen tickets were earned by students to attend We Day.

The Superintendent inquired how the district could help support We Day. Ms. Dunn said support for bussing would be a great help as well as the district could become a sponsor at the event.

The Chairman thanked the students, teachers and principal for their great presentations.

Presentation: Enhancing Learning Teachers

Diamond Vale Principal Dan Duncan provided information on the Enhancing Learning Teachers. He provided information on what DV is doing currently. They are working on improving writing, guided reading and numeracy at the school.

The Superintendent thanked Mr. Duncan and Ms. Puterbough for the work they are doing and their presentation.

Class Size Averages and Configuration

The Superintendent provided information on the annual report on class size averages and configurations. He noted the changes to the averages this year and the reasons for it. He further noted that all classes are within or below the limits as set out by the Ministry of Education.

Nominal Roll Audit

The Superintendent reported that Indian Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is completing an audit of the Nominal Roll which impacts all schools connected to the five local Bands. The report was completed on October 15, 2017 and submitted to INAC.

Take a Hike Program

The Superintendent reported that no commitment by either the district or the Take A Hike Program has been made to participate however, exploration of the possibilities will continue.

BCPSEA 24th Annual General Meeting – First Notice: Call for Proposed Resolutions

The Chairman noted that this was a first call for resolutions and that he didn't feel that this district had any at this time.

Field Trips

The Superintendent provided information on the level 3 field trip request.

Additionally, he reported that a satellite phone has been made available for use on field trips to remote areas that allows for texting through a GPS system.

17/126

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Vermilion Forks Elementary Grade 4 – 7 field trip to Apex Mountain Resort on January 31, 2018 and February 28, 2018, be approved as requested subject to Board policy.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent commended the Operations department for their work and focus on student safety in the preparation for the upcoming winter months. He also reported on the following events happening in the district:

- Professional learning: focus on literacy, Faye Brownlie instruction, POPPEI, Enhancing Learning Teacher meeting, and Supervision for Learning Level 2;
- LEA progress;
- EA progress;
- Ministry meetings
- FSA writing;
- FSA scoring will take place at the District level;
- Report card writing and parent/teacher interviews;
- Lahal Tournament at Diamond Vale Elementary School; and
- Remembrance Day assemblies and activities.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Solar Power

Trustee Rainer discussed the prospect of use of solar power in Princeton. He requested that the Operations Manager get in touch with the Lower Nicola Indian Band regarding the solar power on their facility.

17/126 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Operations Manager report on the feasibility of solar power and provide a recommendation to the Board by January 2018.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Rural Education Enhancement Fund (REEF)

The Superintendent reported that the district would like to make application to the Rural Education Enhancement Fund (REEF) in support of Princeton Secondary School. He noted the district believes PSS fits the criteria for the REEF by being a small rural school with a student enrollment of 147 FTE and being at risk of closure based on its enrollment. He reported that senior staff does not recommend it be closed but rather supported through an application to the REEF.

17/127 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the district supports an application for the Rural Education Enhancement Fund (REEF) for Princeton Secondary School.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AUDIT AND FINANCE

LINKS Additional Requests

A request for additional LINKS funding was made from most of the schools this year. The Assistant Superintendent reported that every program put forward for consideration this year was met and funding was provided.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Policy No. 805.1 – Contingency Reserve

17/128 It was moved and seconded:

THAT first and second reading be give for Policy No. 805.1 – Contingency Reserve and sent out to the public for feedback.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TRUSTEE REPORTS

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Swan for Merritt Bench Elementary School, Trustee Rainer for John Allison Elementary School, Trustee Ellingsen for Nicola-Canford Elementary School, Trustee Ward for Vermilion Forks Elementary, and Trustee Comeau for Princeton Secondary School.

Student Trustee Report

The Student Trustees Thomson and Davey reported on the recent events at Merritt Secondary School.


CORRESPONDENCE

Ministry of Tourism, Arts & Culture Re: ASSAI Grant

A cheque was received in the amount of \$109,640 for funding for the 2017 – 2018 and the 2018 – 2019 school year for the After School Sports and Arts Initiative.

ADJOURNMENT

: The regular meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.


Chairman


Secretary Treasurer