

MINUTES

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

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2017, 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	G. Ellingsen B. Jepsen T. Kroeker D. Rainer G. Swan L. Ward
	Student Trustees	R. Chhabra T. Thomson
	Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Assistant Superintendent	C. Perkins
	Secretary Treasurer	K. Black
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	L. Lutter

AGENDA

17/011 It was moved and seconded:
THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

17/012 It was moved and seconded:
THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held December 14, 2016, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Presentation: Diamond Vale Elementary School – Intermediate Coding

Student Trustee Thomson introduced Diamond Vale teacher Peter Schmid, and SCIDES teachers Gareth Tilt and Robert French.

Mr. Schmid provided a backstory regarding how Mr. French had instructed a Pro-d session on coding. He noted that his class has learned the technique and to date, have written over 25,000 lines of code.

Two Diamond Vale Elementary students provided an example of some coding work they have learnt.

Mr. French noted that the drag and drop-coding format looks similar in format to where they can progress when typing out code in later grades.

Presentation: Merritt Central Elementary School – Kindergarten Calendars

Student Trustee Chhabra introduced teacher Julie Collins and Education Assistant Taylor Morrison. Merritt Central Elementary Kindergarten students introduced their calendar that they made for presents to their parents.

2017/2018 School Calendar Approval

The Superintendent noted that the calendar was sent out for feedback in December and to date no feedback has been received on the proposed calendar for 2017/2018.

17/013

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the 2017/2018 school calendar be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Supreme Court of Canada Update

The Superintendent provided an update on the Supreme Court of Canada case. He noted that the province has committed to allocating \$50 million to districts with our district to receive \$241,814 as its allocation. The Superintendent confirmed that this equates to approximately 7 FTE but noted it will likely be approximately 10 or more staff receiving positions totalling the 7 FTE. He noted that a district committee is in place comprised of district staff and the Union Co-Presidents and advised the process that has been agreed to is to have consultation at each of the schools.

The Vice-Chair asked about other areas of budget concerns in relation to portables, heating, lighting costs and other maintenance concerns. The Superintendent advised that space and areas are currently being reviewed.

Elder Protocol

The Assistant Superintendent updated Trustees on the Elder protocol agreement.

Enhancing Learning Plans

The Superintendent provided a draft invite with evening sessions scheduled for Merritt on February 22, 2017 and Princeton March 1, 2017 . Based on people's availability and feedback a final decision on the format and dates will be determined.

Field Trips

17/014

It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for the Princeton Secondary School Apex Mountain ski field trip on January 19, 2017, as requested subject to Board policy.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent provided an update of the following activities in the district.

Supreme Court's Decision on Class Size and Composition Language:

- Interim Measures MOU
- Needs of Schools / Classrooms (enrolling and non-enrolling)
- Consultation
- Staffing

Wellbeing:

- Emergency Preparedness
 - Lock Down Drills
 - Emergency Kits
 - Naloxone Kits

Learning:

- BCSSA Regional Forum (Enhancing Learning Teams)
 - Virtual Field Trips
 - Learning Commons
 - Blended Learning
 - Assessment / Reporting
- Enhancing Learning Café
 - February 22nd or March 1st (Board Feedback)
 - Sharing of plans
- Regional Meeting on Reporting
- Professional Development
 - New curriculum
 - Mentorship
 - Enquiry
 - Inclusion

Organizational Excellence:

- Facility Upgrades
 - bus shelters (MSS and PSS)
- Equipment
 - technology infrastructure / equipment
 - sources out in next week to two
 - kilns
 - maker space equipment / trailers
- Resources
 - aboriginal literacy bins
- Policy Updates

Community:

- Curriculum Breakfasts
- Meeting with Chiefs and Communities
- Reporting Committee

Trustee Ellingsen left at this time

AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**Surplus Goods Sale**

The Secretary Treasurer advised of the upcoming surplus good sales starting on January 23, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

Appointment of Auditors

The Secretary Treasurer recommended the appointment of McConnell Voelkl as auditors for the 2016/2017 school year. He noted that last January it was discussed to go out for tender for the district's auditors. He advised that he would still commit to this but would like to complete the financial software conversion prior to a tender process.

17/015

It was moved and seconded:

THAT McConnell Voelkl be appointed as the District's auditors for the 2016/2017 school year.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

POLICY COMMITTEE**Policy No. 702.5 – Use of Private Vehicles**

The Secretary Treasurer advised of the updates to Policy No. 702.5. He noted the changes were not significant.

14/016

It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy No. 702.5 be read a first and second time.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was unanimous that final reading take place.

17/017

It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy No. 702.5 be read a third time finally passed and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TRUSTEE REPORTS

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Jepsen for Diamond Vale and Merritt Central Elementary Schools, Trustee Swan for Merritt Secondary School and Merritt Bench Elementary School, Trustee Kroeker for Collettsville Elementary School and SCIDES, Trustee Ward for Vermilion Forks Elementary.

Student Trustee Report

The Student Trustees reported on recent events at Merritt Secondary School.

The main highlights being:

- New semester starts January 30th;
- Many sports activities going on;
- Grad trip going to Harrison Hot Springs;
- Student Art Festival in the spring;
- Automotive women in trades program starting.

Other Reports

Trustee Swan provided an update of the recent DPAC meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

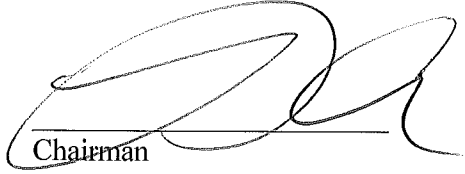
The following correspondence was received and action taken:

- Ministry of Education announcing amendments to the Trustee Elections;
- Ministry of Education providing information into the Rural Education Enhancement Fund application process;
- ArtStarts in Schools grant of \$7,200 towards performing arts programs for schools;
- BCSTA 113th AGM call for motions; and

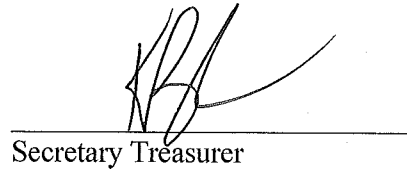
- Ministry of Education dates for regional meetings regarding rural education.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary Treasurer