

MINUTES

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

**PRINCETON BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2012, 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	R. Gage T. Kroeker D. Laird D. Rainer G. Swan L. Ward
	Superintendent	R. Peacock
	Secretary Treasurer	K. Black
	Assistant Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	L. Lutter

AGENDA

12/173

SWAN-LAIRD

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

MINUTES

12/174

WARD-RAINER

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held November 7, 2012, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Presentation – PSS Bamfield Field Trip

Princeton Secondary School Principal Sandee Blair introduced teacher Crystal Larsen who indicated she has 26 grade 11 and 12 biology students interested in the field trip to the Bamfield Marine Education/Research Facility. Ms. Larsen provided an overview of the educational activities that would be provided pending approval from the Board. She confirmed that chaperones would be provided based on district policy. The trip would commence on Thursday, May 9, 2013 using the schools activity bus with an estimated interim budget of \$550 per student.

12/175

SWAN-RAINER

THAT approval in principle be given to the Princeton Secondary School Grade 11 and 12 field trip to the Bamfield Marine Educational/Research Facility in May 2013, with a final proposal being brought back to the Board.

CARRIED

Aboriginal Academy 10

The Superintendent reported that due to the success of the Aboriginal Academy 9, Merritt Secondary School is considering providing an Aboriginal Academy 10.

LEA Update

The Superintendent advised that he has received a draft LEA from the Upper Nicola Indian Band. The document has been reviewed and feedback has been provided to the Band Manager. It is hoped another meeting can be set-up to finalize the draft LEA. Once an agreement is reached, the district could use this as a template for agreements with the other Bands.

Field Trips

The Superintendent reviewed the list of Superintendent approved field trips.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent updated Trustees on a number of the activities going on in the district. He made note of the elementary volleyball at CMS with two teams participating per school, the MSS Healthy Choices Fair and the Administrators retreat January 17-19 at the South Thompson Interior Guest Ranch.

He noted Highland Valley Copper will be providing support to the Aboriginal Academy 9 this year. He also presented the Enhancement Agreement plaque for Trustees to view.

The Assistant Superintendent noted that twenty-six participants took part in the Middle Years workshops that recently took place in the district. He also provided information on the ERASE Bullying program.

Superintendent's Report On Student Achievement

The Superintendent provided an overview on the 2012 Superintendent's Report on Student Achievement that is required under the *School Act*.

The Report is intended to ensure transparency and accountability for each school district in terms of its responsibility for improving student achievement. He noted that it provides information that will facilitate planning for the continuing improvement of student achievement at the school and district levels and provides specific evidence and measures in the area of literacy, school completion results as well as a progress report on children in care.

12/176

SWAN-WARD

THAT the Superintendent's Annual Report on Student Achievement dated December 2012 be accepted.

CARRIED

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Capital Bylaw No. 126549 – Bus Replacement

The Secretary Treasurer provided information on the Bus Replacement Capital Project Bylaw in the amount of \$210,633.

12/177

GAGE-RAINER

THAT Bus Replacement Capital Project Bylaw No. 126549 specifying a maximum expenditure of \$210,633 be read a first, and second time.

CARRIED

It was unanimous that a third reading be held.

12/178

SWAN-KROEKER

THAT Bus Replacement Capital Project Bylaw No. 126549 specifying a maximum expenditure of \$210,633 be read a third time, finally passed and adopted.

CARRIED

The Secretary Treasurer noted the district would like to order two 70 passenger International busses that were on the Ministry's specifications list. He advised that the district would prefer to purchase a Kirkman bus however, they did not meet the Ministry's minimum specifications. The district's choice was to either purchase an alternative bus or defer to next year.

12/179

LAIRD-WARD

THAT approval be given to purchase two 70 passenger International buses in the amount of \$210,633.

CARRIED**Teachers' Provincial Extended Health Benefits Plan**

The Secretary Treasurer provided information on the three issues in dispute with respect to the implementation of the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan:

1. The rights of the union and obligations of the employer regarding the selection or change of insurance provider/carrier of the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan.
2. The effective date of the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan.
3. The application of restrictions regarding dual coverage under current extended health benefit plans to the Provincial Extended Health Benefits Plan.

The parties agreed to have Mark Brown act as a mediator/arbitrator on November 25, 2012 with the following resolutions being agreed upon:

1. The carrier/insurer of the Plan may only be changed with prior consultation between BCPSEA and the BCTF.
2. The Plan shall be effective retroactive to July 1, 2012.
3. All dual coverage restrictions for teachers' extended health coverage only will be removed effective retroactive to July 1, 2012.

The Secretary Treasurer noted there are 14 potential candidates for the adoption of dual coverage. The cost for extended health benefits is the same for single, couple or family currently at \$91.21, which the district pays 100%. Therefore, potentially, if all 14 teachers were to apply for EHB, the additional cost would be \$1,276.94 per month or retroactive from to July 1, 2012 to December would be \$7,679.64.

BUILDING COMMITTEE**Project Updates**

The Secretary Treasurer advised that all of the deficiencies at the House of Honour have been repaired with the exception of the cracks in the posts. He noted pictures have been taken and forwarded to the architect for recommendations with no reply as of yet.

The Superintendent commented on the lack of progress on the Nicola-Canford Modular Project. Currently the funding is not in place. In addition, as per the architect's notes, the project will take a year to complete once the funding is in place. Two suggestions made were to move students into portables at Nicola-Canford during construction or to move the students to CMS in September for the construction year.

The Superintendent reported that the dry walling is in progress in the Merritt Secondary School gymnasium. Once finished, the floor can then be completed and a coat of urethane will be applied over the Christmas break.

Merritt Central Playground

The Secretary Treasurer provided information on the current plans to spend the \$50,000 received from Capital Bylaw No. 126368 for playground equipment at Merritt Central Elementary School. He reviewed the detailed diagrams of the playground equipment included in the agenda. It was noted that extensive consultation with the Merritt Central PAC has occurred and all parties are excited about the upcoming changes.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Policy Development

Deferred to next meeting.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

PAC Reports

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Gage for Diamond Vale, Trustee Swan for Merritt Secondary and Merritt Bench Elementary Schools, Trustee Ward for Vermilion Forks Elementary School, Trustee Laird for Nicola-Canford Elementary School, Trustee Rainer for Princeton Secondary School and Trustee Comeau for John Allison Elementary School.

Other Reports

Trustee Rainer reported on the excellent community band concert recently held at Riverside which included a number of the junior and senior students from Princeton.

metoo.bc.ca

Trustee Swan provided an overview of the metoo.bc.ca.

BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch Nominations

The Chairman noted that the BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch has a number of openings for Directors and advised the Board would support any Trustee who may be interested in running for a position.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and action taken:

- ArtStarts in Schools regarding the 2012/2013 grant for performing arts
- City of Merritt's response to the Board's letter regarding the need for sidewalks in the Collettsville school area.

12/180

LAIRD-RAINER**ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary Treasurer