

MINUTES

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

**PRINCETON BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2012, 6:00 P.M.**

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

AGENDA

12/024

SWAN-WARD

THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

MINUTES

12/025

LAIRD-GAGE

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held January 11, 2012 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

The Chairman recognized Ken Heuser for his 25 years of service as a Trustee to School District No. 17 (Princeton) and after amalgamation, to School District No. 58 (Nicola-Similkameen). The Chairman thanked Trustee Heuser for not only the service he offered as a Trustee but also the additional volunteer service that he provided the community. It was also noted the Trustee Heuser has obtained a Life Membership with BCSTA for his years of service.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Presentation - Vermilion Forks Elementary School

Principal of Vermillion Forks and John Allison Elementary Schools, Barry Clarke introduced Student Support Service teacher Candice Ostertag. Ms. Ostertag provided an overview of the Clicker and Kerswell software programs purchased through a grant from Special Education Technology (SET) BC. Ms. Ostertag also noted that seven Toshiba laptops and three flip cameras had been purchased as well. She presented the SET BC webpage with her own blog Ancient Civilization Innovation.

Principal Barry Clarke then introduced Princeton Helping Teacher Rod Miller. Mr. Miller provided an overview of the use of iPads in schools and reviewed a number of the benefits they provide to students.

Mr. Miller also reviewed his role as the Math Helping teacher, outlining the benefits and rewards this position provides Princeton area students. He gave an overview of the initiatives that he is pursuing in particular, the IXL Online Math Learning Tool.

Report Cards

The Superintendent circulated a letter that will be going home to all parents regarding why students may be receiving incomplete final semester one report cards or none at all. He advised that the staff at both Princeton and Merritt Secondary Schools are able to issue report cards and updates in one envelope for distribution. He also noted that marks for grade twelve's are being issued as per the Labour Relations Board direction.

Field Trips

The Superintendent provided an overview of the Level Four field trip request from Diamond Vale Elementary School to Camp Squeah. He also advised that the Princeton Secondary School European field trip is moving forward and provided an update on the details.

12/026

GAGE-SWAN

THAT the Diamond Vale Elementary School Grade 5/6 field trip to Camp Squeah in Hope on June 5, 2012 be approved as requested.

CARRIED

School Plans

The Superintendent noted that with the current job action, it is very difficult to gather data on School Plans. He has advised Principals to meet with their School Planning Councils (SPC) to discuss the current and future school plans as well as the review processes.

Academic Update

Assistant Superintendent McNiven provided an overview of the district learning resources, in particular District Initiatives, Helping Teachers, and School Initiatives:

- District Initiatives include: Early Learning, Aboriginal Education, Student Support Services, Differentiated Instruction, Assessment for Learning, and Self-Regulation.
- Helping teachers include: Behaviour Support, Literacy Support, Numeracy Support, and Technology Support.

A few School Initiatives include: Lexia Reading, Guided Reading, IXL, and Primary Teacher Collaboration.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent provided an update on events happening in the district including the recent Carnaval week at Collettsville Elementary School and the laptop training for teachers with the most recent session taking place on February 4, 2012. He also noted the following upcoming events:

- Burn Awareness Week February 6th to 10th
- The District Handball tournament February 15th & 16th
- Non-instructional day on February 17, 2012
- And the Mobile Technology Open House on February 21, 2012 at MSS beginning at 5:30 p.m.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Capital Plan Bylaw No. 126368

The Secretary Treasurer explained that this Bylaw is to reimburse Vermillion Forks PAC for playground equipment which was funded by the PAC. He thanked Trustee Ward for bringing this information to his attention.

12/027

SWAN-LAIRD

THAT Capital Plan Bylaw No. 126368 Parent Advisory Council Reimbursement for Playground Equipment (2011) specifying a maximum expenditure of \$4,079 be read a first, second, and third time, finally passed and adopted.

CARRIED

Amended Annual Budget Bylaw

The 2011/2012 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw was circulated for review.

12/028

SWAN-GAGE

THAT the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the 2011/2012 fiscal year specifying a budget bylaw amount of \$25,989,376 be read a first, second, and third time, finally passed and adopted.

CARRIED**Photocopier**

The Secretary Treasurer provided information regarding the provincial government purchasing agreement with both RICOH and XEROX. He noted that the district receives savings of approximately 50% on the purchase of photocopiers through the provincial agreement.

He recommended the Board approve the purchase of a Aficio MP Ricoh colour photocopier with a net cost of \$12,504. He also reported that the district should see a slight cost savings on black and white copying with this copier, with a significant savings for colour copying as opposed to out-sourcing or color printing.

12/029

SWAN-GAGE

THAT approval be given for the purchase of an Aficio MP Ricoh color photocopier at a net cost of \$12,504.

CARRIED

The Chairman recognized that the parents requesting bus transportation were in attendance and therefore, informed them of the Board's decision from the Special meeting.

Parent Bussing Request

The Chairman advised that the request from a student's parents to provide bussing from the Airport subdivision in Princeton to Princeton Secondary School had been denied as the distance was within the walk limits. He advised the parents, who were in attendance at the meeting, that the Superintendent, Maintenance Supervisor and himself would be available to discuss this further upon completion of the Regular meeting.

BUILDING COMMITTEE**Minor Capital Update**

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the 2011 minor capital list indicating the projects that have been completed. He also noted a memo has been sent out to all administrative officers asking for requests for the upcoming year.

Princeton Secondary School Water Servicing Improvements

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the quotes for the Princeton Secondary School Water Servicing Improvements and recommended that the district proceed with CHB Services in the amount of \$21,795.20. It was noted that reference checks were done in accordance with past practice.

12/030

LAIRD-RAINER

THAT the contract for Princeton Secondary School Water Servicing Improvements be awarded to CHB Services in the amount of \$21,795.20.

CARRIED

TRUSTEE REPORTS

PAC Reports

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Swan for Merritt Bench Elementary School, Trustee Gage for Merritt Central Elementary School, Trustee Laird for Nicola-Canford Elementary School, Trustee Rainer for Princeton Secondary School and Trustee Ward for SCIDES.

Other Reports

Trustee Gage reported that he will be attending the upcoming BCSTA Provincial Council meeting. He noted there is a potential increase of 2% for BCSTA fees. Trustee Swan noted that the costs for this district would actually decline as the fees are based on a per pupil basis.

Chairman Comeau reported that Trustee Laird and senior staff recently attended the BCPSEA AGM. He provided an update on the provincial bargaining stale mate and noted that BCPSEA will continue to bargain in good faith.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

A question arose from the media regarding the Ministry of Education funding announcement for a new bus for School District No. 58. The Secretary Treasurer noted that \$99,892 had been approved for the purchase of the bus. He advised that the Maintenance Supervisor will review the options available and bring a recommendation to the Board for approval.

ADJOURNMENT

12/031

LAIRD-WARD

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary Treasurer