

MINUTES

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

**PRINCETON BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 17, 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

It was requested that UBCM be added to the Finance Committee.

12/141 **WARD-LAIRD**

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES

12/142 **RAINER-SWAN**

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held September 12, 2012, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Presentation – PSS Hunger Games

Princeton Secondary School Principal Sandee Blair introduced the Leadership teacher Crystal Larsen and the following Leadership students Megan Pateman, Julia Reichert, Kendra Leiding, Kennedy Edwards and Adam Ali. The student's provided information on the recent Hunger Games event held at Princeton Secondary School. The event was a huge success specifically by bringing the students together. The student body has asked that the Games be held again next year.

Chairman Comeau thanked Mrs. Larsen and her students for their presentation and their creative way of involving the student body.

Princeton Secondary School Activity Bus

Princeton Secondary School Principal Sandee Blair announced the arrival of the new Rebel Ride Activity Bus. She indicated how excited the school and PAC were to have the bus and provided an overview of the many activities that are planned for it's use.

Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement

Assistant Superintendent McNiven provided a summary of the recent successful signing of the Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement. He noted the hard work and dedication of the First Nation Support Workers in the preparation of the evening. He also noted the Agreement is a five-year document but reiterated that it is a working document which will be reviewed regularly by a working committee.

Summer Reading Report

Assistant Superintendent McNiven provided an overview of the Summer Reading Program that took place in the district. Forty-two students participated in the program. Entry level reading tests were compared with exit level tests and overall, the district was satisfied with the results of the program.

Mr. McNiven thanked the teachers Jennifer Denton, Daniella Ricci, and Robyn Thomas for their hard work in running the program.

Kengard Learning Centre (KLC) School Schedule

The Superintendent circulated the draft KLC school schedule and reviewed the proposed changes. He discussed in detail both options and provided a recommendation that the Board approve the proposed changes.

12/143

GAGE-SWAN

THAT approval be given to the schedule changes at KLC as recommended by the Superintendent.

CARRIED**Collettsville Elementary School Sidewalks**

The Superintendent discussed the recent accident at the bridge between Collettsville and Central Elementary Schools. It was noted that the road between the two schools is very narrow with no sidewalks or shoulders on either side of the road. He recommended that the Board write a letter to the City of Merritt requesting the cost for sidewalks in the Collettsville Elementary School area be factored into their upcoming budget.

12/144

KROEKER-RAINER

THAT the Board write a letter to the City of Merritt requesting they add sidewalks to the Collettsville Elementary School area in their upcoming budget plans.

CARRIED**CommunityLINK Report**

Assistant Superintendent McNiven provided an overview of the CommunityLINK dollars that have been provided to the various schools in the district. The CommunityLINK dollars are to be used to:

- Establish effective programs which directly support vulnerable students
- Target CommunityLINK funds to vulnerable students
- Support family and community involvement
- Promote partnerships and an integrated approach to supporting vulnerable students with families, communities and service providers.

Mr. McNiven also noted that our district was one of twenty-five districts to receive additional funding for CommunityLink in the amount of \$91,998.

Enrolment Update

Assistant Secretary Treasurer Lynn Lutter reviewed the 1701 Student Data Collection for the period ending September 20, 2012. She noted that the overall enrollment is down 53.0625 FTE from the spring projections. The most significant drop is at Merritt Secondary School at 26 FTE from projection, with Merritt Central Elementary down 25 FTE and Diamond Vale Elementary down 24 FTE. On the upside, John Allison Elementary had an increase of 13 FTE. It was noted that if SCIDES is not factored in the enrollment figures, the FTE decrease over projections is at 75.4375 in the bricks and mortar schools.

The enrollment total of 2,144.9375 represents a drop of 155.0625 FTE compared to the enrolment at September of 2011. In addition, the grade 11 and 12 enrollment for September 2011 was 722 (head count) compared to 622 for September of 2012.

Self-identified Aboriginal students totalled 885 which is slightly down from projections of 890. Students identified as requiring special education support is close to the spring predictions: Level 1 is at the anticipated one and Level 2, an increase of two students for a total of 97. The most significant change was a decrease of Level 3 by five for a total of 23 students.

French Immersion enrolment is at 167 compared to 169 last year and ELL/ESD is at 89 students, up three from September 2011.

Bill 22

The Superintendent provided information regarding the one class at Merritt Secondary School that has one student over thirty in the class. He reviewed the different options for compensating the teacher for the class size. These comprised of either additional preparation, professional development allowance, allowance for classroom supplies and equipment or additional pay.

Field Trips

The Superintendent reviewed the list of field trips, providing information on the Merritt Bench Elementary School Level Three field trip to Myra Canyon in Kelowna.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent reviewed the district's Policy and Regulation No. 502.3 - Bullying and Harassment. In addition, he noted that school's Codes of Conduct are to be reviewed on an annual basis and sent out to parents.

He also provided information on the following activities:

- The elementary cross country and soccer seasons have recently completed and thanked all the staff and volunteers for a successful season.
- Welcoming dinners were held at Nicola-Canford and Merritt Bench Elementary Schools.
- 16 educators participated in the Adrienne Gear workshop on literacy.
- 10 students from The Bridge participated in the recent 5K run in Kelowna.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Nicola-Canford Elementary School Modular Project

The Superintendent informed that the district is still awaiting final approval for funding. He noted that four parents were identified to sit on a committee to go over the upcoming logistical challenges that will be occurring as a result of the Project.

The Superintendent noted that the students will transition most likely to Coquihalla Middle School starting after the Christmas break, with the goal to have the new Nicola-Canford building completed and ready for classes by September 2013.

Merritt Secondary School Gym Renovation

Superintendent Peacock provided information on the contemplated change notices for the Merritt Secondary School gymnasium. The change notices include the balloon framing which now requires fireproof insulation; the bulkhead in the change room is not to code; and the floor in the girls change room has dropped by approximately an inch indicating the ground was not compacted properly. He noted the total changes notices would be approximately \$27,000 some of which is already built in the existing renovation budget.

UBCM

The Secretary Treasurer reported that a funding application from Kengard Learning Centre has been received for \$12,500 plus an additional \$5,000 if available. The funding would be used for the Kengard Learning Centre to install a daycare fence, picnic table and basketball court and renovations to the school entrance.

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the project fits the criteria required by the School Community Connections program. He recommended approval subject to the specifics of the budget being worked out with the Principal involved.

12/145

SWAN-GAGE

THAT approval be given for the Kengard Learning Centre School Community Connections Program application for submission, subject to finalizing the budget as noted above.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

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

Other Reports

Trustee Gage discussed the possibility of providing a wreath from the School District for each of the two communities.

12/146

GAGE-RAINER

THAT the district purchase two wreaths for Remembrance Day to be presented by a Trustee and student representative at the ceremonies at each end of the district.

CARRIED

Trustee Swan commented on the recent Thompson Okanagan Branch meeting for BCSTA held in Revelstoke. He provided an overview of the Begbie Elementary School tour with the Neighborhood Learning Centre spaces for gymnastics and Early Learning/Literacy/Health and the Revelstoke Secondary School tour with the Neighborhood Learning Centre spaces for Performing Arts and Youth Support.

He also discussed the two resolutions that were brought forward regarding BCeSIS and the Cowichan School Board.

12/147

LAIRD-RAINER**ADJOURNMENT**

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

 Chairman

 Secretary Treasurer