

MINUTES

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

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2012, 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	R. Gage T. Kroeker 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 Kindergarten Registration Process and Safety Zone Blitz be added to the Education Committee.

12/115

RAINER-WARD

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES

12/116

RAINER-WARD

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held June 13, 2012 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Maintenance Update

The Maintenance Supervisor provided an overview of the numerous projects undertaken this summer.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Garfield and the maintenance staff for all of the hard work done over the summer.

Summary of Tenders

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the summary of the tenders received for the Merritt Secondary School change room renovation and the bleacher upgrade.

12/117

RAINER-WARD

THAT the contract for the Merritt Secondary School change room renovation be awarded to Delnor Construction in the amount of \$486,236.00 plus taxes.

CARRIED

12/118

SWAN-RAINER

THAT the contract for the bleacher replacement at both Merritt and Princeton Secondary Schools be awarded to Royal Stewart in the amount of \$71,243.00.

CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Graduation Requirements

Vice Principal of Merritt Secondary School, Karen Goetz, gave a brief review on the process for gathering information for the revision to the graduation requirements. She invited Trustees to a public meeting to be held on October 3, 2012 to discuss five questions the Ministry has posed to districts. The information will be collated and sent back to the Ministry.

Annual School Plans

The Superintendent reminded Trustees of the past process of PACs presenting their annual School Plans to Trustees. It was agreed that adequate time be permitted so as to allow for sufficient time for each school to present their plans.

Preliminary Enrolment

The Superintendent provided information regarding the preliminary enrolment to date. He noted that the number of students anticipated is down by seventy students from projections.

iPad Project – Shaw Cable

The Superintendent noted that the district's iPad project has been picked up by Shaw Cable and they have requested permission to do a documentary on the project.

12/119

SWAN-RAINER

THAT the district move forward with the Shaw Cable initiative subject to all paper work and privacy issues being addressed.

CARRIED**McCreary Adolescent Health Survey**

The Superintendent outlined the request from the McCreary Centre Society regarding the districts participation in the fifth BC Adolescent Health Survey (BC AHS) to take place in early 2013. The previous surveys conducted since 1992 allow for analysis of trends over time on key topics, such as school, family, substance use, exercise, nutrition, sexual health, and mental health. He noted that survey results will be widely distributed in a series of provincial and regional reports. Reports will not identify specific schools or school districts.

12/120

SWAN-GAGE

THAT approval be given for district schools to participate in the McCreary Centre BC Adolescent Health Survey.

CARRIED**Summer Institute**

Assistant Superintendent McNiven provided an update on the two speakers who presented at the recent summer institute held in Merritt at the end of August. Dr. Martin Brokenleg spoke on the Circle of Courage which offers concrete strategies for creating environments in which all young people can grow and flourish. Dr. Allyson Hadwin gave a presentation on Self-Regulated Learning which is a complex metacognitive and social process that involves adapting thinking, motivation, emotion and behaviour. In total, 222 participants were in attendance consisting of teachers, administration, CUPE and FNSWs.

Mr. McNiven thanked the Pro-D Committee for their continued hard work in providing excellent professional development opportunities for the district.

Updated Enhancement Agreement

Assistant Superintendent McNiven advised that sixteen months of collaborative work has been put into the updated Enhancement Agreement. He noted the four goals in the Agreement:

1. To increase the level of health and wellness amongst Aboriginal students.
2. To increase the level of participation and knowledge of local N̄çeŪkepm̄x and Syilx culture and language among students.
3. To improve Aboriginal students/parents feeling of self-worth and identity.
4. To improve the graduation/six year completion rate of Aboriginal students.

To date, Coldwater Indian Band, Lower Nicola Indian Band, Nooaitch First Nation and the Metis have agreed to sign the Enhancement Agreement. It is hoped the Agreement will be signed at the Welcoming Dinner on October 10, 2012.

12/121

GAGE-WARD

THAT the Board approve the signing of the Enhancement Agreement on October 10, 2012 for all Bands willing and able to participate.

CARRIED

Program Changes

Assistant Superintendent McNiven reviewed some of the various changes and activities that have occurred throughout the district:

- Fifteen students are enrolled in the Princeton Hockey Academy
- He has met with grade seven teachers and has received positive feedback with the new structure
- Merritt Secondary School is near capacity with the addition of the grade eights
- An off timetable Links program at Merritt Secondary School is now up and running
- A literacy and numeracy support block is being offered at Merritt Secondary School.
- The TRU Welding Trailer is at Merritt Secondary School with eleven students enrolled, eight from MSS and three from the community.

Mr. McNiven also provided an overview of the revised Kengard Learning Centre which now incorporates SCIDES, Community Learning Centre and Hearts & Hands and reviewed a pamphlet that was prepared to provide information of the services available.

Helping Teacher Roles

Assistant Superintendent McNiven provided an update of a number of different initiatives being offered by the Helping teachers:

- District Technology Coordinator Jason McAllister has been working on the iPad project,
- District Behaviour Support teacher Jackie Herman will be offering the seminar “How Does Your Engine Run?”
- Literacy Helping Teacher Jennifer Denton will be bringing in Adrienne Gear to provide a workshop on “Writing Power and Non-Fiction Reading Power”
- Numeracy Helping teacher Jana Heffernan will be holding Math Makes Sense program for elementary schools.

In addition, the New Teacher Orientation will held on October 9, 2012 to introduce new teachers to the various amenities of the school district.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent provided an update of the dental screening that the Ministry of Health will be doing; he noted extra-curricular activities are occurring in the district; and that Colin Kerridge is instructing the MSS Jazz Band three hours per week. The Superintendent also reminded Trustees of the upcoming Leadership Conference on November 15-16, 2012.

Kindergarten Registration

Trustee Ward requested information regarding the Kindergarten registration process. She noted she has received community feedback that working parents find it difficult to register during school hours.

The Superintendent offered to meet with Trustee Ward and look for alternatives.

Safety Zone Blitz

The Superintendent provided information of the RCMP's request to do a Safety Zone Blitz at Nicola-Canford and Merritt Central Elementary Schools. Drivers that are driving their vehicles at the posted school zone speed limit will be rewarded with a ticket of 'Thanks' from a student. In addition, one lucky driver will receive a Tim Horton's coupon. All the necessary safety precautions will need to be established.

12/0122

WARD-KROEKER

THAT the district proceed with the RCMP's proposed Safety Zone Blitz with the understanding that all safety precautions have been established.

CARRIED

FINANCE COMMITTEE

2011/2012 Audited Financial Statements

The Secretary Treasurer provided an in-depth review of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2012. This included the review of the annual facilities grant, revenues, expenses, surpluses and targeted funds.

12/123

GAGE-SWAN

THAT School District No. 58 (Nicola-Similkameen) Audited Financial Statements for the school year ending June 30, 2012 be accepted and approved as presented.

CARRIED

The Secretary Treasurer thanked his staff for the time and hard work they put in to put this year's package together.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

PAC Reports

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Swan for Merritt Secondary.

Other Reports

Trustee Gage reviewed the FNEC meeting held on September 11, 2012. He also noted the BCSTA Provincial Council meeting is on October 25 & 26, 2012. He noted that should any motions come forward he would ensure Trustees are aware of them.

Non-Sexist Environment

The Chairman read the communiqué confirming the Board will not tolerate any written or verbal expression of sexism. The Secretary Treasurer was asked to circulate this to the schools.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from the School Community Connections/UBCM – Round 2 confirming that a final cheque in the amount of \$5,250 will be awarded for the basketball court upgrade at Merritt Secondary School.

12/124

RAINER-KROEKER

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary Treasurer