

MINUTES

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

**PRINCETON BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2013, 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	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 Photocopier Purchase be added to the Finance Committee and Student Report be added to the Trustee Reports.

13/175 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

13/176 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held November 13, 2013, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Superintendent's Annual Report on Student Achievement

The Superintendent provided an overview on the 2013 Superintendent's Report on Student Achievement as requirement by 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.

13/176

It was moved and seconded

THAT the Superintendent's Annual Report on Student Achievement, dated December 2013, be accepted as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Administrative Officers' Retreat

The Superintendent advised that the annual administrative officer's retreat will take place February 27th and 28th in Penticton. He noted this year's focus will be to build on previous retreat topics.

LEA Update

The Superintendent advised that the LEA negotiations between Shackan, Nooaitch and Coldwater Bands are still continuing and are close to reaching an agreement.

Student Information System

The Assistant Superintendent advised that the district recently attended an overview of the Follett Aspen Student Information System. He advised the current system, BCeSiS, will be unsupported in the near future.

He reported the new system overview was positive and the district team that attended are looking forward to the roll out. He further noted the district has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to try and implement the system in a four-month process by September 2014.

Field Trips

The Superintendent provided the list of Superintendent approved field trips.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent updated Trustees on a number of activities occurring in the district. In particular:

- Merritt Central Elementary School was on the front page of the newspaper for winning the Eco competition.
- Diamond Vale Elementary School also in the newspaper regarding a school fund raiser for Movember.
- A number of elementary schools had students come together to build skills in volleyball.
- The Aboriginal “How are we Doing Report?” focusing on Aboriginal students within the district.
- The Stop Hurting Kids Report - it speaks to students being put in isolation rooms and restraints. He advised that the principals and vice-principals have had conversations regarding this report.
- The Vermilion Forks Elementary School art sale raised \$1,600.
- The district is looking at a Board Authority/Authorized course on local Aboriginal drumming and singing.
- Aboriginal graduation – PSS Grade 12 students will be coming to spend some time with MSS Grade 12’s. The intention is to encourage PSS grads to attend the district Aboriginal graduation ceremony.
- Christmas gift cards for identified families.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

2014-2015 Budget Presentation Dates

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the 2014/2015 budget planning process. He noted that the district will be sending out formal invitations to PACs, Union reps and principals for the two public meetings being held on March 10th in Merritt and March 11th in Princeton.

He noted the goal is to change the usual process of a power point presentation and try to engage stakeholders in a meaningful conversation. He also advised that an updated survey will be posted on the district website as well as using social media, to get the message out regarding the budget process.

Photocopier purchase

The Assistant Secretary Treasurer provided information regarding the Ricoh multi-functional device photocopier, priced at \$14,057 to be placed at Merritt Central Elementary School.

13/177

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the approval be given for the purchase of the Ricoh multi-functional device photocopier in the amount of \$14,057 for Merritt Central Elementary School.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

POLICY COMMITTEE

Policy No. 502.5 – Smoking and the Use of Smokeless Tobacco

There was consensus that Policy No. 502.5 – Smoking and the Use of Smokeless Tobacco, be approved as amended, as there was no change in the intent of the policy.

13/178 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy No. 502.5 – Smoking and the Use of Smokeless Tobacco, be read a first, second, third time, finally passed and adopted as amended.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13/179 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy No. 507.1 – Discrimination, be read a third time, finally passed and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

WorkSafe BC – Bullying & Harassment Reporting and Investigation Procedures

The Assistant Superintendent provided an overview of the new regulations surrounding bullying & harassment reporting and investigation procedures. He advised that training must be provided to all employees. The district is currently working on this process.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Nicola-Canford Elementary Update

The Superintendent advised that weekly updates are being provided to Trustees regarding the progress, noting that construction is approximately two weeks ahead of schedule. He further noted that the construction crew is currently working hard to get to lock-up so they can start working on the core.

He advised that senior administration recently toured Shelter Industries to have a look at the warehouse and meet the people building the modular units.

Merritt Secondary School Gym Floor

The Superintendent provided an overview of the Rules Governing the Use of School Facilities and reviewed the proposed changes to the guidelines. It was suggested that Trustees review the guidelines and provide feedback to the Superintendent.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

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

Other Reports

Trustee Laird discussed parent and student involvement regarding district goals. He discussed doing a World Café at each end of the district.

Student Reports

Student Trustee Hillary Riel provided an overview of what is occurring at Princeton Secondary School. She noted that she is preparing to do a presentation to the grade eights and nines on depression through her peer counseling course.

Student Trustee Andrew Silbernagel noted he helped coordinate the Operation Christmas Child for less fortunate children. He advised that twenty-one boxes were put together this year which is a significant improvement over the previous school average of only seven.

BCSTA Provincial Council Representative

Chairman Comeau noted that elections must take place for this position. He noted that Trustee Gage will be the BCSTA Provincial Council Representative by acclamation.

Bargaining Council Representative

Chairman Comeau noted that elections are required to take place for this role and the representative must not be in a conflict of interest. He further noted that a representative is to be elected along with an alternate.

Trustee Swan and Trustee Kroeker declared a conflict of interest and left the room.

There was consensus that Chairman Comeau would be the Bargaining Council Representative and Trustee Laird would be the alternate were acclaimed.

Trustee Swan and Trustee Kroeker re-entered the room.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from ArtStarts in Schools regarding a grant for performing arts activities in schools for the 2013/2014 school year.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

George Elliot of the Similkameen News Leader, asked why one policy was read a third and final time whereas the other policy was given first, second and third final reading?

Chairman Comeau advised that the first policy went out for public review and the other policy did not have significant changes, therefore all three readings were completed.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary Treasurer