

MINUTES

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

**PRINCETON BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2013, 6:00 P.M.**

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

AGENDA

13/100 It was moved and seconded:
THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

13/101 It was moved and seconded:
THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held May 8, 2013, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Presentation: Vermilion Forks Elementary School Literacy

Vermilion Forks Elementary School Principal Barry Clarke introduced Literacy Outreach Coordinator Dierra Maynard to review the Amazing Literacy Race held in

the downtown core of Princeton. She informed that there were nine activities that students and a number of community groups were involved in. Overall, she felt the event was a huge success.

Mr. Clarke spoke about a Literacy Intervention Project whereby students are pulled for additional support. He noted that Dr. Richard Allington, literacy expert, has indicated that most reading support programs fail because students end up being pulled during regular reading times. Mr. Clarke noted that for this program, students were pulled out of science so they could get additional reading time.

Teacher Raelene Campana provided additional information regarding the work she and fellow teacher Candace Ostertag have done with the project.

A number of students from Vermilion Forks provided a presentation on a book they were reading and how the Literacy Intervention Project has increased their reading levels.

The Board Chair thanked Mr. Clarke, Ms. Campana and Ms. Ostertag, as well as the students from Vermilion Forks Elementary, on the great literacy project and the success they have had to date.

Board Authority/Authorized Course – Learning Strategies 10, 11 & 12

Princeton Secondary School Principal Sandee Blair presented Learning Strategies 10, 11 & 12 as Board Authority/Authorized Courses.

13/102

It was moved and seconded.

THAT approval be given for the Learning Strategies 10, 11 & 12 course as developed by Princeton Secondary School as a Board Authority/Authorized Course.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Special Education – Mock Audit

Principal for Student Support Services Jane Kempston provided an overview of a mock audit performed on special education for the district. She advised that Marilyn McLean, retired Assistant Superintendent in charge of special education for School District 73 in Kamloops, performed a mock audit in conjunction with herself. Mrs. Kempston noted that three specific categories were reviewed in the files at the secondary level, chronic health, intensive behavior, as well as learning disabilities, while at the elementary level only chronic health and intensive behavior files were reviewed.

An adapted compliance audit form was used to review all of the files looking for proper documentation that would be required to comply with an audit should the Ministry actually perform one.

She noted that as a result of the mock compliance audit, a district plan to implement professional development around specific areas of need will be developed that includes both administration and support service teams. Additionally, she noted a district policy around annual file reviews will be performed.

Merritt Secondary School – Team Approach

The Superintendent provided a copy of the handout for the grade 8 & 9 team approach for Merritt Secondary School students for review and questions.

Community/District Literacy Plans (Merritt/Princeton)

The Assistant Superintendent provided an overview of the Merritt Literacy plans for Literacy Merritt & Nicola Valley Society as well as the Princeton Leaders for Literacy which are due to the Ministry by July 15, 2013.

He thanked Robyn Grebliunaas and Dierra Maynard for all the work done for their respective communities.

A question was asked regarding the certainty of the Decoda funding. It was noted that the funding is unknown at this time.

Enhancement Agreement Annual Plan

The Assistant Superintendent noted that the district has a responsibility to create an annual Enhancement Agreement Plan. He provided a draft plan for 2013/2014 and reviewed it in detail. He noted the draft plan will be presented to the First Nations Education Council on June 24, 2013.

Merritt/Princeton/Scw'exmx Violent Threat Risk Assessment (V.T.R.A.) Protocol Agreements

The Assistant Superintendent stated that the district is currently working on formalizing and signing a comprehensive protocol agreement between the district and community agencies. He advised it is a five-year provincial commitment to provide training in preventing bullying, violent threat risk assessment and crisis emergency response. He noted that a draft has been shared with both communities and the goal is to have it signed off by the end of June.

District Achievement Plan

The Assistant Superintendent provided an update on the District Achievement Contract. He noted that the plan is due on July 15th and informed that the plan is in its third year of a three year plan under the umbrella of cultivating student success. He advised the plan has had input and review from district Principals. In addition, he advised that the contract is now connected to the five year Enhancement Agreement and School Plans. He noted that a copy will be sent to Trustees at the end of June.

Massage in the Classroom Report

The Superintendent provided a report on the Massage in the Classroom program and noted that to date, all of the comments regarding the program have been positive.

Field Trips

13/103 It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for Merritt Bench Elementary School to attend Monck Park for their year-end field trip on June 25, 2013, subject to a certified lifeguard being present.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13/104 It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval in principle be given for Merritt Secondary School to start conversation for an Eco-tourism field trip to Costa Rica in the spring of 2014.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Leadership/Council Representatives – Report To Trustees

Trustee Rainer discussed having a Student Trustee come to Board meetings. He noted that having a student voice at the Board table would be a positive move for the Board. By having students provide a report or an update on their particular school would be beneficial for both the student and the board. The Chairman noted that this item has been debated at the Vancouver School Board and that the Superintendent would be able to obtain the information.

ACTION ITEM

The Superintendent will review the information and bring back information for August Committee of the Whole meeting.

LOU – Healthy Living Coalition

The Superintendent provided a copy of a Letter of Understanding (LOU) between The Okanagan Similkameen Healthy Living Society and the Interior Health Authority, City of Penticton, Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen, Penticton Indian Band and School District 67 (Okanagan Skaha).

He advised that the purpose of the LOU is to form a collaboration for healthy living through which the parties will apply their collective resources to the common goal of reducing the prevalence of lifestyle related chronic diseases in our population.

The Superintendent made a recommendation to sign the LOU.

13/105

It was moved and seconded:

THAT School District No. 58 (Nicola-Similkameen) sign the Letter of Understanding for the Healthy Living Coalition.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent reported on a number of activities occurring in the district including the LEA for Lower Nicola Indian Band is in final format and mirrors the Upper Nicola Indian Band with the exception of the change in the language; the Aboriginal Graduation on June 13th; the District Elementary track and field meet scheduled for June 14th; Aboriginal Traditional Games on June 19th; Princeton Secondary School Spirit Awards are June 19th; Aboriginal Day on June 21st at Rotary Park; Merritt Secondary School Graduation on June 21st and Princeton Secondary School Graduation on June 22nd. He noted that the Retirement Teas were both well attended and a good celebration was had by all. He also noted that Princeton Secondary School has a 100% graduation rate this year.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Policy Discussions

The Superintendent advised that Policy & Regulation No. 507.1 – Discrimination, will not have first reading but will undergo further discussions with the Policy Committee and be brought back at a later date.

Draft Policy & Regulation No. 506.0 – Violence Threat/Risk Assessment (V.T.R.A.)

13/106

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the following draft Policies and Regulations be read a first time:

- Policy and Regulation No. 506.0 – Violence Threat/Risk Assessment (V.T.R.A.);
- Policy and Regulation No. 602.3 – French Immersion
- Policy and Regulation No. 602.13 – Home Education
- Policy and Regulation No. 605.2 – Student Placement and Reporting

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There was consensus that Policies and Regulations be brought back to the next Regular meeting for second and final reading, subject to no requests for amendment.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Nicola-Canford Elementary School Modular Project Update

The Secretary Treasurer advised that the process for the preparation of a demolition tender is approximately 50% complete.

He stated that currently, maintenance is moving items from within Coquihalla Middle School (CMS) that will be retained for future use. He noted that Nicola-Canford Elementary has designated their rooms within CMS and once school is completed, the maintenance crew will begin moving items from Nicola-Canford to CMS. All items within Nicola-Canford that will not be used at CMS will be put in a designated space in the gym at Nicola-Canford.

Roofing Tenders

The Secretary Treasurer circulated the list of roofing tenders received for the roof replacement at Collettsville, Merritt Bench and John Allison Elementary Schools and Merritt Secondary School.

It was recommended that the low tender of \$254,250 from Laing Roofing Ltd. be considered for the roof replacement.

13/107

It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given to Laing Roofing Ltd. for the roof placement at Collettsville, Merritt Bench and John Allison Elementary Schools and Merritt Secondary School in the amount of \$254,250.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TRUSTEE REPORTS

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Ward for Vermilion Forks Elementary School, Trustee Kroeker for Collettsville Elementary School, Trustee Rainer for Princeton Secondary School and Trustee Comeau for John Allison Elementary School.

Other Reports

The Secretary Treasurer advised that currently there is not a lease agreement in place for the Riverside building. He advised that he would contact the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen to set-up a meeting.

Trustee Rainer reported that he had attended the community band concert held at Riverside School on June 3 and noted that it was unbelievable. He commended Myrna Coates on the fantastic job she is doing with the students.

Trustee Ward advised that Robbie Dickson, founder of the Canadian Bull Run Rally arrived at Princeton Secondary School in a Lamborghinis and an Audi R8 to show the cars and introduce students to the rally.

Trustee Gage noted that he recently attended the third annual District Pow Wow that was held at Merritt Secondary School on May 29, 2013. He thought it was a wonderful day and all students who attended appeared to have a great time.

Trustee Gage also attended the recent SCIDES graduation noting there were over 40 graduates this year.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received:

- ArtStarts in Schools providing the district with the 2013-2014 Artists in Education Grant for performing arts at the district schools;
- Thompson Rivers University regarding the results of the 2013 British Columbia Secondary School Mathematics contest;
- Cariboo-Mainline Regional Science Fair Committee thanking the district for supporting the Regional Science Fair.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Media representative Dawn Johnson inquired if the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen was the original signatory of the Riverside lease. The Chairman indicated that yes they were. He also noted that the Town would like to take over the lease but currently, the District does not have a signed lease in place.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary Treasurer