

MINUTES

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

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2013, 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 Merritt Central HVAC Preventative Maintenance Program (PMP) be added to the agenda.

13/120 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

13/121 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held June 12, 2013, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Presentation: Breckin Baillie

The Superintendent introduced Merritt Bench Elementary School student Breckin Baillie to go over his Where Challenge, 'Made in China' contest submission. Mr. Baillie provided a thorough overview of the contest and his submission. He noted that he received a National award for Best Research and received over \$300 in prize money.

Chairman Comeau thanked the young earth scientist and asked what is next. To which Mr. Baillie replied, "The Noble Peace Prize".

Learning Improvement Fund (LIF)

The Superintendent reported that the total LIF funds for the 2013/2014 school year is \$311,007 of which \$39,936 is allocated to CUPE Certified Education Assistants and the remaining \$271,071 is allocated to schools. He noted that Principals meet at the school level and provide proposals to the Superintendent for allocation of dollars. The next step involves the Superintendent meeting with the local unions to discuss the proposals.

Preliminary Enrolment

The Superintendent provided information on the preliminary enrolment. Projected enrolment for elementary schools was 1,099 students and to date, current enrolment is 1,142, representing an increase of 43 students from projections. Projected secondary school numbers were for 809 students with a total enrolment to date of 817, representing an increase of 8 students from projections.

Annual School Plans

The Superintendent advised that school plans will be presented to Trustees on October 9, 2013 in Merritt and October 10, 2013 in Princeton, both meetings beginning at 5:30 p.m. He also noted that these are open meetings and the public is invited to attend if interested.

Field Trips

The list of Superintendent approved field trips was circulated for review.

The Gideons Re: Youth Testaments

A letter was received from The Gideons International in Canada requesting a list of district elementary principals. The purpose is to arrange the distribution of consent cards to Grade 5 students in the District for parents to sign if they wish for their child to have a copy of the New Testament.

13/122

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the district provide a list of district elementary school Principals to Gideon's International Canada in past years for distribution of consent cards to Grade 5 students in the district.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bargaining

CUPE:

The Superintendent noted that currently, CUPE and BCPSEA are at the provincial table and he is hopeful a deal will be completed.

BCTF:

The Superintendent noted that BCTF and BCPSEA have held off negotiations until such time as the conclusion of the court case regarding Bill 33.

Student/Board Representatives

Trustee Rainer advised he would like to have student representatives from the high schools sit at the Board table. He noted these would be non-voting mentor positions.

The Superintendent noted that both high school Principals have spoken to their leadership classes looking for participants. He further advised that two students from PSS will sit at the table to be mentored at the next Board meeting should Trustees agree.

There was consensus this pilot project move forward.

Exit Interviews

The Superintendent advised that a request was made to look at exit interviews. He noted that after review of the draft, he has made some suggested changes and asked Trustees for review and input.

Education Update

The Assistant Superintendent reported on the following activities:

First Aid:

First Aid Level I training will be occurring at both ends of the district.

Assessment Training:

Currently, forty-five teachers from grades one to ten are going through a district wide assessment protocol for learning workshop.

Summer Reading:

An analysis of the summer reading program was reviewed. He noted that fifty-five students were involved in the program this year compared to forty-two last summer. The program costs approximately \$16,000 to run, of which \$11,000 is covered through Ministry dollars and \$5,000 through District LINK dollars.

Miscellaneous:

He reported that the new teacher orientation, TRIBES training, IEP writing training and a culture camp will be occurring shortly.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent noted a number of activities occurring in the district including the following:

- Forty-five Merritt Secondary School students are attending the Truth and Reconciliation day in Vancouver
- Welcoming Dinner to be held on October 3rd
- LEA negotiations with the final three bands
- The Ministry's Focus on Skills and Trades which has the district having conversations with TRU to provide educational opportunities for the elementary students.
- Elementary schools are currently training for the cross country run
- Destination Imagination is occurring on September 25th

FINANCE COMMITTEE**Annual Facility Grant (AFG) Bylaw No. 126647-02 Revised**

The Secretary Treasurer advised that a revised AFG Capital bylaw has been requested by the Ministry of Education. He noted the total AFG dollars have not changed only the allocation of operating AFG and capital AFG. The new allocation for operating is \$120,475 and for capital is \$455,215 for a total of \$575,690.

Auto-Scrubber Purchases

The Secretary Treasurer noted that two auto scrubbers, one for Princeton Secondary School and the other for Merritt Central Elementary School, have been purchased over the summer with capital dollars. He noted that each auto scrubber is \$13,664 for a total of \$27,328. He also noted that the old walk behind models

from these two schools were sent to Nicola Canford and Collettsville Elementary Schools.

13/123 It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for the purchase of two auto scrubbers in the amount of \$27,328.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2012/2013 Audited Financial Statements

The Secretary Treasurer provided an in-depth review of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2013. This included the review of the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Operations. He advised that with the recent conversion to Public Sector Accounting Standards, the statements are now a consolidation of all three funds, Operating, Special Purpose and Capital. He noted that the supporting schedules will provide further breakdown of each fund.

He indicated that the district currently has an accumulated surplus of \$16,700,115 broken out as follows:

Operating	\$6,470,275
Capital	<u>10,229,840</u>
Total	<u>\$16,700,115</u>

13/124 It was moved and seconded:

THAT School District No. 58 (Nicola-Similkameen) Audited Financial Statements for the school year ending June 30, 2013 be accepted and approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Tender Summary – Vermilion Forks Elementary School HVAC Upgrade

The Secretary Treasurer circulated the list of tenders received for the HVAC upgrade at Vermilion Forks Elementary School.

It was recommended that the low tender of \$213,583 from Interior Plumbing & Heating Ltd. be considered for the HVAC upgrade.

13/125 It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given to Interior Plumbing & Heating Ltd. for the HVAC upgrade at Vermilion Forks Elementary School in the amount of \$213,583.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Tender Summary – Kengard Learning Centre Fire Protection Upgrade

The Secretary Treasurer also circulated the list of tenders received for the Kengard Learning Centre Fire Protection upgrade.

It was recommended that the low tender of \$91,269 from Okanagan Fire Protection Services Ltd. be considered for the upgrade.

13/126 It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given to Okanagan Fire Protection Services Ltd. for the Fire Protection upgrade at Kengard Learning Centre in the amount of \$91,269.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nicola-Canford Elementary School Modular Project Update

The Superintendent provided an overview of the project to date and noted it was broken into two phases. Phase I, being the demolition, is now at substantial completion. He advised Phase II, the bid process, has just closed and the low bid was from True Construction based out of Kamloops at \$4,849,054.

13/127 It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for the Phase II bid from True Construction in the amount of \$4,849,054.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Merritt Central HVAC Preventative Maintenance Program (PMP)

The Secretary Treasurer advised that Trane Building Services has put together a Five-Year PMP for the district in the amount of \$46,125.

13/128 It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for the purchase of the Five-Year Preventative Maintenance Plan for the HVAC system at Merritt Central Elementary School in the amount of \$46,125.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Rainer reported on John Allison Elementary School PAC meetings.

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.

FNEC Report

Trustee Gage informed that the FNEC has recently had two meetings in the past two weeks. He noted that a special meeting will be held on October 22, 2013 to go over the budget, after which the budget will come to the board for ratification.

The Superintendent noted that the FNEC Committee is currently considering restructuring and renaming itself.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from UBCM/School Community Connections announcing final payment for the school ground and daycare improvements at Kengard Learning Centre in the amount of \$4,375.00.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary Treasurer